Youth Leadership Resources

FOR YOUTH IN SUBSTITUTE CARE

CENTER FOR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

7/6/2015
North Carolina Youth Leadership Resources

Strong Able Youth Speaking Out (SaySo)

“Working to improve substitute care in North Carolina”

Community education and youth leadership development through workshops, outreach and youth advocacy.

- Programs are available to youth in North Carolina who have been involved in substitute care ages 14-24
- SaySo Saturday training and youth skills development
- Youth conferences across North Carolina that focus on positive independent living skills
- Local and state youth leadership opportunities
- Participation on statewide panels to advocate to social worker, caregivers, and other professionals like judges, attorneys, and teachers.
- Opportunities to serve as legislative Pages at NC General Assembly to speak with policy makers about improving the foster care system

Contact:
Executive Director
800-820-0001
www.saysoinc.org

Independent Living Resources, Inc. (ILR)

“Life Skills for a Better Life”

Resources and technical support available to youth, families, agencies and communities statewide to support youth development and leadership.

- State and county SaySo program support
- REAL WORLD life skills and self-sufficiency simulations
- Youth development resources available on line
- Social worker and caregiver training to agencies serving youth in foster care
  http://www.ncswlearn.org

Contact:
Nancy Carter, ILR, Inc. Executive Director
919-384-1457
nancy.carter@ilrinc.com
www.ilrinc.com
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Becoming Durham

“Building Every Chance Of Making It Now and Grown Up”

Programs focused on assisting Durham youth ages 16-21 develop life skills, find support and make a positive transition to adulthood. Youth must have a behavioral health condition and reside in Durham County to be eligible for programming.

- Youth guided programming
- Future of Tomorrow Advisory Council
- Resources and support groups
- It’s my Life resource group
- M.A.N. U.P.—support for young men 16-21

Contact:
Garron Rogers, Youth Coordinator
919-651-8831
grogers@alliancebhc.org
http://www.becomingdurham.org

The Hope Center at Pullen

“Connecting Wake County youth aging out of foster care”

Programs that connect Wake County young people 16-24 years old aging out of foster care with resources and support for a successful transition to adulthood.

- Case management support
- Life skills development
- Jamie Kirk Hahn Career Development Program-10 week/100 hour paid internship for youth

Contact:
Alex Lane, Youth Services Manager
919-322-2751 ext. 4
alane@hopecenteratpullen.org
http://hopecenteratpullen.org/
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Alamance County Teen Court
“Resolving Conflicts By Offering Positive Alternatives to Court”

Program for first offenders 6-17 years old run by Alamance County Dispute Settlement & Youth Services, Inc; designed to teach first-time offenders accountability and responsibility for their actions. Sessions held the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

- Courtrooms are primarily run by teens
- Teen volunteers serve as prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys, bailiffs, clerks, and jury members
- The only adult with an active role in the courtroom is the judge, who is an attorney or judge from the community
- Defendants who admit their guilt are given positive, restorative sanctions by a jury of their peers (trained students volunteers between the ages of 12 and 18), without acquiring a Juvenile Court Record

Contact:
Bria Miller, Assistant Program Coordinator  
336-227-9808  
teencourt@bellsouth.net

DSS LINKS programs

The LINKS program is offered statewide through each individual county DSS. They offer programs, training, experiences, and resources for youth in foster care between the ages of 13-20 years. All programming supports the following outcomes but individual services may vary from county to county.

- Economic Self-Sufficiency
- Safe & Stable Housing
- Attainment of Academic/Vocational Goals
- Connectedness
- Avoid illegal high risk behaviors
- Postponing parenthood
- Health Care access
North Carolina Youth Leadership Resources

Forsyth County LINKS program
Specific programming offered by Forsyth LINKS program includes:

- Local and State Leadership/Volunteer Opportunities (Youth Leadership Committee and Panel/Advocacy participation)
- Monthly Life Skills Groups/Resources
- Creative Incentives for Goal Achievement
- Summer Camps and Cultivation Trips
- Assistance with Transportation
- Housing Assistance
- Social & Recreational Activities
- Academic/Educational Support and College Tours
- Real World Experiences
- Transitional Living Plan Development

Contact:
Tamarian McIntyre, Forsyth LINKS Coordinator
336-703-3668
mcintytp@forsyth.cc

Guilford County LINKS program
Specific programming offered by Guilford LINKS program includes:

- Monthly meetings on various topics
- Youth potential to earn money
- Leadership and independence skills development
- Opportunities to develop relationships with other youth in foster care
- Learn to make decisions regarding your future
- Support for making a smooth transition into adulthood
- Financial assistance in approved areas

Contact:
Sheletha Stewart, Guilford LINKS Coordinator
336-641-3688
Sstewa@co.guilford.nc.us
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Educational Resources and Programs

Vance County: Infinite Possibilities, Inc.

“The goal of Infinite Possibilities, Inc. is to promote responsibility, growth and self-sufficiency amongst families headed by single mothers.”

Programming relevant to foster youth offered by Infinite Possibilities includes:
- Teen Outreach Program (including a Healthy Relationships and Violence Class at Henderson Middle School)

Contact:
Kanika Turrentine, CEO
252-431-1926
kturrentine@infinitepossibilitiesinc.com