



**SHASTA COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
LIVING PROGRAM**

**PROGRAM BULLETIN
May 2009**

Graduation and transitioning out of foster care: It's that time of year again. Seniors are getting ready to graduate from high school. Foster youth face challenges that other youth may not have to face at the age of 18. Where will I live? How will I survive? What will I do for money to live on? Hopefully, you have been addressing those questions, for some time now, with your ILP Caseworker. However, if you are feeling stressed out about the future make sure you sit down and firm up all of your plans with some help from your ILP Caseworker. It always helps to have 2 or 3 plans in case one of your plans falls through. Most seniors are feeling the anxiety of entering the adult world so you are not alone.

Foster Youth Garden: The garden planting day and BBQ went well. We were able to plant about ½ of all of the plants that were sent over to us by Victor Youth Services. Once again we send out a big thank you to Gretchen at VYS for starting all of those plants and tending to them for us.

We will be working to finish up the planting on Wednesdays, during the month of May, from 3:30pm-5:30pm.

We will be selling at the Anderson Farmers Market on Thursday mornings. The market opens up in June at the Anderson Fairgrounds. Youth who have consistently worked at the ILP garden will have the first choice of working at the Farmers Market this summer. We will start selling as soon as we have enough to harvest.

ILP Graduation Luncheon: We will be celebrating the graduating seniors and youth who are aging out of ILP this year during a luncheon in May. If you are graduating from high school and did not receive an invitation please contact your ILP Caseworker.

Experiential Groups: We are done with our experiential groups for the year. The youth did a great job during the last class with the shopping contest. They came up with some very creative ways to feed 6 people on 10 dollars. We gave away 1st and 2nd place prizes for the most nutritious meals that were put together. The youth then went to the movies for our final outing of the year. We will resume the groups in September.

ILP Services: Teens 16 and up that are in placement are entitled to ILP services. If you know of a youth that has not been referred aged sixteen or up, who lives in a foster home or group home please contact ILP. ILP serves teens placed from other counties as well as Shasta County teens. In order for ILP to serve foster care youth, ILP requires a current Transitional Independent Living Plan completed by the youth with his or her county social worker or probation officer. The TILP is the responsibility of the county social worker or probation officer and should be completed every 6 months, starting at age 15.5. Former foster youth aged 16 to 21, who were in placement at 16 or older, can call Shasta County ILP for support in the areas of employment, housing, connecting with community resources and more. Contact ILP to determine eligibility.

2877 Childress Ave, Anderson, CA 96007* Ph: 530-365-9260 ext 120* FAX 530-365-9268*

E-mail: lgoza@youthandfamily.info

For more info, visit us at: www.shastailp.org