

VISTA MARIA

ILP: Independent Living Plus

INDEPENDENT LIVING PLUS PROGRAM

Independent Living Plus (ILP) is a limited intervention to meet the youth's specific ILP needs and goals until they are able to step down to a less restrictive environment that Independent Living offers. ILP program staff assist with providing housing and services for youth ages 16 through 19 who, because of their individual needs and assessment, are not initially appropriate for General Independent Living (IL) or foster care. These youth may have a demonstrated history of unsuccessful foster care placements. This program is also designed as a post-placement resource for youth in which all of the following apply:

1. *Youth leaving residential foster care who cannot return home.*
2. *Youth who cannot be placed into a family foster home.*
3. *Youth for whom adoption is not planned.*
4. *Youth who have demonstrated a capacity for and willingness to learn independent living skills in a supervised, structured ILP program prior to transitioning into an IL Foster Care placement.*

WHO CAN BE A HOST HOME PROVIDER?

Home providers must provide an atmosphere where ILP learning can take place; that may include utilizing teachable moments, displaying positive role modeling behaviors, and establishing appropriate expectations.

- *Adults at least age 21 years of age.*
- *Ability to provide a bedroom for youth placed in their home.*
- *May be single or married.*
- *Ability to maintain an appropriate established residence within the community.*
- *Agree to sign a contract, which includes household rules, with the youth and ILP Caseworker explaining the expectations of all parties.*
- *Willingness to monitor the youth's behavior in the home and report any concerns such as curfew violations, missing school, or lack of cleanliness to the Caseworker.*
- *The Host Home shall provide furnishings for the home which may be new or used but must be in good working condition and must include, but are not limited to:*
 - *A stove, microwave and refrigerator*
 - *Kitchen furnishings*
 - *Dining table and chairs*
 - *A telephone (landline or cellular)*
 - *Living room furniture*
 - *Desk or table with a chair*
 - *Bookshelf*
 - *Dresser*

PROGRAM GOALS

The goals of the program are to create self-reliant young adults,

provide youth with essential life skills and ease the transition from placement to community life for youth leaving residential treatment or foster care. Balanced and Restorative Justice is also a key component for some clients based on their assessment and needs.

Youth can remain in the ILP Program for 6 months to 1 year depending on their needs. All youth have a minimum of 4 contacts per month including 2 face to face contacts and 24 hour access to staff support. The program is designed to provide them with life skills that will enable them to become independent of the social services delivery system. We encourage and foster independence with our young people the way we would choose to experience it ourselves.



ZEAL

LOVE AND KINDNESS IN ACTION

INDIVIDUAL WORTH

ONE'S OWN WORTH AS A PERSON

MERCY

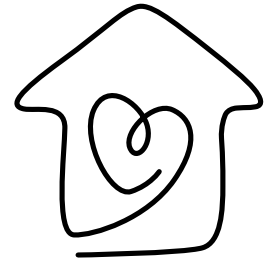
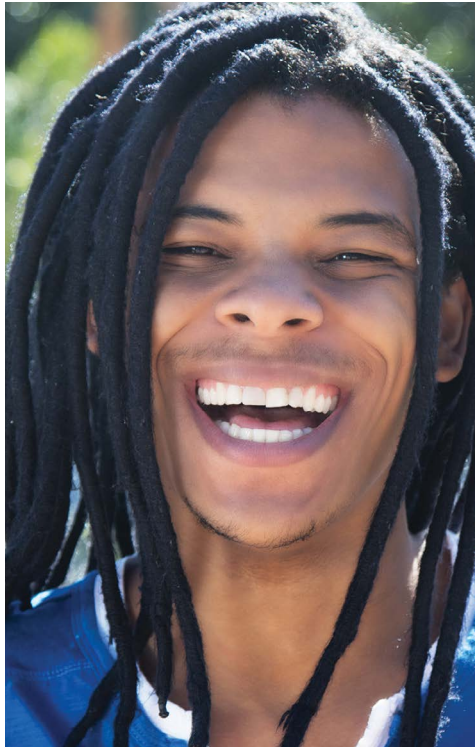
LOVE THAT PARDONS

RECONCILIATION

RESTORATION OF RELATIONSHIPS



VISTA MARIA INDEPENDENT LIVING PLUS



DETAILS:

ILP staff are available 24 hours a day should emergencies occur.

Host Homes are evaluated for:

- *Educational and recreational activities in the area*
- *Home-like atmosphere*
- *Private bedroom*
- *Safe and suitable living environment*

Everyone in the household over the age of 18 must sign a release allowing a police clearance and a DHHS Central Registry Clearance.

Host Home Providers must submit an application with three character references.

Host Home Providers receive financial assistance from the VM ILP client for providing youth with room and required furnishings.

Vista Maria has been serving youth and families since 1883, with a mission to deliver innovative care, support, treatment and education to vulnerable youth so that they heal, believe in their worth and build the skills needed to succeed.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our ILP Program, the ILP office. We'd love to talk to you.



Interested in Learning More? Contact:

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