

Adult Connections Project: Logic Model

Purpose and Vision: To improve economic, emotional, and behavioral wellbeing of foster youth approaching emancipation by increasing supportive, lasting connections with adults and providing enhanced opportunities for job skills development. Individualized plans will be developed in collaboration with each youth to assist them in successfully transitioning to independence by (1) strengthening the supportive capacity of their adult connections (2) increasing job skills through formal job skills training and supported externships. A peer support component will be used to engage youth in the intervention and provide opportunities for positive peer support. Outcomes will be compared for youth randomly assigned to an intervention group eligible for all programs or to a services as usual comparison group.

Inputs	Intervention Activities	Fidelity Indicators	Proximal Outcomes	Distal Outcomes
<p><u>Providers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adult Connections Specialist - Success Coach mentor - NEXT coordinators - Peer Support Specialist <p><u>Advisory Board:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recently emancipated foster youth - IL DCFS representatives - Agency staff members <p><u>Processes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of social supports, job readiness, and career interests - Ongoing provider meetings and contacts through email and texts <p><u>Programs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service #1: Adult Connections Team (mentoring) - Service #2: NEXT Job Skills and Externship Program 	<p><u>Service #1: Adult Connections Team Mentoring</u></p> <p><i>Adult Connections Specialist:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mentor identification (supported by family finding, youth identification of potential mentors, and recruitment from the youth's self-identified community); community volunteers will be matched with the youth when this process does not identify a mentor - Train and support success coaches - Create mentoring agreements specifying type and frequency of contacts - Contact youth at least monthly to check in and provide assistance as needed - Document engagement and contacts <p><i>Success Coach Mentor:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in training with adult connections supervisor - Ongoing contact with youth in youth-identified activities - Regular telephone, text, and social media network contacts to provide intensive support and encouragement - Contacted each month re. youth needs and progress <p><u>Service #2: NEXT Program</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provides intensive 2-week job skills training in a 1:1 format with a flexible structure to meet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Matching of youth with Success Coaches occurs - Coaches have similarities to the youth in career interests and/ or involvement in the youth's community settings - Coaches have consistent, regular contact with youth (in-person activities, phone, texting, social media) - Adult Connections Specialists indicate an increasing level of youth engagement in mentoring relationships over time - Youth report a positive, supportive relationship with their Success Coach - Coaches assist with goal attainment and provide resources as determined by the youth - Identification of family members and increase in 	<p><u>Youth experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stronger perceived adequacy of social support - Stronger support from adults - Increase in strengths related to relational competencies - Greater attainment of intermediate educational goals - Increased job skills and paid work experience 	<p><u>Youth experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greater perception of emotional permanency - Higher rate of educational attainment - Higher rate of employment - More positive emotional well-being - Less delinquent behavior

<p>- Supportive Service: Peer Connections Program</p>	<p>youth needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engages partner organizations to host youth in paid externships - Assesses and matches youth with appropriate externship placements - Externship supervisor provides on-site job skills training and support to youth and coordinates with case manager and Adult Connections Specialist about youth progress and needs <p><u>Supportive Service: Peer Connections Program</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provides overall support from a Peer Support Specialist and encouragement of engagement in the mentoring and job skills/externship programs - Provides the opportunity to meet and receive support from other youth likely to emancipate from care through youth in care dinners, other events, and a Facebook page <p><u>Advisory Board</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provides input and advice about intervention activities and youth needs 	<p>contact with family members if desired</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth identification of their Success Coach and their Peer Connections youth group as sources of support and assistance - Youth completion of job skills program and successful placement in externship - Youth attendance at Peer Connections Events 		
-------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--