

# Clark County Independent Living Committee

Department of Family Services  
500 S Grand Central Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89155  
ODC Room # 1 and Microsoft Teams  
Mar 22, 2023  
3:00 – 4:30 pm

1. **Call to order - Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Approve Minutes from Dec 13, 2022.**
  - a. Minutes approved.
3. **Clark County Independent Living Program**
  - a. IL Updates
    - i. Staffing
      1. Welcomed a new IL Worker, Daphne Fowler was previously a Perm Worker.
      2. Currently Short Staffed, working on filling more positions
    - ii. Graduation Event
      1. Graduation committee is back together
      2. Tentative June 7<sup>th</sup> will notify everyone when date and venue is solidified.
      3. Community partners who would like to participate as vendors to please email Isabel.
    - iii. IL is Working with the State
      1. To improve the independent living program statewide.
      2. Please encourage young adults who have experienced foster care and who are 14 or older to complete the survey regarding improving communication with the independent living program.
    - iv. Guide Tree Model
      1. IL worker were trained in utilizing the Guide Tree Platform
      2. Have access to the resources and tools on the platform to enhance the work being done.
    - v. Life Set introduction (Shuuanndy)
      1. Brief update
        - a. LifeSet Worker Brittany Cannon did receive a promotion and is no longer with the unit.
        - b. New worker is joining the staff in May.
4. **FAAYT - Foster and Adoptive Youth Together (CAA)**
  - a. Actively recruiting for FAAYT
    - i. Have young people that are interested in joining reach out to DaShun Jackson.
    - ii. Legislative updates – Tuesdays at 11:30 virtually
      1. Join [info@CAANV.org](mailto:info@CAANV.org)
    - iii. Flyer is going out to give to your young people
5. **Clark County Social Services (Step Up)**

- a. 311 young adults participating in Step Up for the month of February
    - i. Almost 60% are employed, about 30% are Attending High School/Equivalency, 54% have completed their hiset or equivalency diploma, 44 active Step Up (those under age 21) participants are in college
  - b. Isabel mentioned already, working with our DFS partners on the upcoming annual graduation event
  - c. The vacant office specialist has been filled and the staff member is going through background now
  - d. Been busy in the States various workgroups in preparation for the EFC on January 1, 2024
  - e. Educational Training Vouchers has no wait list, available to provide \$5000 for students who are attending college/trade school. Criteria is the young adult needs to have aged out of foster care in Clark County or was adopted/guardianship/kingship status age 16+
  - f. Currently has served 62 students since this academic began in Fall '22
- 6. PUBLIC COMMENTS\* (Open for Community Providers to share their programs and/or provide upcoming events)**
- a. Help You (Jennifer Thomas & Clinical Director Sherita Childress former social worker then LCSW.)
    - i. Have over 20 years of social work and clinical social work experience in Las Vegas, including Mental Health, Family Services, and the Juvenile Justice System. Sherita Childress started with as a Win Worker DCFS, with the state and then with DFS under Judge Voy and Judge Sullivan in their courts.
    - ii. Program is a behavior rehabilitation service, organization provides interventions designed to complement more intensive mental health therapies, basic skills interventions, and services.
    - iii. Recognizes that there's a gap in our care system and want to help close that gap. Social Services, Therapist, County Workers, Step Up workers and so much more are working around the clock with the rising tide of the youth immediately going from foster care to self-sufficient adulthood.
      - 1. A large amount of teens are intimidated and frighten when transitioning from 18 years old into adulthood. In the first 30 to 90 days, teens can spend an exorbitant amount of time trying to navigate the city without transportation of their own, needing or wanting to finish school, budgeting, etc., so that they can maximize their food benefits. And additionally, they could be looking for or maintaining a job.
      - 2. The absence of necessary skills to accomplish these tasks and lack of coping mechanisms can result in them spiraling, ultimately triggering, or leading to some mental health trauma.
      - 3. It can also result in teens experiencing homelessness, being hospitalized, drug use, or even in incarceration.
    - iv. Want to partner and serve as a liaison and support between the departments providing a transitional mentor program.
      - 1. Consist of meeting with IL or LifeSet team 30 days before they transition out of youth services to develop a personalized plan to help them learn and practice the necessary skills for partial and or fully independent lives,

2. This service is a Medicaid FFS service, free to clients who have it.
  3. They meet their prior authorization standards help you.
  4. Transitional mentoring is not therapy we come out to the client's home environment one to five times per week, depending on the client and Medicaid authorization decision to assist them with learning in system, in learning and activating social, emotional, behavioral and life skills for the day-to-day living essentials, essential to their success.
  5. For any questions, contact through website, [helpuniversity.org](http://helpuniversity.org) or by phone, 702-577-2133. Virtual business card that will be send to Isabel.
- b. Shining Star – Mason
- i. Child haven IL classes ongoing monthly
    1. Weekly hybrid classes
    2. Added parenting component for any parenting teens to our program which enhances their caregiver protective capacities.
  - ii. Just concluded the JIBC sessions
    1. The JDC component is actually a hybrid for the youth in the detention center.
      - a. Which consist of the five modules covering Community Resources, Education, Employment, Money Management and Housing and the IL nutrition module.
    2. Each unit taught has about 10 to 12 students attending.
- c. Rise Home - (Zadonia Wong)
- i. Have a New Male home available
    1. 5 open beds
    2. located 3 minutes away from their male homes.
- d. NSHE -Laura
- i. Sent an email yesterday clarifying that the Otto Huth and the foster children education scholarship unfortunately can't be offered this year due to lack of endowment funds and the down-market year last year.
    1. For questions, reach out to Lauren Renda directly. Her information is in that email.
  - ii. Please remind youth that the toolkit on the website
    1. Two primary resources (please check in with 4yrs students who rely on these scholarships)
      - a. New beginnings only went for a year and will be taken out.
      - b. Added the Village of Becoming Scholarship (New info on)
    2. Updating fact sheets and more.
- e. Culinary Academy - Jamie Mora
- i. Training Facility in Hospitality and Culinary.
    1. Walk-in information sessions every Wednesday at 10:00 am
    2. Classes are for front of the house, back of the house and housekeeping.
    3. Funding

- a. A Social worker works with students to see what they are eligible for in house funding grant AB 309. (case by case bases)
  - i. If students receive help from the government i.e., food stamps, low income, help with childcare, they automatically qualify.
- b. Also partner with EmployNV.

**7. Next Meeting: June 21, 2023, at 3:00pm**

- a. **Meeting will be held in person at the Government Center ODC #1 and virtual through Microsoft Teams**
- 8. Adjournment**

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