

Clark County Independent Living Committee

Department of Family Services
500 S Grand Central Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89155
ODC Room # 1 and Microsoft Teams
Jun 21, 2023
3:00 – 4:30 pm

1. **Call to order - Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Approve Minutes from Mar 22, 2023.**
 - a. Minutes approved.
3. **Clark County Independent Living Program**
 - a. IL Updates
 - i. Staffing
 1. A lot of positive changes, promotions of staff that have moved on to other units and departments.
 2. Welcomed our new IL Staff, IL Workers, Daphne Fowler, Jasmine Lee, and Alejandra Monsivais, and Manager, Lisa Shaw.
 3. New staff in training by (Kathy Treants, Daphne Fowler)
 4. 2 opening for IL workers and have been approved for 2 Part-time hourly positions, both hope to be filled by the end of summer.
 5. Restructuring within the unit.
 6. Schedule changes
 - ii. Graduation Event
 1. Thank you to everyone for participating and contributed to our graduation party.
 - a. IL and LifeSet workers – worked hard all throughout the year to get us to that point and participating that day.
 - b. Graduation committee – planning the party.
 - c. DFS Staff – volunteered at the celebration and donated gift baskets.
 - d. Community partners – participating that day, providing gifts, and being there to provide valuable information to our youth.
 2. Everyone’s hard work and contributions made it a success this year, resulting in 80 graduates.
 - iii. Leaps Social Services Program
 1. We have a new partnership for housing.
 2. Help streamline the housing process for community providers that want to provide housing to youth aging out of foster care.
 3. For more information see IL or LifeSet supervisors’, Isabel Iraheta, Shuanndy Alvarez, and Nymisha Johnson who can refer you to the organization’s services.
 - iv. Peer to Peer
 1. In collaboration with StepUp, DFS Clinical and IL provides peer-to-peer information sessions at Child Haven.

- a. StepUp has young adults come in and share words of wisdom with youth on campus regarding planning and preparing to age out of foster care.
 - b. Next session will be July 6th.
 - c. Please encourage youth on campus to participate with Peer to Peer as well as the Independent Living Program.
 - v. Workshops
 - 1. Had a SCE workshop focused on money management skills with our youth.
 - 2. CSN – Info Session, provided information to our workers on their apprenticeship and technical and trade programs.
 - a. Will be having another session in the up-and-coming months.
 - 3. Culinary Academy – info session, provided information to our workers on their programs and the grants they have for youth.
 - 4. For more information on any of these workshops, reach out to any IL or LifeSet supervisor.
 - vi. IL is Working with the State of Nevada
 - 1. We have had numerous staff and youth participate in subgroups that are working towards improving IL services for youth aging out of care and while they are in independent Living program.
 - 2. Youth and young adults participated in listening sessions where they were able to provide their prospective on foster care.
 - 3. Youth and young adults participated in recruitment videos for foster parents, where they shared their experiences while being in foster care.
 - vii. LifeSet introduction (Shuuanndy)
 - 1. Brief update
 - a. New workers have joined, Jessica Marable and Fernando Rodriguez and have a few cases.
 - b. We have some openings in both units.
 - c. We are looking at new referrals and pre-assigning workers for new youth.
 - d. Great collaborating with IL - Isabel Iraheta and our community partners on the graduation celebration for our youth.
 - i. We received a lot of support from other units regarding transportation for our youth.
- 4. FAAYT - Foster and Adoptive Youth Together (CAA) (Shuuanndy)**
- a. Brief update
 - i. Met with DeShun and one youth participated in that meeting.
 - ii. Looking to hold meetings in person with officers to get FAAYT moving forward.
 - iii. Planning an event to invite more youth, also looking to get more community partners involved to help with the invitations and recruitment.
 - iv. We will have an update on the date soon.
 - v. FAAYT is under the CAA and DeShun is running this program however IL is in collaboration.
 - b. Actively recruiting for FAAYT

- i. If you know of young people who are interested in joining, please email IL and we will reach out to DaShun Jackson, we can provide flyers as well.

5. Clark County Social Services (Step Up)

- a. Down one social worker, the position has been posted and looking for it to be filled within the next 6 months.
- b. The vacant office specialist is in the process of filling.
- c. Continuing to provide graduations stipends and providing case management.
- d. Leaps Social Service Program (Landlord Engagement and Property Services).
 - i. Work with a lot of different grants
 - ii. Focus is on finding and working with Landlords.
 - iii. Interested in providing housing opportunities for lots of different programs such as HUD.
 - iv. This is a great way to transition and work with different entities or people who want to provide housing for former foster youth or people affiliated with the foster care system.
 - v. For more information email staff at leaps@clarkcountynv.gov
 - vi. If you are a worker looking for housing services email supervisors at DFS to facilitate that process.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS* (Open for Community Providers to share their programs and/or provide upcoming events)

- a. Olive Crest
 - i. Teens and young Adults Program - Specialize in helping youth that have aged out of foster care with housing, therapeutic services, resources, and weekly life skills training.
 - 1. Service youth ages 18 to 21 typically
 - 2. Also accept young parents.
 - 3. Currently have one unit available in the next three to four weeks.
 - a. Each unit holds two youth.
 - b. Rent – \$550 a month.
 - i. \$450 goes towards housing and utilities.
 - ii. \$100 goes towards a savings account.
 - c. Every six months the rent goes up \$50 never to exceed \$800 dollars.
- b. Shining Star – Mason
 - i. Pushing to get more into in person IL classes at the Child Haven campus.
 - 1. Child Haven classes - participation has been a low due to some teen's runaway from Child Haven.
 - 2. Classes are biweekly, Tuesdays and Thursday at Child Haven for youth on campus only.
 - 3. Willing to offer an incentive to foster parents who are able to drop the teens off for class in community.
 - ii. Continue to send youth referrals.
 - 1. Dates and times for up-and-coming IL classes will be based on those referrals.
 - 2. Q&A
 - a. Katina – sent in referral for youth at NV Homes for youth. Can you go there to hold a class. I sent a referral and haven't heard anything back.

- b. Mason – Yes, just contacted Mr. Rob this week and we will be bringing the IL program to the youth at NV Homes’ location.
 - iii. Virtual IL classes on Saturdays from 11am to 1pm, to accommodate youth that may work during the day, night classes 4pm 6pm and some classes may be held during the week.
 - iv. Training new staff to become educators for our IL classes.
 - c. Rise Home - (Deja)
 - i. Provide Transitional Housing for youth aging out care.
 - 1. 6 open beds
 - a. 5 males and 1female
 - ii. Offer Skill based Training and transportation to anything work or school related.
 - iii. Recently partnered with dental mobile service.
 - iv. Rori – She took a youths to the DMV today and Rise gave the youth a voucher for the DMV in such short notice, instead of the youth having to wait for Chafee to be approved. Very happy with Rise and the many resources they help the youth with.
 - d. CASA – (Eduardo)
 - i. Last week had a graduation of 24 volunteers and in the process of starting a new class in a few weeks.
 - ii. Consistently they are offering a 5 week training every other week for potential CASA volunteers.
 - iii. We have a little bit over 400 volunteers serving over 900 youth.
 - e. Lisa Shaw Q&A
 - i. Lisa Shaw - We have had a lot of technical difficulties today; how does everyone feel about in moving these meetings to in person moving forward. This could be good to bring everyone together and a great opportunity for everyone to meet one another. We did this before and then with COVID we went virtual. Lisa recognizes that virtual meetings are convenient but wanted to see if there was anyone who would oppose. ODC, North or a cite nearby would be a few suggestions on a meeting place.

Attendees – no one opposed to move meeting back to in person.

Lisa Shaw – Thank you for your willingness, and we will give it a shot for September.

7. Next Meeting: Sept 20, 2023, at 3:00pm

- a. **Meeting will be held in person site TBD**

8. Adjournment