



Department of Children and Families
Office of Adolescent Services
Guidance Regarding Program Service Extensions for Young Adults Turning 21
June 1, 2020

On March 9, 2020, Governor Murphy issued an Executive Order declaring a Public Health Emergency for the State of New Jersey due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in the State of New Jersey. The New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) and its provider agencies have adjusted programming to protect the health and safety of children, youth, individuals, and families they work with, in addition to their employees. In addition, DCF's Administrative Order 13 outlines DCF's COVID-19 response and operational plan including communicating modifications to operational standards that impact the delivery of services to the children and families served by DCF.

DCF has taken steps to support young adults who are nearing their twenty-first (21st) birthday by extending their eligibility for ongoing child welfare services after the age of 21. **Young adults that are turning 21 during the COVID-19 pandemic have the option to extend services with DCF's Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P) through December 31, 2020.**

Additionally, DCF has programs available to young people, not open with CP&P, and those services (e.g. housing and life skills programs) normally end upon the young person's 21st birthday.

Effective March 9, 2020, **DCF authorizes only the programs in Appendix A to extend services beyond the age of 21 to young adults that need to continue programming.** This service extension is available to young adults with open or closed CP&P cases and who remain eligible for services monitored through DCF's Office of Adolescent Services (OAS). Provider Agencies are highly recommended to extend services to best support youth during this pandemic, however all service extensions need to be informed and driven by youth.

This authorization remains in effect until December 31, 2020. The Provider Agency is required to forward the names of each young adult who elects to continue services beyond their 21st birthday to Susan Radosti in the Office of Adolescent Services, Susan.Radosti@dcf.nj.gov.

Other services for young adults (e.g. PACES, Foster Care Scholars, aftercare, and permanent supportive housing) that already provide services to young adults beyond the age of 21, will continue to do so and no additional guidance or modifications are necessary.

Appendix A

Supervised Transitional Living Programs

Anchor House - Anchorage
Bergen County Division of Family Guidance - Visions Program
Catholic Charities - Archdiocese of Newark Strong Futures Program
Catholic Charities - Diocese of Trenton Beacon House
Center for Family Services - Tranquility House
Collier Services - Collier House
Community Access Unlimited - TOPS Stiles Street (Females)
Community Access Unlimited - TOPS Summer Street (Males)
Crossroads Program - Rites of Passage
Greater Bergen Community Action - PHASES Chadwick House
GSH, Inc - Turtle Creek
NJ Community Development Corporation - Independence House
OCEAN HARBOR HOUSE INC - Shore House
PLAID HOUSE - Thenen House
Visions and Pathways - My Place
Visions and Pathways - Whitney House

Transitional Living Programs

Acenda - Evolutions
Acenda - Steps Toward Independence
Anchor House - Anchor Line
Care Plus NJ - Strive for Independence II
Catholic Charities - Archdiocese of Newark Strong Futures Apartments
Catholic Charities - Diocese of Metuchen Independent Living Program
Center for Family Services - Home Base
Community Access Unlimited
Community Access Unlimited - TOPS (Scatter Site)
Community Access Unlimited - TOPS Semi-Independent (5 addresses)
Covenant House - Nancy's Place
GSH, Inc - Dewey Place
IEP Youth Services, Inc. - Project Stepping Stone
Legacy Treatment Services - Fastow
Life Ties - Mary's Place
Oaks Integrated Care – Homestretch

Ranch Hope - H.I.L.L.S. Program
Visions and Pathways - Bridge House
VOA, Greater New York, INC - ILP - Jersey City
VOA, Greater New York, INC - Step Up - Orange
VOA, Greater New York, INC - Synergy I - Elmwood Park
VOA, Greater New York, INC - Synergy II - Union
VOA, Greater New York, INC - Synergy III - West New York

HYBRID Programs

Center for Family Services - Grand Slam (STLP/TLP)
Covenant House - Rites of Passage/Seabury Street (TLP/Permanent Supportive Housing program)

Life Skills Programs

Acenda - Life Skills
Anchor House - Life Skills
Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Newark - Life Skills
Catholic Charities Diocese of Metuchen - Crossroads Life Skills
Catholic Charities Diocese of Metuchen - RAPS Life Skills
Care Plus NJ, Inc. - Homeward Bound
Communities in Cooperation, Inc. - Youth Epitomizing Success
Independence A Family of Services - Life Skills
Multicultural Community Services - Middlesex Life Skills
Multicultural Community Services - Monmouth Life Skills
North Ward Center Inc. – Life Skills
Plaid House - Aging Out Life Skills
Preferred Behavioral Health - Project Independence Life Skills
The Bridge - Life Skills
Urban League of Hudson County - Life Skills
Visions and Pathways - Prosperity
Youth Advocate Programs - Life Skills

Mentoring Programs

Calvary Baptist Community Center - Youth Adult Mentoring
Catholic Family and Community Service - Mentoring
Shiloh Community Development Corp. - Capital Youth Mentoring
Acenda - Adolescent Mentoring
Life Ties - T.I.L.T. Mentoring

CASA Essex - Fostering Futures
Volunteer Center of Bergen County - Mentoring Youth
Children's Aid and Family Service - Mentoring Program
Catholic Charities of Metuchen - The Connection Program
Urban League of Hudson County - Mentoring Program
Youth Advocate Programs - Mentoring Program

Permanency Programs

Acenda - Life Long Connections
Children's Aid and Family Services - Youth Permanency Program
North Ward Center Inc. - Life Links