INDEPENDENT LIVING PLUS PROGRAM

Independent Living Plus (ILP) is a limited intervention to meet the youth’s specific ILP needs and goals until they are able to step down to a less restrictive environment that Independent Living offers. ILP program staff assist with providing housing and services for youth ages 16 through 19 who, because of their individual needs and assessment, are not initially appropriate for General Independent Living (IL) or foster care. These youth may have a demonstrated history of unsuccessful foster care placements. This program is also designed as a post-placement resource for youth in which all of the following apply:

1. Youth leaving residential foster care who cannot return home.
2. Youth who cannot be placed into a family foster home.
3. Youth for whom adoption is not planned.
4. Youth who have demonstrated a capacity for and willingness to learn independent living skills in a supervised, structured ILP program prior to transitioning into an IL Foster Care placement.

WHO CAN BE A HOST HOME PROVIDER?

Home providers must provide an atmosphere where ILP learning can take place; that may include utilizing teachable moments, displaying positive role modeling behaviors, and establishing appropriate expectations.

• Adults at least age 21 years of age.
• Ability to provide a bedroom for youth placed in their home.
• May be single or married.
• Ability to maintain an appropriate established residence within the community.
• Agree to sign a contract, which includes household rules, with the youth and ILP Caseworker explaining the expectations of all parties.
• Willingness to monitor the youth’s behavior in the home and report any concerns such as curfew violations, missing school, or lack of cleanliness to the Caseworker.
• The Host Home shall provide furnishings for the home which may be new or used but must be in good working condition and must include, but are not limited to:
  - A stove, microwave and refrigerator
  - Kitchen furnishings
  - Dining table and chairs
  - A telephone (landline or cellular)
  - Living room furniture
  - Desk or table with a chair
  - Bookshelf
  - Dresser
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DETAILS:

ILP staff are available 24 hours a day should emergencies occur.

Host Homes are evaluated for:
- Educational and recreational activities in the area
- Home-like atmosphere
- Private bedroom
- Safe and suitable living environment

Everyone in the household over the age of 18 must sign a release allowing a police clearance and a DHHS Central Registry Clearance.

Host Home Providers must submit an application with three character references.

Host Home Providers receive financial assistance from the VM ILP client for providing youth with room and required furnishings.

Interested in Learning More?

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Vista Maria has been serving youth and families since 1883, with a mission to deliver innovative care, support, treatment and education to vulnerable youth so that they heal, believe in their worth and build the skills needed to succeed.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our ILP Program, the ILP office. We’d love to talk to you.