



Transitions

step into your future.

the central missouri foster care and
adoption association is proud to
present you with the support you
need to achieve your dreams. All
you have to do is take the first step!



THE CENTRAL MISSOURI
**Foster Care
& Adoption**
ASSOCIATION

Transitions Program Outline & Checklist

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Transitions program is geared towards foster children who are "aging-out" of the system and are in their senior level of high school. It is a program designed to help each child complete high school and to provide him/her with the opportunity to pursue post-secondary education. The Transitions program also matches each foster child with a mentor to help ease the transition from foster care to college. The mentors also create a support system for their success.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Transitions Program recipients must be graduating seniors and apply for the program by September 30th of their graduating year. The caseworker for the recipient will fill out the Transitions packet and return to CMFCAA. The only exceptions that will be made are emergency placements. The Transitions packets will be distributed to Children's Division agencies and other agencies that assist our foster youth. The caseworker for the recipient will fill out the Transitions packet and return to CMFCAA. The main objective of this program is for our recipients' to pursue post-secondary education. However, if there is a situation where the child does not fit the "academic profile" then the recipient will have assistance through CMFCAA to secure employment and housing upon graduation.

CHECKLIST

Below is the checklist of responsibilities, services and programs that will be administered through the Transitions program. They are in specific order. Community service is ongoing and may start the summer before Senior year.

1. Dream Nights Contract/Packet signed by recipient, caseworker and Executive Director or Programs Specialist of CMFCAA
2. Sign up for the Chaffee program-Chaffee or CMFCAA staff will assist our Transitions recipients with their ETV voucher. CMFCAA will keep a printed receipt of the registration.
3. Sign up at FosterClub.org – each recipient will come to the Resource Center to utilize the help from program staff to fill out their registration/membership forms for FosterClub.org. This is a support system for our recipients.
4. FASFA filled out – each recipient must inform CMFCAA this has been completed through their caseworker or individually through the receipt sent through their FASFA application.
5. Scholarships filled out through CMFCAA website and local groups offering scholarships. CMFCAA staff or mentor will assist the Transitions recipient with scholarships that are applicable through the community and other avenues.
6. ACT taken-(recipient may get a waiver for fee through school counselor) - each recipient must present CMFCAA staff with the printed receipt with the date, time and location of their ACT test and



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must have made prior arrangements for their foster/adoptive parents, mentor, or CMFCAA staff to transport them to their test. There are strict rules for testing-no cell phones allowed. There are some colleges in Central Missouri that require a higher ACT test than others. Upon the recipient receiving their ACT scores CMFCAA can assist in helping them determine which college they are able to attend.

7. College, trade or technical institution picked out and orientation date scheduled (ROAR orientation @ Lincoln University can be paid through recipient's financial aid) - the college, trade or technical school must be in Central Missouri for the first year. Some exceptions can be made if a recipient shows signs of strong academics and independency without a strong support system. The other transitional independence programs that can qualify are the military, Peace Corps, Job Corp. With these programs there will be a representative from the CMFCAA working with our recipient as their mentor. If college is not the course for our recipient CMFCAA or the recipients mentor will assist in helping the recipient with job assistance and securing housing for youth upon graduation.
8. Mentor will be assigned through CMFCAA for first two years of the child's post-secondary education-this will be a volunteer through CMFCAA's mentor program.
9. Senior Pictures -we need to have these scheduled by October of the year the recipient is graduating. (Jennifer's Photography, Leah Lear Photography, Connie Martin Photography, Spill My Cup Photography, Linda's Studio, Michelle Woolery photography) There are set packages available for each recipient. The Transitions recipient may purchase additional photos if they so choose; however this will be an out of pocket expense.
10. Cap, gown and tassel package bought from Jostens - package #4 (26.00)-This is a set package, non-negotiable.
11. Fitting and alteration of Prom Dress from Victoria's Bridal, Celebrations or Dream Nights closet. If it is a boy that is graduating a tux will be fitted from Samuels Tuxedo or another tuxedo shop.
12. Shoes for prom (this is if funding is available-shoes may not be more than \$25)
13. Hair appt. made through Merrill University (a partnering agency for the Transitions program)- appt's must be made 3 months in advance prior to graduation.
14. Prom tickets bought(the program will pay for one prom ticket)
15. Project graduation ticket bought(the program will pay for one Project Graduation ticket)
16. Corsage or boutonniere
17. Dinner for prom night(Dinner for two will be donated or purchased depending on funding)
18. Dorm essentials secured if staying in the dorm(if funding allows-Dorm package includes but not limited to: linens, hygiene kit, towels and washcloths, cooking utensils, desk, chair, curtains, etc)
19. Transportation secured-(bus pass)



20. Laptop purchased (if funding allowed)
21. 15 hours of community service through CMFCAA or other local nonprofit agency (authorized by CMFCAA Executive Director-documentation must be provided before the second week of graduation)
22. Budget Class taken through our youth support group-this class must be taken before the start of their freshman year in college.
23. Healthcare and medication information classes through our youth support group-each recipient must have this class taken and understand their health insurance, how to schedule a Dr. Appt, and how to take their medication, if applicable.
24. Interview skills taught through our youth support group-this class must be taken before the end of the recipient's sophomore year in college.
25. Each recipient must send a copy of their semester transcripts complete with grades to CMFCAA at the end of each semester.
26. Each recipient must maintain a 2.5 GPA and abstain from alcohol and drugs to continue receiving services through the Transitions program.
27. Each recipient must agree to maintain contact with their mentor until their junior level of College.

EVALUATION PLAN (Defined and measured)

1. A survey will be administered to youths after three months and again after one year of being matched with their mentor.
2. Mentors will be required to complete quarterly questionnaires reporting observed changes in the child.
3. Mentors will also be given an assessment that will be due at the end of each semester. The assessment will document meetings, discussions, the mentee's short and long term goals, and academic performance.
4. Academic transcripts will be requested from each child at the end of the semester to determine the success of the transition to college.
5. Each child is expected to sign a contract stating they will abstain from drugs, alcohol and maintain at least a 2.5 GPA.

COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Results derived from the evaluation process will be communicated to program stakeholders through quarterly reports, and newsletters.

*Rules are subject to change. Notice will be given to caseworker, mentor and recipient upon 15 days of alteration of program rules.





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Applicant Information

Male _____ age _____ race _____
Female _____

- 1) What is your date of graduation? _____
- 2) What High School will you be graduating from? _____
- 3) What Central Missouri College/Trade School do you plan to attend? _____
- 4) What do you plan to declare you're major in college? _____
- 5) Do you have your own transportation? _____
- 6) Are you a foster or adoptive child? _____
- 7) How long have you been in the "system"? _____

Applicant/Mentor Information

What are your hobbies? _____

What type of mentor would you like? _____

What types of things would you like to do together? _____

Do you have a place to go for the holidays, spring and summer break? Yes___ No___

Please write in 500 words or less how you feel college will help you in your transition out of foster care. How do you plan to give back to your community? (flip to the back if needed.)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Staff Received By: _____ Date _____

FASFA filled out Yes _____ No _____

ACT Taken Yes _____ No _____ Date ACT Taken _____

GED Taken Yes _____ No _____ Date GED Taken _____

School Advisor _____

Mentor Assigned Yes _____ No _____ Date assigned mentorship _____

Mentor Name _____

Mentor Phone _____ Cell _____

Mentor Address _____

Initial contact date _____ 3mo. contract date _____ 1yr. contract date _____

Date of 3 month contact _____ Date of 1 year contact _____

Photographer _____ Date Senior Pictures Taken _____

Package amount _____

Date of dress fitting _____ Cost of Prom Dress _____

Vendor _____ Tax paperwork sent Yes _____ No _____ Date sent _____

Cap & Gown purchased _____ Date purchased _____ Amount _____

Prom Dinner Purchased Yes _____ No _____ Date Purchased _____ Vendor/Business _____

Tax paperwork sent Yes _____ No _____ Date sent _____

Prom corsage or boutonniere purchased Yes _____ No _____ Date Purchased _____

Vendor _____ Tax paperwork sent Yes _____ No _____ Date sent _____

Additional Items purchased for recipient

Item: _____ Price: _____ Date: _____ Vendor: _____

COMMENTS



Transitions Program Contract

I understand that the Transitions program exists to encourage education and participation in high school activities. By participating in this program I agree to the following guidelines:

- I will participate in graduation.
- I will attend project graduation if available.
- I will not partake in any alcohol consumption or illegal drug usage during my involvement in this program.
- I will not be involved in any other illegal activities.
- I will complete all steps in Transitions program rules and outline
- I will meet with my mentor at least once a month by phone, email or personal contact.
- I will send my transcript to CMFCAA by the end of each college semester
- I will serve 15 hours of community service by the 2nd week of graduating from High School.
- I will attend post secondary education in Central Missouri.
- I will complete my budget, living skills and interview skills as indicated in the outline of the Transitions program.
- If I do not meet these requirements, I understand that I will no longer be allowed to participate in the Transitions program.

Signed Foster/Adopted Child

Date

Signed Foster/Adopted Parent/Mentor

Date

Signed CMFCAA Staff

Date

**If a recipient fails to comply with a abstaining from drugs or alcohol, prevention steps will be taken through counseling and drug and alcohol intervention classes. This is solely upon the discretion of the staff of CMFCAA.



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