

Older Youth Pandemic Relief

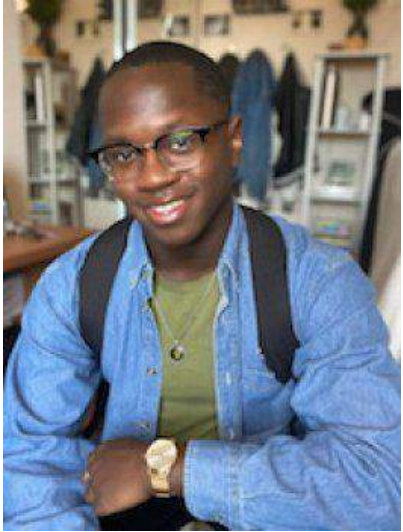


State Spotlight: Implementation in Indiana



FosterClub

Presenters and Hosts



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Agenda

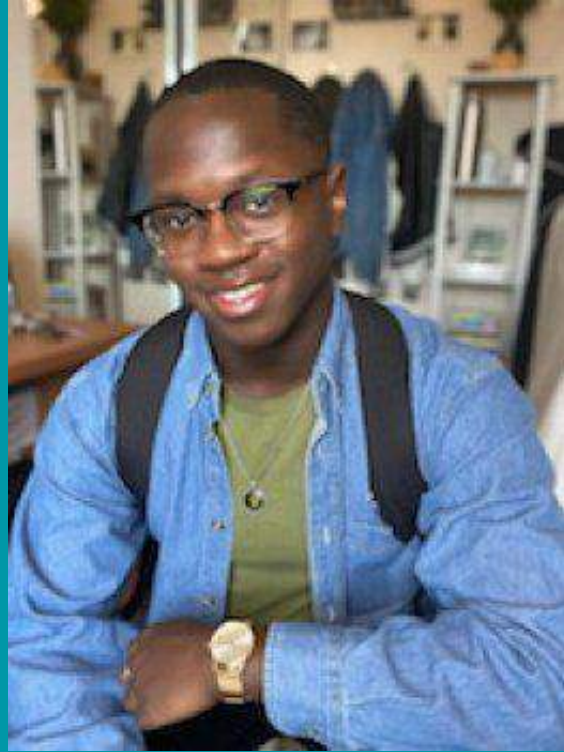
1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Summary of the Law and Implementation Updates
3. State Spotlights: Implementation in Indiana
4. Q&A

Summary of Provisions

- Extended Services (Moratorium)
- Re-Entry, including an obligation to notify and develop a public awareness campaign
- Chafee
 - Increase of \$400 million w/\$50 million in ETV
 - Eligibility through age 26
 - Lift 30% cap on room and board (“housing”)
- Education & Training Vouchers (ETV)
 - Increased max award from \$5000-\$12,000
 - Waive the enrollment requirement
 - Waive the requirement to make satisfactory academic progress (SAP)
 - Youth are eligible even if they attend at less than full time status
 - ETV can fund costs outside of the Cost of Attendance (COA)

Updates on Implementation

- March 9, 2021: [Children's Bureau Program Instruction](#)
- Jan 15, 2021: [Children's Bureau Information Memorandum](#)



Justin Hayden
LEx Leader

Indiana Lived Experience Leadership



Implementing Pandemic Relief for Indiana's Transition Aged Youth

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Topics

- Centering Youth Voice
 - Implementing ETV Pandemic Relief
 - Implementing Older Youth Services Pandemic Relief Plan
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Centering Youth Voice

- Indiana Department of child Services has a youth focused program design - service delivery system. The DCS youth focused system is designed to emphasis youth engagement through Youth Voice.
- Youth Engagement:
 - Youth involved in program development and service delivery
 - Youth led program development
 - Youth program / service evaluation and feedback
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- These youth engagement activities are centered around youth voice. Youth are invited to the table for program development and strategic planning.
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- The Indiana Youth Advisory Board helped developed the Indiana DCS plan Chafee Pandemic Plan

Indiana Youth Advisory Board

Education Phase

- Director of Youth Engagement
- Attainable
- Focused

Discussion Phase

- Focus Groups
- Town Halls
- Regional Meetings

Planning Phase

- Next steps identified
- You were informed when progress was being made



Implementing ETV Pandemic Funds

ETV Pandemic Funds

- All young people enrolled in ETV received an additional \$500
 - Funds were disbursed by Foster Success
- Additional funds needed beyond the normally distributed \$5,000 would require additional documentation
- Applicants identify the type of assistance they need
 - Housing
 - Transpiration
 - Child Care
- Applicants also describe how this assistance will aid in continuous enrollment

ETV Pandemic Funds

- The review process included Foster Success Education Coordinators to connect with youths' workers
 - Ensures we are not paying for the same items
 - Encourages all parties to communicate about the young person
- Funds can normally be disbursed within a week
- Youth also have access to Online Financial Modules



Older Youth Services Pandemic Relief Plan

Expanded Age Eligibility

- DCS extended the age requirement of Chafee supports and services up to the day before the youth 27th birthday during the public health emergency.
- The OYS contracted providers will accept voluntary services referrals for young adults who are over the age of 23; up to the day before the youth's 27th birthday.
- The OYS contracted provider will provide Chafee services (independent living) to young adults up to the day before the youth's 27th birthday.

Support to Older Foster Youth

- Stimulus Funds: DCS plans to provide Chafee relief stimulus funds as a means to support youth through the pandemic. These funds will be disbursed as a direct payment to youth.
- Methods of Disbursement
 - Direct Deposit
 - Prepaid Card
 - Cash App
 - Venmo
 - PayPal
 - Check



Support to Older Foster Youth

Direct Financial Assistance

Age Cohort	Initial Disbursement	Additional Disbursement
18 – 26	\$500	\$100 per month

Other Considerations for Additional Direct Payment

Considerations	Departure Amount
Youth is expectant or parenting	+\$200 for an expectant parent +\$200 for each child
Youth with medical needs requiring medical devices (not paid through Medicaid)	+\$200
Youth literally homeless in need of housing	+200

Support to Older Foster Youth

- Room and Board Cap
 - DCS has removed the 30% cap on R&B expenses to ensure funding is available for housing stability.
 - The OYS contracted provider will continue to assist young adults with R&B / housing cost. Young adults may receive assistance in the following:
 - Start-Up Assistance: Start-up cost covers application fees, security deposit, first month's rent and utility installation fees. Utilities are limited to electric, gas, water, and sewage.
 - Ongoing Assistance: Ongoing cost are identified as ongoing monthly rental assistance.
 - Emergency Assistance: Emergency cost is a payment for youth who present in an emergency or crisis that is temporary or extenuating.

Support to Older Foster Youth

- Transportation
 - Transportation assistance provided for each eligible youth shall not exceed \$4,000 per youth. Funds may be used to provide driving transportation assistance to youth who have attained 16 years up to 26 years of age with cost related to obtaining a driver license and driving lawfully in Indiana (such as vehicle insurance costs, driver's education class and testing fees, practice lessons, practice hours, license fees, roadside assistance, deductible assistance, car repairs, and assistance in purchasing an automobile).
 - Indiana has developed comprehensive guidance to assist DCS staff with accessing these funds.

Support to Older Foster Youth

- **Other Additional Supports**
 - Living Expenses - including rent, groceries, grocery or meal delivery, utilities, pay back payments and fees.
 - Purchase cell phones, tablets, laptops, internet service, cell phone plans or other technological tools
 - Provide respite care services and additional support for parenting or pregnant youth.
 - Employ youth/young adults to provide outreach and support to fellow youth and young adults. This could include paid internships for youth/young adults to help prepare them to re-enter the job market.
 - Assist youth in paying medical expenses, including COVID testing and treatment, if these expenses are not already covered by other health insurance or Medicaid.
 - Purchase or reimburse youth for personal protective equipment (PPE), including cloth masks.
 - Provide services and support to combat young peoples' social isolation during the pandemic. This could include sending gift boxes, cooking kits, puzzles, art and hobby supplies, or other interactive items to connect youth/ young adults.

Questions?

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What's
Next?

- **Next Webinar: State Spotlight- Implementation in Oregon**
- **Implementation tools:**
fosterclub.com/oypr
- **Contact us at:**
oypr@fosterclub.com