

**INDEPENDENT LIVING
PROGRAM
KERN COUNTY ILP
NEWSLETTER**



***SUMMER
2019***

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Summer 2019**

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661 636-4971**



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ILP Contact List
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**ILP Assistant
661 636-4987**



What is



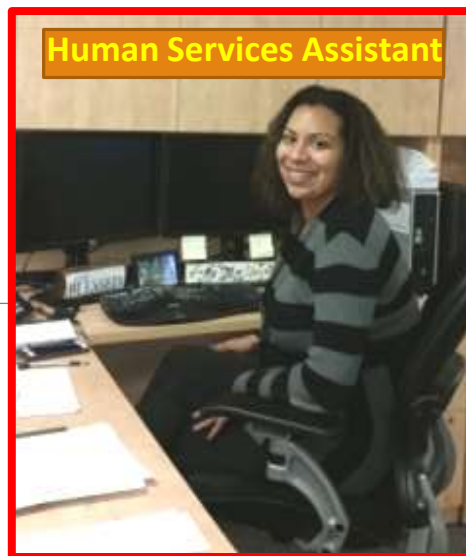
The Independent Living Program (ILP) is a federally funded program that provides services to assist eligible youth (16-18 years of age) in making successful transitions from foster care to independent living. Any youth who were in OR are in foster care/probation and placed in out-of-home foster care at any time from their 16th to their 18th birthday are eligible for ILP Services. The services are also offered to those youth who qualify for extended foster care (AB 12) from the ages of 18-21. ILP offers a vast amount of services to help youth achieve self-sufficiency prior to exiting foster care. The following are some of those services:

- Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP) – completed with ILP worker/probation officer every 6-months to explore goals related to self-sufficiency
- Education Planning – plan for completion of high school and options for college
- College and financial aid application assistance
- Community resources that provide career planning, job leads, and resume assistance
- Transitional housing for emancipated youth
- Emancipation conferences
- Life skills
- Referrals to resources
- Assist youth in opening a savings account
- ILP trust fund
- Senior packet - cap/gown, etc.
- Transportation assistance – bus passes and/or assistance with obtaining a driver's license
- Introduction to California Youth Connection (CYC)
- Incentives for ILP participation
- Referral to a mentoring program
- Assist youth in obtaining their birth certificate, social security card, California Identification Card or California Driver's License
- Assist youth in obtaining access to view their child welfare case file(s)

ILP

Community Resources

Ashley Hollins



Emancipated youth and AB 12 Youth may be eligible for Cal-Fresh (formerly Food Stamps). Stop by the Dream Center at 1801 19th Street and see Ashley Hollins to complete an application or visit www.C4Yourself.com to apply online.

Call 211 if you are in need of household assistance such housing, food, clothing, childcare or utility assistance.

Drivers Training: We have limited funds for driver's training for ILP youth. Contact your ILP Social Worker to make the request. First come first serve, until all of the funds have be used.



Unclaimed Trust Funds for former ILP:

Former Kern County Foster Youth who participated in various activities provided by the Department and other Community Based Organizations, may have a trust fund balance that was not disbursed when you emancipated. You may be eligible to receive funds for participating in these activities, such as, classes, workshops, THP Plus or ILP events.

Unclaimed trust funds have been transferred to the Kern County Treasurer Tax Collector Office located at 1115 Truxtun Avenue in Bakersfield, CA. The funds will remain with the Treasurer for three years, until 2021. To verify if there are funds being held at the Treasurer's Office in your name, you may go on-line, go to the Kern County Treasure Website then select Unclaimed Money, from there you will search the database. If funds are located, please follow their instructions to claim the funds.

JUST FOR YOU!

Dream

Center

THE DREAM CENTER

- **The Dream Center is an innovative resource center for current and former foster youth. Youth can receive assistance with education, employment, Cal-Fresh/Medi-cal and community resource needs. Youths can utilize Dream Center services up to the age of 24.**
- **All ILP Workers, Keith Hollins, Andrea Martinez, Maria Escalante, Tamara Roberts, Monique Casas and ILP Supervisor Robin Chambers are located at the Dream Center.**
- **AB 12 Social Workers Faye Dickerson, Somphou Siripane, Katherine Santana, Alberto Arteaga and AB 12 Supervisor Kelley Fullerton are also located at the Dream Center. AB 12 Worker Francisco Martinez is located at 100 E. California Ave.**
- ***New Location:* 1801 19th Street in downtown Bakersfield phone number (661-636-4488)**
- **Like the Dream Center on Face book for news and information!**
- **The Dream Center is a Condom Access Site for Kern County and gives out free condoms. We want you to be safe and protected from Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and unwanted pregnancies.**
- **Dream Center offers snack bags and treats when available. Snack bags will only be given out when the client is leaving the center. If the Dream Center has breakfast snacks, they will be given out daily between 8:00 AM – 4:30PM.**
- **Dream Center clothing closet offers work attire and everyday wear. Youth can only utilize the clothing closet once a month.**
- ***Now youth may wash and dry a load of clothing and/or take a shower onsite.***

D

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DREAM CENTER UPDATES



NEW Services Available at The Dream Center

The Dream Center is excited that new **housing assistance** programs are now available for Dream Center youth who are homeless or within 90 days of being homeless. Youth who are homeless or on the verge of being homeless should come to the Dream Center to learn more information and if they will qualify.

Other new services include monthly **Money Management** and **Renters Rights** classes; and, the addition of **United Fosters Only (UFO)** meetings. **UFO**, named by the youth who participated during the first meeting, is a fun, activity focused group that helps youth to learn and practice leadership and other skills that will help them to be successful. Special lunches and gift cards are provided for youth who fully participate in UFO. The June UFO meeting will be a special field trip to a ranch in Tehachapi, summer UFO meetings will focus on community service activities. UFO is a great way to get to know other Dream Center youth, have fun, and learn some neat skills.

Please watch the Dream Center calendar (<https://kern.org/kcnc/dream-center/>) and come for cooking classes, free lunch on us days, birthday celebrations, and other activities. While you're here, check out the free clothing, household, hygiene, and other items that are available.

For more information about services or activities, call The Dream Center at 661.636.4488 or come by Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Upcoming Dream Center Events:

JUNE 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6	7
	Help w/ Resume - Drop in 1-4 pm	DRA 10 am	Help w/ Resume - Drop in 1-4 pm Nurse 2 – 4 pm Visual Arts 2 pm	Youth Advisory Board 11 am Lunch On Us 12:30 pm
10	11 Lunch On Us 12:30 pm	12	13	14
	Help w/ Resume - Drop in 1-4 pm DOR 2 pm	DRA 10 am Ice Cream Social 1 pm	Help w/ Resume - Drop in 1-4 pm Nurse 2 – 4 pm Visual Arts 2 pm CYC Meeting 3 – 4:15 pm	
17	18	19	20	21 Money Management 2 pm
	Lunch On Us 12:30 pm Help w/ Resume - Drop in 1-4 pm Job Interview Practice 2 pm	DRA 10 am Counting Change 1 pm	Help w/ Resume - Drop in 1-4 pm Nurse 2 – 4 pm Visual Arts 2 pm	
24	25	26	27	28
	Renter Rights Info 1 pm Help w/ Resume - Drop in 1-4 pm DOR 2 pm	DRA 10 am Lunch On Us & Birthday Celebrations 12:30 pm	Help w/ Resume - Drop in 1-4 pm Nurse 2 – 4 pm Visual Arts 2 pm CYC Meeting 3 – 4:15 pm	

EVENTS

For information about Dream Center happenings call
Sara Espinoza at 661.636.4488

D C



Independent Student Status on the FAFSA – Foster or Homeless Youth?

Q: I'm trying to help a 22-year-old young woman complete the FAFSA before the priority deadline of March 2. This young woman did spend time in foster care but is also currently homeless. In the dependency section, for the purposes of establishing independent student status, should she indicate her foster care history or her current homelessness status? I see you cannot indicate both.

A: If the young woman was in foster care at any time since turning 13, she should check this box and be granted independent student status by way of her foster care history, instead of her homelessness status.

Homelessness determinations only last that upcoming school year, then require annual verification that the student was “an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or is self-supporting and at risk of being homeless” any time on or after July 1 of the year prior to the award year. However, youth who were in foster care or were dependents or wards of the court any time since turning 13 are considered independent students in subsequent years by way of their foster care history without having to re-verify.

The homeless youth determination process is also more cumbersome than the foster care verification process, which is now automated.

For help with assisting foster youth with completing the FAFSA, refer to JBAY's [Financial Aid Guide for California Foster Youth](#), which includes a Visual Guide.

For help with assisting homeless youth with completing the FAFSA, refer to JBAY's [Visual Guide to Assist Homeless Youth with Completing the FAFSA](#).

Citation: 2018-19 Federal Student Aid Handbook, Application and Verification Guide (<https://ifap.ed.gov/fsahandbook/attachments/1819FSAHbkAVG.pdf>)

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!

Bakersfield College



FOSTER YOUTH EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

The NextUp program's primary goal is to support the enrollment, retention and transfer of current and former foster youth enrolled at Bakersfield College.

ELIGIBILITY

- ✓ Students must be under age 26
- ✓ Foster care established or continued by court on or after 16th birthday
- ✓ Enrolled in 9 units (Exceptions made for DSPS eligible students)
- ✓ Submit FAFSA or Dream Act Application & Chafee Grant Application
- ✓ Apply through the EOP&S Program
- ✓ Qualify to receive the California College Promise Grant (BOGW) "1", "2" or "3 w/ EFC=0"
- ✓ Be a California Resident (AB 540 eligible/CA Dreamers may apply)

APPLY TODAY

Apply Online

<https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/student/eops-program>

Or

Apply in Person

EOPS Program
Center for Student Success
CSS Bldg., 2nd Floor

For questions, e-mail us:

eops@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Here you are, taking your next step toward your college goals. You've faced a lot of challenges along the way, and you've overcome them all. This exciting new journey will present you with countless new opportunities.

You've got the drive. You've got the talent and the skills. And with NextUp, you've got the support you need to achieve your dreams.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

SERVICES



Books and Supplies



Child Care



Counseling & Career Guidance



Educational Planning



Emergency Housing Assistance



Food Assistance



Health Services



Life Skills & Financial Wellness



Mental Health Services



Transportation Assistance



Tutoring

1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93305
Phone (661) 395-4351 · Fax (661) 395-4768

BAKERSFIELD
COLLEGE



Bakersfield College Online Enrollment Steps

Step 1

Apply to Bakersfield College Online at www.bakersfieldcollege.edu .

Step 2

Attend Orientation

The Orientation formally introduces you to BC and prepares you for success. Register online for the in-person Orientation, or complete the Orientation online.

Step 3

Take the Placement Test

The Placement Testing process places you into English, Reading, and Math classes. These classes are the foundation for all other classes here at BC. Take the Placement Test at Testing and Placement Center anytime during their business hours with your photo ID and your BC ID or SSN. Practice tests are available online.

Step 4

Develop an Education Plan

Attend the New Student Workshop in person to develop your Abbreviated Student Education Plan with a Counselor. If you choose to complete the New Student Workshop online, you will need to contact the Counseling department at 661-395-4421 to schedule an individual appointment to develop your Education Plan.

Concurrent Enrollment

High school student wishing to enroll while still attending high school must submit a Concurrent Enrollment Form. Read more about this additional step at High School Concurrent Enrollment.

Veterans

An Abbreviated Student Education Plan does not satisfy VA requirements. While you will need to complete the New Student Workshop, you will also need to meet with the Veterans Advisor to complete a Comprehensive Educational Plan. See the Veterans Enrollment Steps for more details on the extra steps for veterans.

Step 5

Register for Classes

Instructions for registering for classes are available online. If you are still unsure about the classes you should register for, please meet with a counselor or educational advisor in the Counseling department (CSS Building, 1st Floor).

International Students

There are many steps in addition to these for International Students. Please read about Admission Criteria and Enrollment Steps for International Students.

Bakersfield College

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

Trayniesha Taylor



Trayniesha recently received her BA degree in Psychology from UC Santa Barbara. She just applied at Valley Achievement for a position working with autistic youth. She stated that she wants to be a positive role model for other youth in our community. Congratulations for your great accomplishment and best wishes for your future success.

VISION

Tom Corson



**Executive Director
Kern County Network for Children
(KCNC)**

Curt Williams



**Director
Foster Youth Services (FYS)**

Faye Dickerson



**Social Services Worker
Extended Foster Care
AB 12 Unit**

Angelica Iniguez



**Social Services Worker
Resource Family Approval
Department of Human Services (DHS)**

AT THE DC

Who's Who at the Dream Center

Tamara Roberts



**Social Services Worker
Independent Living Program (ILP)**

Probation Officers



**Officer Amber Young (left)
Officer Jamila Ott (right)**

Kevin Truelson



**Child and Family Services Coordinator
Kern County Network for Children (KCNC)**

Jessica Valdivia



**Office Services Technician
Department of Human Services (DHS)**

AT THE DC

Who's New at the Dream Center

Sandy Simmonds



**Prevention Services Facilitator
Kern County Network for Children (KCNC)**

Kenisha Edwards



**Prevention Services Facilitator
Kern County Network for Children (KCNC)**

Tahlua Goosby



**Prevention Services Facilitator
Foster Youth Services (FYS)**

Sabrina Palomo



**CSEC Support Worker
Department of Human Services (DHS)**

AT THE DC

COOLING CENTERS



It's heating up outside and it's only going to get hotter in the coming months. Several businesses plan on opening as cooling centers. Starting on May 15, cooling centers will open their doors when temperatures exceed certain highs.

The centers are open from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Notification for open cooling centers will be made the day before they open.

Residents using the cooling centers are encouraged to bring snacks, reading materials and games with them if they'd like.

Some of the agencies that will have cooling centers are PG&E, the Department of Aging and Adult Services, and Kern County General Services.

SAN JOAQUIN AND KERN RIVER VALLEY CENTERS:

Arvin ~ Arvin Community Center, 800 Walnut Drive

Bakersfield ~ East Bakersfield Veterans Building, 2101 Ridge Road

Bakersfield ~ East Niles Senior Center, 6601 E. Niles Street

Bakersfield ~ The Mission at Kern County, 816 E. 21st Street

Buttonwillow ~ Buttonwillow Recreation and Park District, 556 Milo Avenue

Lake Isabella ~ Kern River Valley Senior Center, 6405 Lake Isabella Boulevard

Maricopa ~ Gusher Hall, 271 California Street

Shafter ~ Walker Senior Center, 505 Sunset Avenue

Taft ~ Taft Veterans Building, 213 Taylor Street

MOUNTAIN CENTER:

Frazier Park ~ Frazier Park Recreation Building, 3801 Park Drive

DESERT CENTERS:

California City ~ California City Police Department, 21130 Hacienda Boulevard

California City ~ Strata Center, 10350 Heather Avenue

Ridgecrest ~ Kerr-McGee Center, 100 W. California Avenue

Rosamond ~ Hummel Community Building, 2500 20th Street

Mojave- Mojave Vets Building, 15580 'O' Street

PLEASE STAY COOL!

UPDATE FROM JOHN BURTON ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH

Question of the Week

FORMER FOSTER YOUTH WITH NON-RELATED LEGAL GUARDIANS QUALIFY FOR MEDI-CAL TO AGE 26

Q: I'm working with a former foster youth who was in a Non-Related Legal Guardianship (NRLG). Is this youth eligible for extended Medi-Cal to age 26, given she was in a NRLG?

A: If this former foster youth moved into the Non-Related Legal Guardianship (NRLG) and remained under the care and placement of the state or tribe, he or she is eligible for extended Medi-Cal benefits.

Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care [Act](#), California passed a [law](#) in 2013 allowing youth who were in foster care on their 18th birthday or later to [qualify](#) for free Medi-Cal until age 26. All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) [19-08](#) explains that a youth moved into a NRLG who remains under the care and placement of the state or tribe is eligible for extended Medi-Cal benefits under the Former Foster Youth Program.

Citation: California Department of Health Care Service. All County Welfare Directors Letter 19-08 (2019). <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/eligibility/Documents/ACWDL/2019/19-08.pdf>

UPCOMING ILP EVENTS

JUNE 2019

- **Housing Workshop/Budgeting**
Date: June 11th
Time: 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Location: Dream Center- 1801 19th St. Bakersfield, CA 93301
- **Parenting Class**
Date: June 20th
Time: 3:30pm – 5:00pm
Location: Dream Center-Conference Room 1801 19th St. Bakersfield, CA 93301
- **Money Matters Workshop**
Date: June 25th
Time: 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Location: Dream Center- 1801 19th St. Bakersfield, CA 93301

JULY 2019

- **Grilling 101-**
Date: July 12th
Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm
Location: Dream Center/Collaborative- 1807 19th St. Bakersfield, CA 93301
- **CSUB Summer Life Skills Classes**
Date: Begins July 16th at 9:00am and ends July 18th at 3:00pm
Location: CSUB, 9001 Stockdale Hwy. Bakersfield, CA 93311 /New Dorms near soccer field

AUGUST 2019

- **Couponing 101**
Date: August 6th
Time: 4:00pm – 6:00pm
Location: Dream Center/Collaborative- 1807 19th St. Bakersfield, CA 93301
- **Cooking 101**
Date: August 13th
Time: 4:00pm – 6:00pm
Location: Dream Center/Collaborative- 1807 19th St. Bakersfield, CA 93301
- **Tier I/Tier II Life Skills Class Session 1- Intake/Orientation**
Date: August 20th (tentative)
Time: 5:00pm – 6:00pm
Location: Career Resource Department- 2727 F St. Bakersfield, CA 93301
- **Tier I/Tier II Classes begin August 27th (tentative) – December 17th 5:00pm – 6:30pm (Tuesdays)**