

# WORKSHOP DIRECTORY PAGE

**TITLE:** 202: The Independent Living Services Continuum: Engaging Youth in Their Transition Process

**COMP.#:** 202-7, 202-8, 202-9, 202-10, 202-11

**NO. HRS:** 12

**DATE:** February 2009 (revised)

## COMPETENCY:

**202-7:** The Child Welfare Professional is able to assess the adolescent's level of ability in critical skills needed for independent living, including problems that may interfere with successful emancipation, and can plan and provide services to prepare adolescents for independent living.

**202-8:** The Independent Living (IL) Professional understands the history, philosophy, and goals of Pennsylvania's Independent Living Program and the concept of diverse county-based models for provision of Independent Living services.

**202-9:** The Independent Living (IL) Professional understands Independent Living Program eligibility requirements and the continuum of services that are built upon four major components: education, employment, housing and life skills.

**202-10:** The Independent Living (IL) Professional understands the process of conducting initial and ongoing assessments of the education, employment, housing and life skill needs of youth. The worker is able to use the assessment process to develop and monitor individualized Independent Living Program plans for youth.

**202-11:** The Independent Living (IL) Professional understands his/her role in providing a spectrum of training, support, and referral services for youth. The worker is able to secure supplemental services by developing and maintaining collaborative relationships with substitute caregivers, children and youth staff, private provider agencies, school personnel, human service agencies and community members.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** Participants will be able to:

- Describe the roles of collaborative partners that aid in empowering youth.
- Describe the Independent Living continuum of services and how to engage youth in that continuum.
- Develop a case plan with youth.
- Describe the rights of youth in the case planning process.
- Identify ways to engage youth in the case planning process.
- Identify required documentation and its importance to the youth's successful transition.

**CALENDAR SUMMARY:** Many youth and young adults exit the substitute care system when they reach the age of 18 without the proper skills that they need to make a successful transition to adult life. They lack the skills and connections to services that they need to succeed which results in high rates of unemployment, mental illness, homelessness, poverty and criminal behaviors. Many fall victim to abuse, victimization and teen pregnancy. This workshop offers information to deepen the workers' knowledge of issues affecting adolescents exiting care, resources available to promote permanency, the continuum of Independent Living services, proper case planning, and required documentation. Particular emphasis is placed on strengths-based ways to engage youth and young adults in the case planning process, program design and service delivery. The workshop will identify potential cross-systems partners and discuss ways to involve them in collaborative efforts to serve transitioning youth.

The Foundations of Independent Living: An Overview Curriculum is a prerequisite training for The Independent Living Services Continuum: Engaging Youth in Their Transition Process. The two trainings will typically be trained back to back as a series; however, the trainings are separated so they can be trained independently to accommodate a broader audience.

### **Target Audience:**

Child Welfare Professionals and Independent Living Professionals: Independent Living workers, Caseworkers, Supervisors, and Foster Parents/Resource Families.

### **Expectations of the Trainer:**

The trainer should be a learning resource for the participants and a facilitator of knowledge. The trainer should be knowledgeable about a wide variety of topics concerning Independent Living. These topics include, but are not limited to: social issues of youth, components of the Pennsylvania Independent Living Program, permanent connections, available resources, continuum of services, case planning, and required documentation.

## **Materials Needed to Present Workshop:**

- ✓ Curriculum-trainer only
- ✓ Handouts, including Resource Guide (7)
- ✓ Overheads (13)
- ✓ Appendices (6)-trainer only
- ✓ Know Your Rights Guide (one copy for trainer resource)
- ✓ Program IL Bulletin (if available, one copy for trainer resource)
- ✓ Independent Living Resources CD (one per participant)
- ✓ Folders
- ✓ Colored markers
- ✓ Overhead projector and screen
- ✓ TV / DVD Player
- ✓ Radio with CD Player
- ✓ Easel stands – Two
- ✓ Two blank easel pads (flip chart paper)
- ✓ Video – (**Aging Out**)
- ✓ Post-it note pads
- ✓ 3x5 index cards
- ✓ Paper strips
- ✓ “I Wonder” Board
- ✓ “Parking Lot” Board
- ✓ “What’s in it for me” Board
- ✓ Evaluation forms

## **List of Handouts**

- 1: Name Tent – (1 Page)**
- 2: Idea Catcher – (1 Page)**
- 3: Agenda – (1 Page)**
- 4: Overall Learning Objectives – (1 Page)**
- 5: Role Play Scenario (3 pages)**
- 6. Bibliography (1 page)**
- 7. Resource Guide (49 pages)**

## **List of Overheads:**

- 1. Agenda (1 Page)**
- 2. Overall Learning Objectives (! Page)**
- 3. Four Phases (1 Page)**
- 4. Phase I – Informal (1 Page)**
- 5. Phase II – Formal (1 Page)**
- 6. Phase III – Practice (1 Page)**
- 7. Phase IV – After Care (1 Page)**

8. Required Elements of a PA Independent Living Case Plan (1 Page)
9. Rights of Youth – Case Planning (1 Page)
10. How Do You Engage Youth? (1 Page)
11. Required Documentation (1 Page)
12. IL Jeopardy (1 Page)
13. Final IL Jeopardy (1 Page)

**Appendices (one copy for trainer only)**

- 1: Word Tags (2 Pages)
- 2: Answer Key – Word Tags (1 Page)
- 3: Youth Preparation (1 Page)
- 4: IL Jeopardy (1 Page)
- 5: IL Jeopardy Answer Key - (1 Page)
- 6: Answer Key – Final IL Jeopardy – (1 Page)

**CREDIT ASSIGNED:**

CWTP Credit - 12 hrs.  
CE for LSW - 12 hrs.