



Springboard to Adulthood Program

2022 Resource Manual

Resources for Families and Youth in Care

Support Services and Groups

Help for Adults who have been DCFS Wards

- YWCA Rockford: The YWCA's Family Advocacy Center provides services to help adults who have been DCFS wards.
- NAMI Online Support Groups – Northern Illinois: NAMI Illinois is hosting online support groups.
- Alumni Foster Care Services - Illinois Foster Care Alumni provides assistance to youth who were previously in foster care with assistance till the age 30.

Medical Assistance

- Former Foster Care Medical Benefits: Foster care services from IL Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) ended when aging out at age 18 or older.
- HealthChoice Illinois for Former Youth in Care: Former Youth in Care of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), or a child of a youth in care, are now able to enroll in a HealthChoice Illinois managed care plan.
- Illinois All Kids (CHIPRA): All Kids services are available at no cost or at low cost. Premium and co-payments are determined based on your family income and size.

Housing Assistance

- Housing Assistance for Youth Who Have Aged Out of Foster Care - provides \$140 million for independent living services to assist youth as they age out of foster care and enter adulthood.

- Youth Housing Assistance Program: Youth under the age of 21 years old can be referred to YHAP for housing support.
- Illinois DMH Permanent Supportive Housing Bridge Subsidy Program: Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for individuals who meet defined criteria of eligibility and who are diagnosed with a serious mental illness.
- Homeless Youth Services: The Homeless Youth program is a holistic model designed to increase the safety of youth ensuring that their basic survival needs are met while also providing safe and stable housing; education and employment services, and the life skills necessary to become self-sufficient.
- YouthCare's: YouthCare is an independent living program that offers young people apartments where they can cultivate skills to live and work on their own.

Child Care

- YWCA Rockford – Emergency Childcare: The YMCA of Rock River Valley is expanding childcare offerings for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kids Activities

- Rockford Park District – Virtual Recess: Rockford Park District is offering at home recess videos.