



Resources for Advocating for Older Youth in Care
Prepared for the Minnesota Guardian ad Litem Conference
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Minnesota Adoption Support and Preservation at <http://www.mnasap.org/>

MNASAP provides a variety of trainings and resources for pre and post adoption families and those who care about them. An example is MNASAP's recent newsletter on launching older youth into adulthood.

Minnesota Department of Human Services Best Practice Guide for Helping Youth Transition from Out-of-Home Care to Adulthood at:

http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/children/documents/pub/dhs_id_059111.pdf

This best practices guide provides best practices and resources for youth leaving foster care. There is valuable information about guideposts that caregivers can use to work toward a child's living on the child's own in adulthood.

Casey Family Programs at

<http://www.casey.org/Home/Search.htm?QUERY=youth%20transition>

Casey Family Programs has a variety of resources for children in foster care and for youth in transition including both information and tools or strategies to use with youth.

Jim Casey Youth Opportunity Initiative at <http://www.jimcaseyyouth.org/>

This web site has ideas for local communities to implement. The initiative brings together the people and resources needed to connect youth to education, employment, health care, housing, and supportive personal and community relationships. Most importantly, its efforts seek to link them to supportive, permanent connections with caring adults.

The initiative supports successful community-based efforts that help youth leaving foster care through grants, technical assistance, and coalition building with multiple stakeholders. It also supports youth engagement through the formation of local Youth Leadership Boards.