



DYFS Adolescent Services Guide To

Life Skills Training

Housing

Educational Assistance

Youth Advocacy

Scholarships

Health Insurance

Aftercare

Addiction Services

Wraparound Funds

School-based Services.....and much more!

New Jersey Department of Children and Families

Division of Youth and Family Services

Adolescent Practice and Permanency

CC #900

May, 2008

Adolescent Services Guide:

A Handbook for DCF Employees

NJ has made a commitment that “Adolescents in out-of-home placements should be provided with life skills opportunities, housing and permanent connections with caring adults.” A further commitment has been made to develop a continuum of services to address the needs of adolescents in their local communities. Equally important is the commitment to ensure that adolescents will be connected with caring adults through provisions of these services.

Here’s just a few of the topics covered inside:

<i>Life Skills Training</i>	<i>Housing</i>
<i>Educational Assistance</i>	<i>Youth Advocacy</i>
<i>Scholarships</i>	<i>Health Insurance</i>
<i>Wraparound Funds</i>	<i>School-based Services</i>
<i>Addiction Services</i>	<i>Aftercare</i>

National research confirms that adolescents “aging out” of the child welfare system, as well as homeless adolescents, are in need of stable housing and services that improve life skills and offer young people the developmental environment they need to become contributing members in society. Adolescents are most successful when programs offer a continuum of services and are responsive to the individual needs of the adolescent.

ADOLESCENT SERVICES UNIT

The goal of the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) Adolescent Services Unit is to empower adolescents to meet their full potential and to achieve self-sufficiency



Dear Professional,

Welcome to the DYFS **Adolescent Practice & Permanency Unit's** Adolescent Services Guide. This material is intended to assist staff with understanding the scope and array of services available to former and current foster youth in New Jersey.

While this guide defines an adolescent as a young person between the ages of 14 and 21, many of the programs and services within have narrower age limits. Cases are to remain open until the age of 21, unless the youth requests the case to be closed.

This guide includes services available through the Department of Children and Families, other state agencies, and private organizations. Some of the services listed within are not specific to foster youth but either have specifically identified foster youth within their service population or serve individuals with characteristics that many foster youth share (this is particularly true of adult services).

This guide is organized by life domains, such as Healthcare, Housing, and Education. Each domain is then further divided into appropriate subsections. In each section there are definitions, guidelines, suggestions, and service providers as appropriate. For most service providers, the agency name will be followed by the name of the specific program in quotation marks and the number to call for more information about that program. Service area or location, typically by county, is also provided when appropriate.

Please make sure you have familiarized yourself with the type of services offered through a program before making a referral. For example, many of the housing programs integrate life skills training into the daily environment. It would be inappropriate for a youth in such a program to also be referred to a stand-alone life skills training program.

If you have any concerns about the quality of service being provided by any of these agencies, please notify us concurrent with taking appropriate steps in your own office and with the specific agency. Furthermore, if you wish to provide feedback on this guide or have identified specific service gaps for adolescents in your area, please let us know. We value any feedback that will help us better serve New Jersey's foster youth.

Sincerely,

Department of Children and Families
Division of Youth and Family Services
Adolescent Practice & Permanency Unit Unit (CC:900)
PO Box 717, Trenton, NJ 08625-0717

The Adolescent Services Unit has developed a website dedicated to adolescent needs and resources such as but not limited to: housing, education, aftercare services, and financial assistance. The website is: www.transitionsforyouth.org

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LIFESKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMS

Life Skills Training Programs provide adolescents between the ages of 14 and 17 with training to assist them in making a successful transition from placement to independence.

- Adolescents in a DYFS-paid placement and who are between the ages of 14 and 17 are eligible for these services.
- DYFS contracts with private, non-profit agencies throughout the state to provide life skills training, focusing on such areas as employment, money management, community resources, communication, decision making, housing, and education.
- To receive services from a life skills training program a DYFS worker must make a referral to the agency.

***Note: These programs provide life skills training ONLY, they are not living arrangements.**

<u>Atlantic County:</u>	Atlantic County Youth Advocacy Program (YAP)(609) 272-9411
<u>Bergen County:</u>	Care Plus NJ "Homeward Bound".....(201) 265-8200
<u>Burlington County:</u>	Burlington County Youth Advocacy Program (YAP).....(609) 980-0042 Crossroads Programs, Inc. "Just For You".....(609) 880-0210
<u>Camden County:</u>	Camden County Youth Advocacy Program (YAP)(609) 541-4300 Crossroads Programs, Inc. "Just For You".....(609) 880-0210
<u>Cumberland & Cape May County:</u>	Cumberland & Cape May Counties Youth Advocacy Program (YAP).....(609) 794-2830
<u>Essex County:</u>	Multicultural Community Services.....(732) 650-0330 Independence: A Family of Services.....(973) 372-5601 x302 The Bridge.....(973) 589-8827
<u>Gloucester & Salem County:</u>	Gloucester/Salem Youth Advocacy Program (YAP)(609) 848-0165 Devereux Teaching FamilyTitle IV-E Independent Living Program*.....(856) 384-9680 <i>(*Independent living skills are taught to teaching family residents only)</i>
<u>Hudson County:</u>	Urban League of Hudson County "Life Skills Program".....(201) 451-8888
<u>Hunterdon County:</u>	Catholic Charities.....(908) 782-7905
<u>Mercer County:</u>	LifeTies, Inc. "T.I.L.T.".....(609) 394-3337
<u>Middlesex & Monmouth County:</u>	Multicultural CommunityServices.....(732) 650-0330
<u>Morris, Sussex & Warren Counties:</u>	Plaid House, Inc. "Aging Out Program".....(973) 285-1982
<u>Ocean County:</u>	Preferred Children's Services "Project Independence".....(732) 367-1352
<u>Passaic County:</u>	Paterson YMCA "Aging Out Youth Program".....(973) 278-8019
<u>Somerset County:</u>	Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children "Pathways Program"..(908) 526-4567
<u>Union County:</u>	Community Access Unlimited "Transitional Service Program".....(908) 354-3040

AFTERCARE PROGRAMS

The Department of Children and Families contracts with local non-profit agencies to provide aftercare services. The Aftercare agencies provide intensive case management and supportive services to adolescents between 18 and 21 years of age. As part of the continuum of services for independent living, aftercare provides adolescents with assistance in obtaining meaningful employment, housing and post-secondary education. These programs can also access flexible funds (Wraparound Funds) to enable the adolescent to gain the supports that will assist them in their transition to self-sufficiency. **It is recommended that the youth complete life skills training first.** Six months prior to DYFS closing the adolescent’s case, the DCF case manager refers the adolescent to an aftercare program. The aftercare agency will work with the adolescent while they are under DYFS supervision, and will continue at least six months after DYFS has closed the case.

<u>Atlantic County:</u>	Robin’s Nest, Inc “On My Own” (856) 881-8689
<u>Bergen County:</u>	Care Plus NJ(201) 265-8200
<u>Burlington County:</u>	Family Services of Burlington County “On My Own”.....(609) 518-2477
<u>Camden County:</u>	Family Services of Burlington County “On My Own”..... (609) 518-2477
<u>Cape May County , Cumberland County ,</u>	
<u>Gloucester County, Salem County:</u>	Robin’s Nest, Inc. “On My Own”.....(856) 881-8689
<u>Essex County:</u>	Independence: A Family of Services.....(973) 372-5601 x302
<u>Hudson County:</u>	Urban League of Hudson County.....(201) 451-8888
<u>Hunterdon County, Somerset County,</u>	
<u>& Warren County:</u>	Catholic Charities “RAPS” (908) 782-7905
<u>Mercer County:</u>	Lifeties, Inc. “T.I.L..T.”.....(609) 394-3337
<u>Middlesex & Monmouth County:</u>	Multicultural Community Services..... (732) 630-0330
<u>Morris County & Sussex County:</u>	Catholic Charities “Crossroads”.....(908) 454-2074
<u>Ocean County:</u>	Preferred Childrens Services “Project Independence”.....(732) 367-1352
<u>Passaic County:</u>	Paterson YMCA “Aging Out Youth Program”.....(973)-278-8019
<u>Union County:</u>	Community Access Unlimited Transitional Service Program.....(908) 354-3040

An adolescent who has left aftercare and is not yet 21 can return to the aftercare agency for a “booster shot” of short-term case management services, information/referral and Chafee wraparound funds.

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Middle and High School Programs

School-Based Youth Services Program

The NJ School-Based Youth Services Program (SBYSP) helps 7th through 12th grade students combat violence, abuse, and other adolescent problems. The goal is to offer adolescents skills for employment and continuing education. Services include: individual and family counseling, substance abuse counseling, primary and preventative health care, pregnancy prevention, tutoring, after-school recreation, and computer literacy. To find out if a young person's school is one of the over 150 schools in NJ to offer this program, call the school directly or call the SBYSP at (609) 984-5632 or visit the website <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dfd/school%20based.html>

Out of School Youth/Programs for Youth Who Have Dropped Out of School

Youth ChalleNGe Academy

The New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe Academy is a 22-week residential program that was created to help 16-18 year olds, who have ceased to attend high school, to become educated and well-rounded, productive citizens of New Jersey. This is accomplished through rigorous training in the eight core components that are required for graduation: Academic Excellence, Life-Coping Skills, Job Skills, Health and Hygiene, Responsible Citizenship, Service to the Community, Leadership & Fellowship, and Physical Fitness. Although quasi-military in nature and based on a military model, there is absolutely no obligation for students to join the military at any time. Students who pass the GED test earn a State of New Jersey High School Diploma. The last four NJ Youth ChalleNGe class iterations have produced an average 89% GED test pass rate. What makes the Youth ChalleNGe Academy even more successful is the mentoring program in the Post-Residential Phase of the academy. Every Youth ChalleNGe graduate has a community-based mentor who assists them with educational and career goals.

The mission of the New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe Academy is to provide a highly disciplined environment fostering academics, leadership development, physical training and personal growth to educate and train unemployed youth who have ceased to attend high school. For more information or to refer a young person, call (800)-997-5587 or visit <http://www.ngycp.org/state/nj/>

New Jersey Youth Corps

Youth Corps is a year-round, voluntary program which engages young adults (ages 16-25) who have left High School before earning a diploma, in full-time community service, training, and educational activities. Guided by staff who serve as mentors and role models, teams of youth called "crews" carry out a wide range of service projects. In return for their efforts to restore and strengthen communities.

Corps members receive: 1) education development in basic skills and preparation to obtain a GED or locally issued Adult High School Diploma; 2) life skills and employability skills instruction; 3) personal and career counseling to build self-esteem, clarify values, and develop leadership skills while they are developing their career portfolio; 4) transition services and continuing support services as they transition to college, training, employment or other national and domestic service opportunities; 5) community service opportunities which develop positive employability skills while addressing unmet community needs. Corps members receive a stipend while enrolled in Youth Corps.

NJ Youth Corps is *actively recruiting foster youth* for the program and is able to accept referrals directly from the local offices.

Please contact one of the individuals below for further information or the state headquarters at (609) 292-2060.

<p>Atlantic/Cape May Robert Lassonde, Coordinator (609) 485-0052 Ext 119</p>	<p>Middlesex County Paul Reynolds, Coordinator (732) 745-5300 Ext 4401</p>	<p>Phillipsburg Michael Muckle, Acting Director (908) 859-2969</p>
<p>Camden County Alexis Jones, Coordinator (856) 486-7390</p>	<p>Monmouth County Jonelle M. Clark, Coordinator (732) 775-0525 Ext 206</p>	<p>Plainfield Jeanne Shanker, Coordinator (908) 561-6012</p>
<p>Elizabeth Syreeta Raines, Coordinator (908) 289-4427</p>	<p>Newark Carolyn Wallace, Director (973) 621-1134 Ext 247</p>	<p>Trenton Edith Siplin, Director (609) 530-2675</p>
<p>Jersey City Bruce Beaman, Co-Director (201) 200-3455</p>	<p>Paterson Ralph Colognori, Coordinator (973) 321-0763</p>	<p>Vineland Joe Camardo, Director (856) 794-6943 Ext 8950</p>

Post Secondary Education

Financial Aid and Foster Youth

The Department of Children and Families contracts with Foster and Adoptive Family Services to administer the New Jersey Foster Care Scholars Programs. Applicants are required to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); currently be in placement or were in placement; and must have a high school diploma or a GED.

For more information about this program or the other scholarships offered through Foster and Adoptive Family Services you can call them at 1-800-222-0047.

The Department of Children and Families contracts with Foster and Adoptive Family Services to administer the **New Jersey Foster Care Scholars Program**. Certain applicants attending classes full-time at a New Jersey public college or university may receive up to the full cost of their tuition, based on the school's academic standing criteria.

The adolescent must:

- Be between the ages of 16 and 22 AND
- Have been in the care and custody of the Division of Youth and Family Services for a period of nine months or more following the adolescent's 16th birthday OR
- Be adopted through the Division of Youth and Family Services after age 16 OR
- Reside in or have resided in a state or federally-funded independent living arrangement or transitional living program for youth in out-of-home placement for at least 3 months AND
- Be in possession of a high school diploma or certificate of high school equivalency AND
- Be granted admission to an accredited degree or certificate granting post-secondary institution

Additionally, a maximum of \$5,000 per year may be awarded to qualified students who attend part-time, in state or out of state. The same applies to students attending private school in NJ, full time or part time.

NJ Foster Care Scholars are **required** to participate in Project MYSELF, a program which provides foster youth in college with several opportunities, including mentoring, volunteering in their community, blogging or leadership activities. Additional information about Project MYSELF can be obtained by emailing the coordinator, Trena Shivers, at tshivers@rci.rutgers.edu.

High school graduates may also be eligible for a variety of private scholarships administered through Foster and Adoptive Family Services. Information about these scholarships and the NJ Foster Care Scholars Program is available by calling 1-800-222-0047.

Employment

The Department of Labor and Work Force Development administers a website targeting youth at www.njnextstop.org. This website assists youth in exploring various employment opportunities.

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

The mission of the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVR) is to enable individuals with disabilities to achieve employment outcomes consistent with their strengths, priorities, needs, abilities and capabilities. DVR helps individuals with disabilities that are having trouble finding or holding a job because of their disability. DVR has special counselors who liaise with local school districts to identify high school seniors who are eligible for special education and related services. If an adolescent in foster care is classified (i.e. has an Individualized Education Plan) they may be eligible for DVR services which include: vocational assessments, learning assessments, job training, job placement, and assistance with tuition, fees, and related expenses for post-secondary school. Participation in the NJ Foster Care Scholars program neither guarantees nor precludes participation in DVR services.

For more information, referral, or contact information for local DVR offices, visit: <http://www.nj.gov/labor/dvrs/vrsindex.html>

PARENTING YOUTH

There are several programs available that provide care for pregnant adolescents and young fathers and mothers:

- “Capable Adolescent Mothers,” Crossroads Programs, 609-386-3342. Residential facility for females age 15 - 18 years old that enter any time during pregnancy and may stay until child’s first birthday.
- “Second Chance Homes,” Crossroads Programs, 609-880-0210. Services and supports for teen mothers and their children within private homes in the community.
- Center for Great Expectations, 908-218-0570 ext. 203. Residential facility for pregnant individuals ages 13 and older with addiction or family history of addiction
- “Teen-Age Parents Program,” Family Service of Burlington County, 800-963-3377. Counseling, case management, consultation, and home visits for pregnant and parenting teens.
- Union Industrial Home, 609-695-1492, offers a number of programs for teen parents including residential services for mothers and babies at “New Empowerment Alternatives,” summer and after school programs through their “MAC (Mother and Child) Programs,” and programs for fathers through “The Father Center,” the “Trenton Men’s Collaborative,” and, for non-custodial fathers, “Operation Fatherhood.

HOUSING

There is housing available to foster youth aging out of care through a variety of programs. Some have been created solely for foster youth, some serve youth who are homeless or at risk of homelessness (which includes foster youth aging out of care). Some of these housing options have time limits (typically 18 months or 2 years), others are considered “permanent” (youth does not leave until he or she is ready). Contact individual programs for eligibility guidelines as these vary, however these programs have limited treatment services, and are not appropriate for youth in need of intensive treatment. Referrals are made directly to the agency.

Note: Apartment programs whether scattered site or at one site will probably not have 24 hour supervision.

ATLANTIC COUNTY

Covenant House Transitional Living Program

Agency Contact Information: 609-348-4070

Agency Contact: **David Hall**

Geographic Area Served: Statewide

Gender: Male and Female

Age: 18-21

Geographic Area Served: Statewide, Priority Burlington

Gender: Male and Female

Age: 17-21

Children’s Home of Burlington County Apartment Program

Agency Contact Information: 609-880-0210

Agency Contact: **Greg Wilson**

Geographic Area Served: Statewide

Gender: Male

Age: 17-21

BERGEN COUNTY

Bergen County CAP- Phases Transitional Living Program

Agency Contact Information: 201-968-0200

Agency Contact: **Allison Dubois**

Geographic Area: Priority Bergen

Gender: Male and Female

Age: 16-21

CAMDEN COUNTY

Center for Family Services “Camden Dreams Apartment Program

Agency Contact Information: 856-964-1990

Agency Contact: **Joe Camiolo**

Geographic Area Served: Statewide

Gender: Male and Female

Age: 18 -21:

Volunteers of America- Synergy I

Agency Contact Information: 732-904-7202

Agency Contact: **Aisha Maudy**

Gender: Male and Female

Volunteers of America- Synergy II

Agency Contact Information: 908-686-6132

Agency Contact: **Anthony McLaurin**

Gender: Male and Female:

Center for Family Services “Homebase”

Agency Contact Information: 856-964-1190

Agency Contact: **Bernadette Mahoney**

Geographic Area Served: Statewide

Gender: Male

Age: 16-19

Children’s Aid and Family Services

Agency Contact Information: (973) 413-1616

Agency Contact: **K. Guerrieri**

Geographic Area Served: Statewide,

Gender: Male

Age: 17-21

Vision Quest

Agency Contact Information 973-672-1002

Agency Contact **Andrea La Fleur**

Geographic Area Served: Statewide

Gender: Male

Age 18 – 21

BURLINGTON COUNTY

Crossroads Programs- “Rites of Passage & TLP”

Agency Contact Information: 609-880-0210

Agency Contact: **Patricia Peterson**

Agency Contact Information: 609-463-0014

Agency Contact: **Kelly Magillocco**

Geographic Area Served: Statewide Cape May/
Atlantic

Gender: Male and Female

CAPE MAY COUNTY

Cape Counseling Apartment Program

Age: 18 – 21

ESSEX COUNTY

Care Plus New Jersey “Phases” Apartment Program

Agency Contact Information: 201-265-8200
Agency Contact:
Geographic Area Served: Statewide; Priority Essex County
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 18 - 21

Covenant House “Rites of Passage”

Agency Contact Information: 973-286-3412
Agency Contact: **Jill Rothman**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 18-21

Tri-City Peoples Corporation Apartment Program

Agency Contact Information: 973-675-4484
Agency Contact: **Toni Caldwell**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide, Priority Essex
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 18-21

Corinthian Housing

Agency Contact Information: 973-624-4720
Agency Contact: **Gerald Bishop**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide/Essex
Gender: Male
Age: 16-21

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Robins Nest “Lifelink Home” Apartment Program

Agency Contact Information: 856-881-8689.
Agency Contact: **Jackie Watkins**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 18-21

HUDSON COUNTY

Volunteers of America “Synergy III & ILP”

Agency Contact Information: 732-827-2444
Agency Contact: **Shelia Madden**
Geographic Area Served: Northern and Metro Areas
Gender: Male and Female

Catholic Charities Diocese of Newark

Agency Contact Information: 201-798-9957
Agency Contact: **Lesley Moore**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide, Priority Hudson
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 18-21

Volunteers of America

Agency Contact Information: 732-827-2447
Agency Contact: **Kevin Williams**
Geographic Area Served: State-wide
Gender: Male and Female

Age: 18-21

MERCER COUNTY

The Anchorage and Apartment Program

Agency Contact Information: 609-989-1625
Agency Contact: **Aleaha Hosszu**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 18-21
Apartments and transitional living (GLBTQI)

Lifeties, Inc “ Mary’s Place”

Agency Contact Information: 609-771-1600
Agency Contact: **Robin Wilkins**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 18-21

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Volunteers of America “Synergy V”

Agency Contact Information: 732-827-2444
Agency Contact: **Kelly Drumgoole**
Geographic Area Served: Northern and Metro Areas
Gender: Male and Female

Garden State Home Transitional Living Program

Agency Contact Information: 908-331-0467
Agency Contact: **Louis DeLucca**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide, priority Middlesex County
Gender: Male
Age: 17-21

MIPH Apartment Program

Agency Contact Information: 732-729-7770
Agency Contact: **Edie Grauer**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide/ Priority to Middlesex County
Gender: Female
Age: 18-21

MONMOUTH COUNTY

Catholic Charities “Beacon House” Transitional Living and Apartment Program

Agency Contact Information: 732-502-9245
Agency Contact: **Nancy Moore**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Male
Age: 17-21

Collier Services Transitional Living Program

Agency Contact Information: 732-946-4771
Agency Contact: **Kerry Buckman**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide; priority to Monmouth
Gender: Female
Age: 18-21

MONMOUTH COUNTY cont.
IEP Youth Services “Project Stepping Stone”

Agency Contact Information: 732-431-2663
Agency Contact: **Dawn Lenz**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide; priority to Monmouth County
Gender: Male
Age: 18-21

MORRIS COUNTY
Plaid House, Inc “Thenen House” Transitional Living Program

Agency Contact Information: 732-929-9096
Agency Contact: **Kim Ward**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Female
Age: 16-21

OCEAN COUNTY
Ocean Harbor House “Shore House”

Agency Contact Information: 732-281-0822
Agency Contact: **Marissa Montalvo**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide/Priority to Ocean County
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 16-21

PASSAIC COUNTY
NJ Community Development Corporation “Independence House” Transitional Living and Apartment Program

Agency Contact Information: 973-225-0555
Agency Contact: **Robert Guarasci**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide, priority Passaic County
Gender: TLP males; Apartments are male and female
Age: 18-21

Paterson Coalition for Housing, Inc “Supervised Transitional Youth Program”

Agency Contact Information: 973-684-5998
Agency Contact: **Lucille Klajn**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 17-21

SOMERSET COUNTY
Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children “My Place”

Agency Contact Information: 908-947-0040
Agency Contact: **Alex Ciccone**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Male
Age: 18-21

Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children “Whitney House”

Agency Contact Information: 908-947-0002
Agency Contact: **Alex Ciccone**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Female
Age: 18-21

Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children “Passages”

Agency Contact Information: 908-526-6686
Agency Contact: **Alex Ciccone**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 16-18

UNION COUNTY
Community Access, Unlimited

Agency Contact Information: 908-345-3040
Agency Contact: **Tanya Johnson**
Geographic Area Served: Statewide
Gender: Male and Female
Age: 16-21

Volunteers of America “Synergy IV”
Agency Contact Information: 732-827-2444
Agency Contact **Kelly Drumgoole**
Geographic Area Served: Northern and Metro Areas
Gender: Male and Female

HEALTH CARE

Medical Insurance

The Medicaid Extension for Young Adults (MEYA) provides continued Medicaid coverage for adolescents that meet the following requirements:

- was living in a DYFS-paid placement on his or her 18th birthday and
- meets Medicaid eligibility requirements except for income

The no-cost coverage is available regardless of income until the adolescent's 21st birthday.

Workers and young people can find out more information about this program by calling:

The Medicaid Extension 'Warm Line'

1-888-235-4766

A youth who is not eligible for MEYA may still be Medicaid eligible under other programs, such as FamilyCare, SSI or TANF. For more information contact the young person's local welfare office.

To be eligible for New Jersey Medicaid after the age of 21, a person must meet these general requirements:

- Resident of New Jersey
- U.S. Citizen or qualified alien (most immigrants who arrived after August 22, 1996 are barred from the program for five years)
- Meet specific standards for financial income and resources

In addition, a person must fall into one of the following categories: Families with children up to age 18 People who are aged, blind or permanently disabled

- Pregnant women
- Children

Within New Jersey Medicaid there are also a number of special programs designed to meet the specific medical needs of certain groups of people who would not otherwise qualify for the program: including::

- Medically Needy programs for the aged, blind or permanently disabled
- Medically Needy program for pregnant women
- Medically Needy program for children
- Medicaid Special program for children
- Medical Emergency Payment Program for Aliens
- Home and Community-Based Services Waiver programs

Contact your local social services office for more information or check the Medicaid website, www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/children.html.

ADDICTION SERVICES

The Division of Addiction Services (DAS) has developed services targeted to youth in New Jersey's child welfare system. These programs enable youth to receive treatment for their addictions in a recovery-oriented environment that treats each young person with dignity and respect. Most of these programs are for adolescents age 13 to 17.

<u>OUTPATIENT PROGRAMS</u> (For Males and Females)	<u>INPATIENT/RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS</u> (For Males only unless specified)
Catholic Charities—Trenton: 609-396-4557	Bonnie Brae: 908-647-0800
COPE Center: 973-783-6655	Daytop: South: 856-358-4111
Counseling and Referral of Ocean: 732-244-1600	Daytop Village (females): 973-543-5656
Family Connections: 973-675-3817	CURA, Inc.: 973-353-6284
Genesis Counseling Center: 856-858-9314	Integrity House, Inc.: 973-623-7255
My Father's House: 856-742-0900	Newark Renaissance House: 973-642-7337
Newark Renaissance House: 973-623-3386	New Hope Foundation, Inc. Secaucus (co-ed): 201-866-0888 Marlboro: 732-946-3030
	Straight and Narrow: 973-345-6000
	Vantage Health System, Inc: 201-784-6490

YOUTH ADVOCACY

Youth Advisory Boards

The Department of Children and Families has created 12 Youth Advisory Boards (YABs) hosted by provider agencies throughout the state. Seven other agencies have been contracted to provide transportation to these meetings.

The main purpose of the YABs is to provide feedback on adolescent programs and policies to the Department of Children and Families. The YABs provide a youth-directed forum that empowers homeless youth and youth transitioning out of foster care to become effective advocates for themselves and others. YAB members enhance their advocacy skills through public speaking, legislative advocacy, and planning community service and recreational events.

For more information, contact your local Youth Advisory Board:

Bergen County

Children's Aid and Family Services
201-226-0300

Cumberland / Gloucester / Salem

Robins Nest, Inc.
856-881-8689

Morris/Sussex

Plaid House, Inc.
Thenen House
973-898-1962

Burlington County

Family Service of Burlington
609-518-2477

Essex County

Tri-City Peoples Corporation
973-374-5101

Passaic County

Community Development Corporation
973-413-1714

Camden County

Camden County YAP
856-541-4300

Hunterdon / Somerset / Warren

Somerset Home for Temporarily Displaced Children
908-526-4567

Union County

Community Access Unlimited
908-354-3040

Cape May/Atlantic Counties

Atlantic County YAP
609-345-7333

Mercer County

Capitol Corridor Community Development Corporation
609-392-0034

Monmouth County

Beacon House
732-502-9245

Middlesex County

Rutgers University Institute for Families
732-445-0511 x 117

Youth Partnerships

The Youth Partnerships are a network of advocacy groups run for and by youth with mental health issues. Housed within New Jersey's Family Support Organizations, the Youth Partnerships have independent missions and budgets. The primary goals of the Youth Partnerships include eliminating stigma, educating their communities, advocating for all youth who have mental illnesses, and removing the barriers that young people face in obtaining resources for wellness. Most Youth Partnerships meet once a week or more and also plan additional trips and conferences. For more information, call one of the numbers below and ask to speak with the Youth Coordinator.

Bergen County

908-922-7963

Burlington County

609-265-8838

Camden County

856-662-2600

**Cape May/Atlantic
Counties**

609-485-0575

Cumberland/Gloucester/Salem

856-507-9408

Essex County

973-395-1441

Mercer County

609-581-6891

Middlesex County

732-940-2837

Monmouth County

732-571-3272

Union County

908-686-9090

YOUTH ADVOCACY cont.Child Placement Review Boards

The Child Placement Review Board is a group of trained citizen volunteers from the community who under the CPR Act are empowered to review the cases of children in out-of-home placement. Youth ages 18 to 21 years old who have agreed to continued services are also reviewed by the Boards. Notices of meetings are sent to all interested parties. Young people aging out of foster care must be informed of their opportunity to attend CPR Board meetings. They may come alone, with a caseworker, or with a friend.

“Aging Out, Don’t Miss Out,” a comic book style publication that further explains the role of the CPR Boards in supporting transition, is available from the NJ Child Placement Advisory Council, PO Box 983, Trenton, NJ, 08625, or by visiting www.njcpac.org.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Chafee Wraparound is flexible funding available for those adolescents in an independent living skills, aftercare, or transitional living program. These funds should be used for emergency situations to pay security deposits, up to four months’ rent, purchase linens, furniture, or other items or services that will help the adolescent obtain independence.

Eligible adolescents are as follows:

Age 16 to their 21st birthday who are in an independent living skills or transitional living program

Age 18 to their 21st birthday who are in an aftercare program

Age 18 to their 21st birthday, who are no longer an open DYFS case or in an aftercare program, but were in a DYFS placement on their 18th birthday

*Note: Only independent living skills, aftercare, and transitional living programs can make requests for the Chafee Wraparound funds. A young person must work with one of these programs in order to access funds.

Chafee Wraparound funds ARE NOT AN ENTITLEMENT, are short-term, and are limited in scope and amount. They are to be accessed after other sources of possible funding or in combination with other services.

Other Financial Resources

Some other sources of financial assistance/money saving that adult foster youth may be eligible for or find helpful include:

- Communications Lifeline—free basic service or a credit on monthly phone bill as well as 50% discount on installation. Does not apply to cell phones. Applications for the program are available through the local welfare office and must be verified, then mailed or faxed to Verizon before establishing service. The name and address on the Verizon account MUST match the name and address for Medicaid/welfare services exactly. For more information call NJ Shares at 1-888-337-3339 or <http://www.verizonnj.com/about/community/nj/tele/njlifelinerev.asp>
- LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)—helps with costs of home heating and medically necessary cooling, even if the young person is a renter and even if heat is included in rent. Application period is usually October through March and forms can be found at libraries and local welfare offices.
- Thrift stores and their pricier cousins, consignment shops, are useful for many items, especially women’s clothing. Much of the clothing is brand name and in good or new condition.
- Freecycle—a website where people give away unwanted items free for the taking. Local groups in most areas of NJ: www.freecycle.org

Independent Living Stipend

Certain young people over the age of 16 whose circumstances make them inappropriate for group living arrangements may create individualized living arrangement. The local offices can provide an “independent living stipend” to assist in paying for rent and food. Youth in any living arrangement, whether receiving the independent living stipend or not, are eligible for other supports such as clothing allowances.

Adolescent Permanency

Permanency Services

Each year nationally, 25,000 young people “age out” of foster care with no permanent family. While adoption is the most legally secure permanency alternative for all youth who cannot be reunified with their parents; a continuum of permanency options must be considered for older youth. The definition of permanency for older youth includes the emotional, physical, legal, and cultural elements that are important to older children as they move toward adulthood.

DCF recognizes the importance of finding permanency for youth which can be accomplished a variety of ways, ranging from adoption, to kinship legal guardianship (KLG), to completing a permanency pact.

There are several community agencies that are contracted by DCF to provide permanency services for DYFS adolescents. The purpose of these programs is to make sure youth do not age out of care without, at the very least, a network of caring, safe adults. All of the programs are for adolescents ages 14-21 who are legally free without a goal of adoption or KLG, or youth who are not legally free, but are no longer connected to family.

Youth Permanency Demonstration Project

- **Life-Long Connections** – a Robin’s Nest permanency program that serves Camden, Gloucester, Cumberland, Salem , Cape May and Atlantic Counties.
- **Youth Permanency** – a Family Service permanency program that serves Camden, Burlington and Mercer Counties.
- **Youth Permanency** – a Children’s Aid and Family Service (CAFS) permanency program that works with DYFS youth in CAFS programs.

Wendy’s Wonderful Kids

- National Adoption Center of Philadelphia. This program serves Camden, Burlington, Cumberland, Salem and Gloucester counties.

** All referrals for these programs must be sent to Niambi London, Office of Adolescent Practice and Permanency via fax, 609-984-0507 or email niambi.sims@dcf.state.nj.us.

APPENDIX A

DCF/DYFS Policy related to Adolescents

(from DYFS Field Operations Policy & Procedures Manual)

(1) Listing of Relevant Policy

- Section IIB: Initial Response
 - 400: Who May Receive Services
 - 403: Services to Adolescents Ages 18 to 21
- Section IID: Foster Care Services
 - 700: Independent Living
 - 1000: Services to Children in Resource Home Placement
 - 1010 Adolescent Services toward Self-Sufficiency
 - 1000: DYFS Authority to Issue Consent
 - 1205 Procedures Related to Consent for Enlistment in the Armed Forces

(2) Specific Details of Policy

SECTION IIB: 403 SERVICES TO ADOLESCENTS AGE 18 TO 21

Purpose

This policy applies to adolescents under DYFS supervision age 18 to 21 years old living at home or in an out-of-home placement. Our goal is to successfully transition adolescents to independence and self-sufficiency.

Authority

- N.J.S.A. 9:17B-3 (defines person age 18 or older, as an adult)
- N.J.S.A. 30:4C-2.3 (gives DCF authority to provide services to youth age 18-21)
- Safe and Timely Interstate Placement of Foster Children Act of 2006

Definition of Terms

- *Adolescent*," for the purposes of this policy section, means a person between the age of 18 to 21.
- *"Age of Majority"* means the age at which a child becomes an adult in the eyes of the law. In New Jersey the age of majority is age 18.

Actions When an Adolescent Turns 18 Years of Age

When an adolescent turns 18 years of age, the decision to keep a case open, or to close the case, is determined on an individual, case-by-case basis. The expectation is that staff will actively engage the adolescent in planning for his or her future, including continued involvement with DYFS. A case may continue to be open and a youth can receive services up to age 21. It is not DYFS policy to automatically close a case based solely on an adolescent turning 18 years of age, the age of majority.

Criteria for Continuing Services

DCF provides services to adolescents who meet at least one of the following requirements:

- The adolescent received services from DCF at age 16 or older.
- The adolescent is in a DYFS supervised or funded out-of-home placement and
 - agrees to accept continued case management services from DYFS, including
 - continued board payments. This includes adolescents in foster care or
 - independent living settings.
- The Worker and Supervisor, as part of an assessment that actively engages the
 - adolescent, conclude that continuation of services is in the adolescent's best
 - interest. For example, it is determined that continued assistance is needed to
 - facilitate the adolescent to attend, and/or complete, high school or GED classes,
 - or receive post secondary education which includes college or vocational training programs.

There may also be clinical reasons, when it is in the adolescent's best interest, for the case to remain open; for example a severely depressed adolescent may need continued counseling services and support.

- The adolescent is continuing to work towards the goals outlined in his or her
 - Transitional Plan for Independence (DYFS Form 5-43).
- An adolescent is fully employed (30 hours per week or more) and earns less than
 - 150% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines for a family of one or needs non-financial DYFS services. See II D 2505, Federal Register Poverty Income Guidelines.

Note: A pregnant adolescent's need/eligibility for DYFS services is inherent and is only reevaluated following the baby's birth. See II K 900, Services to Pregnant Women.

Advance Notification - Continuation of Services

Six months prior to the adolescent's 18th birthday the Worker engages the youth in a service needs assessment. Areas assessed include the need for services to achieve the goal of independence and self-sufficiency, education, finances, housing and health care.

The Worker (ideally with the adolescent) contacts significant case collaterals to discuss the adolescent's need for services after age 18. Depending on the case, these collaterals may include:

- A parent or foster parent, or other "caring adults" involved in the case plan;
- An agency overseeing the child's residence/living arrangement;
- An agency providing life skills instruction; or
- Other individuals or agencies that are currently providing services, such as a therapist who may be providing counseling services, or a teacher or guidance counselor, if the adolescent is attending school.

Contacts with these interested parties are documented in the case record.

The Worker sends out a letter to the adolescent, under the Local Office Manager's signature (use DYFS Form 5-61, Notification: Services May Continue Beyond Age of Majority), to reiterate that DYFS services may continue until the adolescent turns age 21.

Documentation of Continuation of Services

For adolescents in out-of-home placement, use DYFS Form 26-81, Case Plan Out-of-Home, to document the services that will continue beyond the adolescent's 18th birthday. The adolescent signs the plan.

For adolescents in their own home, use DYFS Form 26-51, Case Plan In-Home, to document the services that will continue beyond the adolescent's 18th birthday. The adolescent signs the plan.

When the adolescent is unable to sign the Case Plan due to a developmental or emotional disability, the adolescent's parent, legal guardian, legal custodian or other person acting in loco parentis may sign for the adolescent.

Placement Reviews

The Division continues to conduct internal placement reviews for adolescents age 18 and older.

The Child Placement Review Board may continue to review an adolescent's case, if the court indicates that it will retain jurisdiction after the adolescent turns 18 years of age. See II A 2419.3.

MVR Schedule

See II A 703.1, Visitation Schedules Between Once Per Week and Monthly.

Board Rate for Adolescents in Resource Homes

Resource parents continue to receive a standard board rate for adolescents placed in their home who are 18 to 21 years old. This includes adolescents who are working, and/or going to school. See II D 2507, Appendices - Level of Care Rate Table; Resource Family Board Rate and Clothing Schedule for Resource Care and Relative Care.

Resource parents are paid on a per-diem basis for adolescents who return to the resource home on a temporary basis during college breaks and dorm closures.

Vacation Board Rate for College Students

Adolescents, as well a youth age 17 who were in an out-of-home placement prior to attending college, who leave the resource home to attend school, may require temporary placement in a resource home during school breaks, dorm closures, or for other reasons, such as illness. The temporary placement is not to exceed 150 calendar days unless approved by the Local Office Manager, in 30-day increments.

The Resource Parent is paid by a K-100 at Level A (base rate) Vacation Home, service Action Code P-398. See II D 2507, Appendices - Level of Care Rate Table; Resource Family Board Rate and Clothing Schedule for Resource Care and Relative Care.

Medicaid - Individual Under Age 21

An adolescent in placement continues to receive Medicaid.

An adolescent is eligible for Medicaid Extension for Young Adults (MEYA), if he or she was in out-of-home placement on or beyond his or her 18th birthday, and the case is closed. The Worker gives the adolescent the toll free telephone number, 1-888-235-4766, to enroll in MEYA. See II K 317, Medicaid Extension for Young Adults (MEYA).

An individual under age 21 may be eligible for Medicaid Special through the County Welfare Agency (CWA), even though the adolescent is not eligible for Medicaid coverage under TANF. Financial eligibility for Medicaid Special is established when the income of the adolescent does not exceed the allowance standard for TANF. For further information about Medicaid Special, contact the CWA responsible for the jurisdiction where the adolescent resides. See II K 905.3a, Medicaid Special.

Reasons to Close the Case of an Adolescent Age 18 - 21

There are three situations when it is appropriate to consider whether to close the case:

- Adolescent refuses to cooperate or participate in the case plan or requests that
 - his or her case be closed despite attempts by DYFS to actively engage the adolescent;
- The adolescent and Worker mutually agree that he or she is no longer in need of
 - services or support from DYFS; or
- Adolescent turns 21 years of age.

Note: An adolescent's case cannot be closed if DYFS has custody or the case is active in DYFS litigation.

When the adolescent refuses to cooperate or participate with the case plan, make every effort to reengage him or her in the planning process. Discuss with the adolescent the reasons for lack of cooperation.

The Worker contacts others involved in the case plan, e.g., Legal Guardian, parent, resource family, third party agencies, and other caring adults, to explore possible alternatives or revisions to the plan.

Case Closing Practice for Adolescent 18-21

Regardless of the reason for closing the case, the Worker follows these procedures:

- Provides two month written notification prior to case closing, using DYFS Form

- 5-62, Termination of Services to Adolescent Client (see next section);

- Completes DYFS Form 5-66, Adolescent Case Closing Agreement, with the adolescent;

- Completes DYFS Form 5-67, Adolescent Case Closing Checklist;
- Prepares the adolescent for termination of DYFS services;
- Reinforces with the "caring adult" the importance of their role; see II D 1010;

- When applicable, notifies the caregiver, independent living program/house

- parent or transitional living program and aftercare service provider that DYFS

- will be terminating services within two months:

- Aftercare case management for an adolescent is available with third party agencies, to continue working with the adolescent after DYFS closes the case,

- The Worker refers the adolescent through the local aftercare liaison agency;

- Facilitates referrals to other agencies that may become involved with the

- adolescent after the case is closed, such as agencies involved with financial

- benefits, housing, employment, education, and health care;

- If the adolescent is exiting resource care at or beyond age 18, provides him or

- her with a copy of the health and education records at no cost, in accordance with

- the federal Safe and Timely Interstate Placement of Foster Children Act of 2006;

- and

- Has a face-to-face meeting with the adolescent prior to case closure. See II A

- 2900.

Policy for Addressing Disagreement with the Decision to Terminate Case

If the adolescent or his or her advocate disagrees with termination, the agency's actions may be challenged. See III A, Formal and Informal Dispute Resolution Policy and Procedures.

Relevant NJS Windows and Forms

- DYFS Form 5-43, Transitional Plan for Independence
- DYFS Form 5-61, Notification: Services May Continue Beyond Age of Majority
- DYFS Form 5-62, Termination of Services to Adolescent Client
- DYFS Form 5-66, Adolescent Case Closing Agreement
- DYFS Form 5-67, Adolescent Case Closing Checklist
- DYFS Form 26-81, Case Plan Out-of-Home

Related Policy

- II A 2900, Family Engagement
- II D 700, Independent Living
- II D 1010, Adolescent Services toward Self-Sufficiency
- II D 2507, Appendices - Level of Care Rate Table; Resource Family Board Rate and Clothing Schedule for Resource Care and Relative Care

Relevant Policy for Students in Post Secondary Educational Programs

Adolescents in Independent Living Placements - Since these adolescents do not have continuous adult supervision, face-to-face contact between the Permanency Worker and the adolescent is required at least once every month. The Worker is required to visit the adolescent's residence at least once every six (6) months. See II D 707.3

Adolescents who attend college - The Worker is required to have face to face contact with the adolescent, when he or she returns to the resource home while on a school break.

Board Rate for Adolescents in Resource Homes

Resource parents continue to receive a standard board rate for adolescents placed in their home who are 18 to 21 years old. This includes adolescents who are working, and/or going to school. See II D 2507, Appendices - Level of Care Rate Table; Resource Family Board Rate and Clothing Schedule for Resource Care and Relative Care

Resource parents are paid on a per-diem basis for adolescents who return to the resource home on a temporary basis during college breaks and dorm closures.

Vacation Board Rate for College Students

Adolescents, as well a youth age 17 who were in an out-of-home placement prior to attending college, who leave the resource home to attend school, may require temporary placement in a resource home during school breaks, dorm closures, or for other reasons, such as illness. The temporary placement is not to exceed 150 calendar days unless approved by the Local Office Manager, in 30-day increments.

The Resource Parent is paid by a K-100 at Level A (base rate) Vacation Home, service Action Code P-398. See II D 2507, Appendices - Level of Care Rate Table; Resource Family Board Rate and Clothing Schedule for Resource Care and Relative Care.

**Note: The adolescent's case remains in open status, while at college.
Conduct MVR's while the adolescent is on break at the resource home.**

Identifying Lifelong Connections/Caring Adults

The Worker, in collaboration with the adolescent identifies at least one significant adult in the adolescent's life. This may be a relative, a teacher or coach, a neighbor, clergy or a member of the child's house of worship, who will function as an adult advisor to the adolescent, to assist in the development of the transitional plan and who will continue to provide guidance to the adolescent after involvement with DYFS ends. The caring adult(s) may be the resource parent(s).

Develop a Transitional Plan

The Worker, adolescent, caring adults, family members and others who are interested in the adolescent's future gather together to develop a strength-based plan using DYFS Form 5-43.

Transitional Plan for Adolescents, completing or updating it at the Placement Review Conference held every six months, or when a goal has been achieved or a modification is necessary. See II A 2900, Family Engagement.

The plan explains the responsibilities of each person involved in the development of the plan to assist the adolescent in attaining the identified skill(s). Use DYFS Form 22-25 the New Jersey DYFS SDM Child Strengths and Needs Assessment accessible through the NJ Spirit application. Obtain the youth's academic records from his or her current school, to assist those gathered to develop a viable plan.

Objectives of the Transitional Plan

This written plan addresses, at a minimum, the adolescent's

- *Life goals – which the adolescent selects for him or herself;*
- *Career goals – selected by the adolescent and chosen through exploration of information and subsequent referral to appropriate resources, the Worker, independent living, aftercare, transitional living program, or caregiver help the adolescent identify the skills necessary to achieve his or her career goals.*
- *Educational goals – (give the adolescent information about the New Jersey Foster Care Scholars Program which can provide financial support for post secondary educational and vocational programs.*
- *Upon request, the Worker refers the adolescent to other resources for post-secondary educational opportunities. Permanency goals – (the adolescent will attain permanency either through adoption, KLG, reunification with a safe family member, or a lifelong connection a designated adult.*
- *Health Care – give the adolescent information regarding the Medicaid Extension for Youth Adults (MEYA).*
- *Acquisition of Basic Life Skills – the adults and the adolescent review the assessment to identify critical areas that should be addressed with formal and/or informal education and training; and*
- *Resource identification – the adults identify and review services and programs available through DCF, other state agencies, and additional public and private organizations, to aid the adolescent in achieving his or her stated goals.*

APPENDIX B

Relevant DCF Forms regarding Adolescents

(1) Listing of Relevant Forms

DYFS Forms 5-66: Adolescent Case Closing Agreement

Purpose & Use

Use this form in conjunction with the DYFS Form 5-67, Adolescent Case Closing Checklist. This agreement allows the Worker to review and document a discussion held with the adolescent about limitations on service eligibility, once his or her

DYFS case is closed. The form allows the adolescent to give a written explanation and documentation as to why he or she would like his or her DYFS case closed. The form cannot be used/does not apply when DYFS has custody of the child or

when the adolescent is receiving services based on child abuse/neglect.

DYFS Forms 5-66: Adolescent Case Closing Checklist

Purpose & Use

Use this form in conjunction with the DYFS Form 5-66, Adolescent Case Closing Agreement, to present information to an adolescent between 16 to 21 years old for whom DYFS does not have custody, when closing his or her case. The Worker

OBTAINS AND/OR MAKES COPIES OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE ADOLESCENT. THE FORM CANNOT BE USED/DOES NOT APPLY WHEN DYFS HAS CUSTODY OF THE CHILD OR WHEN THE ADOLESCENT IS RECEIVING SERVICES BASED ON CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT.

Appendix C

Resource List for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, and Intersex (GLBTQI) Services

New Jersey State Resources by County

Atlantic County

PFLAG
103 Dover Avenue
Mays Landing, NJ 08330
609 653 6337

Bergen County

PFLAG
P O Box 1330
Ridgewood, NJ 07450
201 652 2287

Gay Activists of New Jersey
P O Box 1734
South Hackensack, NJ 07606
201 692 1794

Burlington County

Burlington County Gay & Lesbian Alliance- BCGALA <http://www.bcgala.com/>
P O Box 804
Moorestown, NJ 08057-0804

Crossroads Treatment Homes

609-261-5400

Camden County

AIDS Coalition of Southern New Jersey
100 Essex Avenue, Suite 300
Bellmar, NJ 08031
609 933 9500
aidsline@voicenet.com
<http://www.aidsnsnj.com/>

Tiger Paws
PO Box 282
Cedar Brook, NJ 08018
609 876 6058
mickey@tigerpaws.net
<http://www.tigerpaws.net/>

Rainbow Place of South Jersey
<http://www.homestead.com/RPSJ/>
P O Box 2132
Voorhees, NJ 08043
856 848 2455

Essex County

PFLAG of North Jersey
P O Box 244
Belleville, NJ 07109
973-267-8414
pflagwaver@aol.com
[http://hometown.aol.com/pflagwaver/
myhomepage.index.html](http://hometown.aol.com/pflagwaver/myhomepage.index.html)

The Oasis
<http://members.aol.com/TheOasisNJ>
31 Mulberry St.
Newark, NJ 07102
973 430 9909
973 622 3503 (fax)
TheOasisNJ@aol.com
The Oasis is a mission and ministry
of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark
with gays and lesbians, their families
and friends.

Mercer County

Capital Rainbowfest
<http://www.capitalrainbowfest.org>
986 S. Broad St.
Trenton, NJ 08611
609 396 9788
capitalr@capitalrainbowfest.org

**Trenton Gay and Lesbian Civic
Association**

<http://www.tglca.com>
PO Box 33209
Trenton, NJ 08629
609 396 9788
info@tglca.com

Hamilton High School West
GALF
(609) 631-4168 x3308
contact Joanne Yamada

Steinert High School
GSA
(609) 631-4150 x5214
contact Caroline Sobzak

Hightstown High School
GSA
(609) 443-7738
contact Diane Hughes

Trenton Central High School
(609) 278-5102

Peddie High School
(609) 490-7501

Ewing High School
GSA
(609) 538-9800
Mr. Mattle (2130)
Ms. White (8226)

West Windsor High School (North)
GSA
(609) 716-5100

West Windsor High School (South)
GSA
(609) 716-5050
contact Alexandra Lawrence

Lawrence High School
Gay Lesbian Alliance
(609) 671-5510
contact Don Proffit

Hopewell Valley High School
GSA
(609) 737-7000
contact Lisa Cardinale

Princeton High School**GSA**

(609) 806-4280
Doug Levendowski
Shawn Volz

The Lawrenceville School**GSA**

(609) 620-6927
contact Jim Jordan
Jjordan@lawrenceville.org

Middlesex County**NJLGH, Inc. New Jersey's Lesbian & Gay
Havurah** <http://www.njhav.org>

P O Box 2576
Edison, NJ 08818-2576
732 650 1010
matthew@njhav.org

The Pride Center

<http://www.pridecenter.org/>
211 Livingston Avenue
P O Box 5130
New Brunswick, NJ 08903
732 846 2232
webmaster@pridecenter.org

Long Yang Club New Jersey

newjersey@longyangclub.org
P O Box 1431
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

New Jersey GAYLesBiTrans Life

P O Box 224
Metuchen, NJ 08840
732 549 9054
732 549 9056
calinfo@njgaylife.com
<http://www.njgaylife.com/>

Monmouth County**Gay and Lesbian Community Center**

515 Cookman Avenue
P O Box 1316
Asbury Park, NJ 07712-1316
908 775 4429

Horizons Community Services, Inc.

P O Box 1316
Asbury Park, NJ 07712
732 774 1809

Lesbians & Gays in Telecommunications

P O Box 8143
Red Bank, NJ 07701

OutSourceNJ

<http://hometown.aol.com/DaveShmave/OutSourceNJ.html>
PO Box 221
Red Bank, NJ 07701
DaveShmave@aol.com

OutSourceNJ, email referrals to "gay-friendly New Jersey" from database of 1700+ gay-friendly businesses, professionals, organizations and religious institutions serving NJ consumers.

Morris County**Gay Activist Alliance in Morris County**

P O Box 137
Convent Station, NJ 07961
973 285 1595 (Helpline)
973 285 5590 (Office)
973 539 8882 (fax)
973 285 0889 (TTY)
gaamc@vc.njit.edu
<http://gaamc.org/>
SpeakersBureau@gaamc.org (Speakers)

New Jersey activist organization providing services for gays and lesbians, from rap groups (where individuals are encouraged to talk about gay for gay rights).

New Jersey Statewide Resources

NJLGC: New Jersey Lesbian and Gay Coalition

<http://www.njlgc.org/>

P O Box 11335

New Brunswick, NJ 08906-1335

732 828 6772

njlgc@aol.com

New Jersey GAYLesBiTrans Life

P O Box 224

Metuchen, NJ 08840

732 549 9054

732 549 9056

calinfo@njgaylife.com

<http://www.njgaylife.com/>

The Office of Diverse Community Affairs and Lesbian/Gay Concerns Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

New Brunswick, NJ

732 932 1711

732 932 8160 (fax)

divcoaff@rci.rutgers.edu

<http://www-rci.rutgers.edu/~divcoaff>

JERSEY PRIDE, INC

www.jerseypride.org

info@jerseypride.org

or (732) 21 GAY NJ

Jersey Pride, Inc.,

PO Box 10796,

New Brunswick, NJ 08906

Non-profit organization producing New Jersey's Gay , Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Pride parades and National Coming Out Day festival.

Rainbow Pages: A National Resource Guide for Providers Serving Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth

<http://www.nn4youth.org>

info@NN4Youth.org

Rainbow Pages includes the following: 1) Sample workplace policies and agency mission statements, 2) Information on national organizations that have services targeting LGBT youth, 3) Descriptions of legal resources, books, magazines, videos and other materials for LGBT youth, and 4) Addresses of pertinent websites.

PFLAG (Parent and friends of Lesbians and Gays) NJ www.critpath.org/pflag-talk

Promotes the health and well-being of gay , lesbian and bisexual persons, their families, and friends, through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

HYACINTH FOUNDATION-NJ

www.hyacinth.org

317 George Street, Suite 203

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

(732) 246-0204

FAX (732) 246-4137

Hotline 1-800-433-0254

E-mail address: info@hyacinth.org

New Jersey based organization, dealing with AIDS related healthcare.

PRIDE CENTER OF NEW JERSEY

<http://www.pridecenter.org/>

1048 Livingston Avenue

North Brunswick, NJ 08902

Mailing Address

PO Box 5130

New Brunswick, NJ 08903

732-846-2232

Lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and trans-gendered community center of central New Jersey.

GARDEN STATE EQUALITY

www.gardenstateequality.org

New Jersey College Resources

THE COLLEGE OF NJ www.tcnj.edu

GUTS Gay Union of Trenton State at
The College of New Jersey

www.rutgers.edu

Rutgers University Gay Radio Show

DREW UNIVERSITY www.drew.edu

Gay Student Alliance

KEAN UNIVERSITY www.kean.edu

BIHG TALK, Gay Student Organization

Gay Straight Alliance

Mercer County Community College

West Windsor Campus (WWC)

GENERATION Q

1200 Old Trenton Road
Trenton, NJ 08690

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY

www.monmouth.edu

Gay Pride Alliance at Monmouth
University

MONTCLAIR STATE www.msu.edu

Spectrums, Gay Student Organization

NJIT

www.njit.edu

B-GLAD, Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians
And Defenders at NJIT

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

www.princeton.edu

Student Pride Alliance

RIDER COLLEGE

www.rider.edu

FLAG, Friends of Lesbians and Gays

ROWAN UNIVERSITY www.rowan.edu

Gay / Straight Student Alliance

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

www.rutgers.edu

BGLARU, Bi/Gay/Lesbian Alliance @
Rutgers University

Internet Resources

ACT UP - NEW YORK

<http://www.actupny.org/>

Activist group in New York area dedicated to informing Aids awareness and the Gay & Lesbian fight for equal rights.

ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH

www.advocatesforyouth.org/glbta.htm

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

www.aclu.org

Organization dedicated to protecting the rights of all people, including Gays and Lesbians.

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

www.apa.org/topics/orientation.html

www.apa.org/pi/lgbcp/publications/justthefacts.html

www.apa.org/topics/transgender.html

www.apa.org/topics/intersx.html

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

www.cwla.org/programs/culture/glbta.htm

FAMILY EQUALITY COUNCIL

www.familyequality.org/index.html

GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION

www.glaad.org

GAY AND LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT - NYC

<http://www.avp.org/>

240 W 35th Street Suite 200 New York, NY 10001

Serves lesbian and gay crime victims through counseling, advocacy, information and referrals. Working to change public attitudes that tolerate, insulate or instigate hate-motivated crime.

Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network

www.glsen.org/cgi-bin/iowa/all/home/index.html

GLBT National Help Center, National Youth Talkline

www.glnh.org/talkline/index.html

G.M.H.C. (Gay Men's Health Crisis)-NYC

www.gmhc.org

The leading health care organization in New York, dedicated to the fight against AIDS. They are the proud people who bring you AIDS WALK - New York, and the AIDS DANCETHON at the Jacob Javits Center.

GO NYC

<http://www.gonycmagazine.com/>

Cultural guide for NYC's lesbian community.

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE & EDUCATION FUND

<http://www.lambdalegal.org/>

120 Wall Street

Suite 1500

New York, NY 10005-3904 tel 212-809-8585 fax 212-809-0055

The nation's oldest and largest legal organization working for the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, and people with HIV/AIDS.

NATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN TASK FORCE

www.thetaskforce.org

NGLTF is the national progressive organization working for the civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people.

NORTHEAST TWO-SPIRIT SOCIETY

www.ne2ss.org

THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER YOUTH

www.outproud.org

www.transproud.com/index.html

THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR LGBT HEALTH

www.lgbthealth.net

NATIONAL YOUTH ADVOCACY COALITION

www.nyacyouth.org/nyac/resources.html

PARENTS, FAMILIES, AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS

www.pflag.org

THE RED CIRCLE PROJECT

www.apla.org/native_american/RCP

SAFE SCHOOLS COALITION

www.safeschoolscoalition.org/safe.html

YOUTH AND AIDS PROJECTS

www.yapmn.com/index.php

YOUTH RESOURCE

www.youthresource.com

Websites in Spanish

AMBIENTEJOVEN (Spanish)

www.ambientejuven.org

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (Spanish)

www.apa.org/topics/orientacion.html

GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFAMATION (Spanish)

www.gladd.org/espanol/bienvenido.php