

DEVELOPING A TRANSITION PLAN FOR 17 YEAR OLDS: HELPFUL HINTS

- Is the plan **personal** to the youth? It is their plan and should reflect their goals and needs.
- Is the plan **specific**? The transition plan will include steps, deadlines, needed documents and resources with actions that will be taken to help a youth prepare for the transition to adulthood.
- What **people and resources** will assist the young person in achieving their goals?
- Does the young person know about **Extension of Foster Care Services**? Is the **IL Specialist** involved?

Remember: Only use 1 IL Concern Indicator and 1 Mission per section—do not group multiple Indicators

SAMPLE IL CONCERN RECORD		
Name: Name of the youth	Mission: Permanency, Safety or Well-Being	Concern Indicator(s): Enter IL Concern Indicator
Description of Concern: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is this an area of concern for the youth? • Did the team or Life Skills assessment identify anything specific issues in this area? 		
Desired Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the goals for the youth in this area? • Does this outcome address the identified concerns? • Is this outcome specific to this youth? • Is this measurable—how will you know they succeeded? 		Outcome Expected Achievement Date: When will the desired outcome be achieved?
Action Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List all steps that the team will need to take in order to achieve the desired outcome. • What specific resources and people will assist the young person in achieving the desired outcome? 		Responsible Person(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is responsible for each action step? • Include tasks other team members • More than just the youth

Things to Consider When Developing a Transition Plan

(Actual questions should be based on youth's specific strengths and needs, but these may help guide planning)

IL Housing: *(Mission-Permanency)*

- Where does the youth plan to live as an adult? What is their backup housing plan?
- How will youth handle start-up costs for housing? What about furniture, linens, other housing essentials?
- Can the youth review and understand leases, rental applications, legal rights of landlords and tenants?
- For youth who plan to live in a college dormitory, where will they live when dorms are closed?

IL Employment: *(Mission-Well Being)*

- What does the youth want to do for a career? Has youth taken a career/interest inventory?
- Does youth have a job? If not, what steps are being taken to get a job?
- Has youth accessed local Workforce Investment Act (WIA) career services? Vocational Rehabilitation?
- If youth is unable to work, is DCS assisting with Supplemental Security Income (SSI) application?

IL Communications (Essential Documents): *(Mission-Safety)*

- How will the youth obtain their essential documents upon exit from custody?

IL Education: *(Mission-Well Being)*

- Is the youth on track to graduate? Does the Educational Specialist need to be involved?
- What college/technical program campuses have the DCS FSW/resource parent taken youth to visit?
- Is youth interested in Extension of Foster Care Services to complete high school or a GED or to pursue post-secondary education? Is the IL Specialist involved?
- What are the youth's career goals/what does the youth want to study?
- Is the youth interested in pursuing a GED?
- What will assist with meeting the deadlines for college applications, ACT, scholarships, financial aid, etc?

IL Finances: *(Mission-Well Being)*

- Has the youth prepared a monthly budget based on their housing plans and other financial responsibilities?
- Does the youth have a checking &/or a savings account?
- Will youth access Extension of Foster Care services?
- Does plan address steps to be taken to access public assistance such as food stamps, Families First, SSI etc.

IL Health (and Mental Health): *(Mission-Well Being)*

- Does plan address steps to be taken to re-apply for TennCare within 30 days of release?
- Will youth continue counseling, med. management or A & D treatment?
- Is a DIDDS, Adult Mental Health and/or Voc Rehab referral needed? What is the status?
- Does the youth's most recent CANS identify any actionable items that must be addressed?

IL Transportation: *(Mission-Safety)*

- What is the youth's plan for maintaining stable transportation as the youth transitions to adulthood?
- Has youth had driver's education or some driver's education program?
- Does youth understand the basics of buying/ maintaining a vehicle? Has youth saved any for this?

IL Social Skills: *(Mission-Permanency)*

- Who will this youth's positive adult supports be as the youth transitions to young adulthood?
- How are these adults involved in the Child and Family Team (CFT)?

IL Life Skills: *(Mission-Well Being)*

- ◆ Focus on a summary of what is still needed for the youth at this point & what they want to work on
- ◆ Review most recent Life Skills Assessment for any underlying issues

(If needed) Parenting: *(Mission-Safety)*

- ◆ Does young adult have a child or children living with her/him? Who takes care of the child?
- ◆ Is young adult exhibiting good parenting skills? What parenting support does the young adult have/need?
- ◆ Does young adult know steps to apply for Families First and WIC supplemental nutrition program?

(If needed): Immigration: *(Mission-Safety)*

- What steps are being taken to achieve the young person's goals regarding their immigration status?