

Some of YOUR Options:

◆ **Work**

Work is still the primary source of skills training. You can learn a lot on the job that you would never learn in the classroom.

◆ **Apprenticeship**

An apprenticeship is on-the-job training with a professional.

◆ **Military Service**

The military can be a great option for some people. The training can be excellent and some military training could be applied to civilian life.

◆ **Vocational/Technical Schools**

Vocational/technical schools provide training in a special skill area, usually resulting in the award of a certificate, are available in a wide range of topics.

◆ **Community/Junior Colleges**

Community colleges provide two-year educational programs that result in the awarding of an associate degree or credits that you can take with you to an undergraduate school.

◆ **Undergraduate Schools**

Undergraduate schools are four-year colleges that award bachelor's degrees.



Create your own roadmap to a life that includes happiness, good health and meaningful work.

Documents Foster Youth Need When Aging Out of the Foster Care System:

- Social security card
- Certified birth certificate
- Identification card
- Health and education summary
- MedQUEST medical insurance card. Ask your social worker to help you complete the forms to transfer your medical coverage
- List of prescribed medications
- Name & address of the prescribing doctor & method of obtaining additional medications
- Copy of dental records and info on how dental care can be continued
- Info on how to continue with mental health or substance abuse treatment services, if necessary
- Letter from DHS social worker verifying foster care status in Hawaii
- Copy of the court order that awarded foster custody to the state
- Copy of diploma, certificate of completion or transcript of school credits accumulated thus far
- Death certificate of parent(s) - if applicable
- Immigration documentation papers



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Supporting foster and adoptive families since 1971.

Phone: 808.522.1016

Website: www.ittakesanohana.org

Resources Available for Foster Youth & Former Foster Youth



The day will come when you will be the one making very important decisions about your future. We hope this brochure will give you some ideas and resources to help you get started.

See Resource List & Contact Info Inside Brochure

Remember, You Are Not Alone!!

There are many people who want to help you as you begin making plans for your future. A good place to start is by scheduling a Youth Circle. Youth Circles are youth led and will bring the supporters *you chose* to help you develop a plan that best suits you and your talents. Here is their contact info plus other great resources for you:

Youth Circles: Oahu: (808) 358-2222

Toll Free: 1-866-636-1644

Hawai'i Foster Youth Coalition: (808) 255-8365

E-mail: hawaiiyouth@yahoo.com

www.myspace.com/hfyc

eXcel: (808) 521-9531, ext. 297

A new Family Programs Hawai'i program that helps high school seniors in foster care prepare for college or vocational training.

Independent Living Program Providers:

Oahu-Hale Kipa, Inc.: (808) 589-1829, ext. 202

Big Island-Salvation Army:(808) 959-5855, ext 14

Kaua'i-Child & Family Service: (808) 245-4195

Maui/Moloka'i/Lana'i-Maui Youth & Services:

(808) 579-8414

Horizons Program: (808) 535-0115

Helps young people aged 18 to 25 with their independent living needs.

Hawai'i Youth Conservation Corps:

(808) 735-1221 ~ Paid statewide opportunities for

youth aged 16 to 30 looking for experience and entry level positions in the conservation field.

Kapiolani Peer Mentoring Program &

Survivors Offering Support (SOS):

Oahu: (808) 535-7700 Toll Free: (888) 535-7790

www.myspace.com/kapiolanimentoring

Family Programs Hawai'i ~ Project Visitation:

(808) 521-9531 (Sibling Visitation)

Hawai'i Job Corps:

(808) 536-0695 or (808) 259-6002

Educational/vocational training for youth between 16 & 24 years old. Neighbor island youth welcome.



Tips for Youth Interested in Higher Ed:

- ◆ Do well in school NOW! If you keep your grade point average up now you may qualify for more scholarships later.
- ◆ Schedule a Youth Circle! This will help you put together a plan and gather the support you need to actualize your goals.
- ◆ Get help filling out your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) & submit



Call (808) 358-2222
on Oahu or Toll Free
at 1-866-636-1644
from the neighbor
islands to schedule
your Youth Circle.

it in early January of your senior year. Watch for free events such as *Better Start Workshops* where you can get help applying. Application can be found at

www.fafsa.ed.gov.

- ◆ Connect with other foster youth with similar goals. Youth between 14 and 24 years old can start by contacting the Hawaii Foster Youth Coalition at 808-255-8365.
- ◆ Take college campus's tours.
- ◆ Ask someone to introduce you to a

professional in the community who works in the field you are interested in. This will take some of the mystery out of the route to success and allow you to hear first hand about the struggles and successes others have faced in pursuit of their dreams.

- ◆ Talk to a trusted adult in your life to help you develop your initial plans. Again, Youth Circles can help greatly with this process by bringing people of your choosing together to help you begin planning for the next stage of your life.

More Higher Ed Tips:

Consider attending a community college in the University of Hawai'i system. You will get more personalized attention in the classroom *and* save money at the same time. If your application is submitted in a timely manner to a community college in Hawai'i, there are often additional monies for students who qualify for financial aid that may cover your tuition in full. You can then use your other scholarship funds to pay for books and living expenses.

You may qualify for some or all of the these resources which can add up to over \$14,000 a year:

- Victoria S. & Bradley Geist Foundation Scholarships (808-566-5570)
- Pell Grant (www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- Department of Human Services Higher Education Board Allowance*
- Education and Training Voucher*

* Call your social worker for information.

It can be very exciting to plot your course and actualize your plan. And always remember that you are not alone — there are many resources available to you! You can get started now by calling one of the resources on the far left side of this brochure.

Advice To You From Former Foster Youth:

- ◆ Pursue *what you want to do*—the resources are out there for you!
- ◆ Take responsibility & do your part to be independent.
- ◆ Take advantage of the benefits you earned by being in foster care.