

Life Skills Programs

Steppin' Out

- Local:** Steppin' Out
P.O. Box 1155
Fort Collins, CO 80522
(970) 498-6990 request to speak with Pia Jansen-Lock
- Website:** www.steppinout.org
- Purpose:** Steppin' Out seeks to recognize participating youth for their accomplishments in overcoming difficult challenges during childhood and adolescence, support participants in making connections to a caring community by maintaining continued contact through age 21, provide learning opportunities that heighten skills for successful employment and daily living and help participating youth develop personal responsibility by promoting gratitude as a life principle.
- Eligibility:** Participants must be exiting out-of-home placement. Youth participants must be taking steps to seek employment, further their education, and achieve self-sufficiency.
- Services:** Throws a celebration for the youth exiting foster care services. Provides support after the youth have exited foster care into independent living.
- Application:** Youth must be nominated by an agency or individual. Contact the organization prior to the individual's 18th birthday for an application.

Life Skills Programs

Chafee Foster Care Independence Program

- Address:** Colorado Department of Human Services
Division of Child Welfare
1575 Sherman Street
Denver, Colorado 80203
(303) 866-5932
- Local:** Larimer County Department of Human Services
The Hub-
1525 Blue Spruce Dr.
Fort Collins, CO 80524
(970) 498-6700 (970) 498-6772 Fax
- Website:** www.cdhs.state.co.us/childWelfare/Chafee.htm
- Purpose:** To provide age appropriate independent living services to youth aged 16-21 who are in out-of-home placement or to young adults aged 18-21 who were in out-of-home placement on or after their 18th birthday.
- Eligibility:** Must meet Department of Social Services eligibility requirements and be at risk of aging out of foster care.
- Services:** Services are tailored to each individual and focus on employment, money management, household management, community resources and personal skills. Services include support groups, employment assistance, communication skills, transportation assistance, rental assistance, cooking lessons, help with higher education and other individualized services.
- Application:** Chafee Program services are initiated by a referral from the youth's primary caseworker. Inquire with the individual's caseworker or call The Hub (970) 498-6990 and speak with a Chafee Specialist to see if a referral can be initiated.

Life Skills Programs

Cooper Home Learning 4 Living

- Address:** Poudre School District
Johannsen Support Services Center
2407 LaPorte Ave.
Fort Collins, CO 80521
(970) 482-7420
- Local:** Cooper Home Learning 4 Living
740 E. Stuart Street
Fort Collins, CO 80525
- Website:** www.psd.k12.co.us
- Purpose:** A collaborative effort between students, parents and the community to assist students in moving towards natural supports within the community and the worksite while fostering independence.
- Eligibility:** Students ages 18-21 who are currently receiving services through PSD Integrated Services. Must demonstrate transition needs in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Students must be interested in community based education and have completed their credits required for graduation prior to entering. It is preferred that students have taken at least 2 semester of ACE in High School prior to participation.
- Services:** Services include job development and coaching, training in work-related skills, independent living preparation, daily living and social skills training, assistance with navigating outside agency services, guidance with higher education, assistance accessing public transportation, leisure and recreation activities and other individualized services. A person-centered approach is utilized and services and schedules are determined by the student with the support of his or her team. This is a 2 year program.
- Application:** Work with the individual's high school social worker, counselor or case manager to arrange transition plans and to see if Cooper Home Learning 4 Living is an appropriate program to meet the needs and interests of the individual.

Life Skills Programs

Community Connections

- Address:** Poudre School District
Johannsen Support Services Center
2407 LaPorte Ave.
Fort Collins, CO 80521
(970) 482-7420
- Local:** Community Connections
2901 S. Shields Street
Fort Collins, CO 80526
(970) 282-3790
- Website:** www.psd.k12.co.us
- Purpose:** This program is designed to assist 18-21 year old students with significant learning needs in the Poudre School District transition from high school to adult living/post secondary education.
- Eligibility:** Students ages 18-21 who are currently receiving services through PSD Integrated Services. Must demonstrate transition needs in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Students typically transition to this program after participating in Adaptive Skills and Life Skills programs offered in the PSD High Schools.
- Services:** This program teaches adult living skills, community recreation and access skills and employment/volunteer skills. Employment opportunities are a priority of this program and employment assistance is offered through an ACE Employment Coach.
- Application:** Work with the individual's high school social worker, counselor or case manager to arrange transition plans and to see if Community Connections is an appropriate program to meet the needs and interests of the individual.