



Pathway to Everyday Life

We are committed to enhancing the quality of 'Everyday
Life' for every individual.

Corporate Offices: 565 North Laurel Street, IN Hazleton, PA 18201

Local Office: 2716 Manor Drive NE, Palm Bay, PA 32905

Email: admissions@pathwayeverydaylife.com

Website: www.pathwaytoeverydaylife.com

Office: 772-777-8254 Fax: 772-777-8328

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Program Description

Getting kicked out of the house, running away, or being removed from home is scary for children and young adults. In this situation, youths are pushed to do whatever it takes to survive, leaving behind all the things that children and young people should be focused on, such as school, friends, and family.

At **Pathway to Everyday Life**, we have worked with countless children and young adults from various living situations. We know all too well the devastation that homelessness can wreak. We hold the recovery of all our residents in the highest regard and will work tirelessly to ensure their personal goals are met before the end of their stay.

Pathway to Everyday Life has served over 60 youths ages 10 to 21 since we opened our doors in June 2023. We have serviced youth with significant emotional or behavioral characteristics, such as sex trafficking victims, drug users, aggressive behavior, kleptomania, self-harm, autism, ADHD, and IDD.

Pathway to Everyday Life provides houses that support youths, male and female genders, with separate housing within the age range of 18 – 23 years in our Independent Living Program (IL), who are physically and emotionally able to master the skills and experiences offered. We offer a permanent scattered-site housing residence for young adults in Brevard County, Central Florida. Each home has easy access to local transportation with travel within 5 miles of distance to local community centers, doctor's offices, libraries, career centers, community colleges, supermarkets, and local stores.

Our program is designed to identify protective factors that promote resilience, including psychological strengths and positive interactions with family and the community. We are steered to address the long-lasting impacts of trauma, drug and alcohol use, community involvement, behavioral support, sexual abuse, exploitation, regulation, and coping skills by offering comprehensive outsourcing counseling services to address personal, group, and family dynamics, promoting emotional well-being and healthy relationships.

Programs

Pathway to Everyday Life offers the following programs:

- Independent Living (IL) - 18 to 23 years
- Respite Care
- Emergency Shelter Care

Services

Many services offered and delivered by Pathway to Everyday Life aim to help children and young adults develop the skills to live happy, safe, and eventually independent lives. This is done through weekly programs and classes, where residents build on their progress from previous lessons until they complete the program and can find a stable living situation with their family or independently.

Other services offered and delivered at Pathway to Everyday Life, as needed, are:

- 1:1 Ratio Supervision
- Counseling services (Outsourced)
- Transitional planning toward independent living
- Money management budgeting
- Credit management
- Interpersonal-skill building
- Human Sex trafficking
- Emergency preparedness and crisis management planning
- Home Economics
- Educational opportunities, such as GED prep, post-secondary training, and vocational training (outsourced based on needs level)
- Job attainment skills, as needed

One of the most important services offered is psychological and psychiatric therapy, which is currently outsourced to professionals. This allows young adults to explore their emotions in a safe, judgment-free environment where they can identify and work through past traumas.

The program utilizes local community resources, including mental health centers, family doctor offices, eye care, dental, and vision specialists, to provide necessary services. We focus on continuity of care by primarily utilizing small clinics close to the transitional placements to ensure easy access and prompt service delivery.

Activities

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| - BBQ/Picnic | - Play Stations |
| - Amusement Parks | - Nintendo Switch |
| - Movies | - Board Games |
| - Concerts | - School Events |
| - Community Parks | - Birthday Celebrations |
| - Community Events | - Holiday Celebration |

Cellular Phone Usage

Youths in our Independent Living (IL) program can use a cell phone based on our Cell Phone Policy and Contract. We do not provide payment for the youth's cell phone plan, and we do not provide Wi-Fi network access.



Religious Observances

During the admission process, the youth are asked about their religion, and based on their response, reasonable accommodations to religious observances and practices are arranged for them, if needed.

Family Interaction

Pathway to Everyday Life encourages family interaction and supports unification. We are bound by the rules of the contract with Family Partnerships of Central Florida (FPCF), which require us to help enforce all court orders regarding family visitation and communications while maintaining the court's permanency plan for the youth.

With FPCF's approval, the youths can go home for a day, week, or weekend pass to see their families. We also facilitate supervised visits at our administrative office for the youths and their families. We provide transportation within a certain radius for approved visits.

Improved Outcomes

Research shows that when families are involved in their children's education and development, it can positively impact on their child's health, development, academic, and well-being outcomes. Pathway strives to include approved family members in all aspects of the child's life during their time in our programs.

Better Working Relationships

Family involvement can help family members work more effectively with educators and service providers. We include approved family members in all team meetings and decisions, taking the approach of a coordinator rather than a team leader.

Predictable Family Life

Maintaining family routines and rituals can help children benefit from structure and predictability, even when experiencing housing instability. We aim to maintain routines and consistency as much as possible to minimize disruption to the child's life.

Enhanced Mental Health

Maintaining a sense of control and self-efficacy can benefit parents, indirectly benefiting their children. We assist approved family members with setting up group and family services with one of our trusted providers to build appropriate relationships.

Here are some ways that families can be involved in our programs:

1. Participate in Decision-Making

Families can be involved in decision-making processes, such as developing or revising a youth's IEP.

2. Understand the Secondary Transition Process

Family members and caregivers can understand the secondary transition process well, which can help them support their youth in preparing for post-secondary education, employment, and independent living.

Staff Support

With over 50 staff, both Administrative and Direct Support Staff totaling over 50 years of experience in Human Services and Child Care, **Pathway to Everyday Life** provides 24-hour supervision and support with qualified staff working 8-hour to 12-hour shifts.

The Program Director administers the program, including locating referrals, interviewing the youth, onboarding the youth, managing the direct support staff, and discharging the youth.

All staff must complete a comprehensive background screening before their first day of employment. Clearances consist of an FBI Fingerprint Check, a Florida State Criminal Check, a Child Abuse Check, a National Sex Offender Check, and a Health Screening Assessment. Direct Support Staff must have a minimum of a High School Diploma and Administrative Staff with college credit or a degree.

Pathway to Everyday Life requires all staff to complete 40 hours of successful training in Discipline, Care, and Management of Children, First Aid Safety, Safe Crisis Management, Suicide Prevention, and Medication Administration, in addition to 40 hours of annual training.

Our IL Case Coordinators are skilled in teaching the youth cooking skills, basic life skills, and social skills for educational and community involvement along with services for training-introduction to home management, time management, money management, credit management, human sexuality, sex trafficking awareness, fire safety, personal care, consumer shopping, social interaction, maintaining a safe and healthy home, public transportation, and nutrition education.

All Program Admissions

Pathway to Everyday Life will assess each youth during referral and admission to evaluate and assess the youth's ability to participate in our programs. The Risk and Life Skill assessment of intake questionnaires measures and identifies the areas of improvement an individual should make before placement into our Independent Living program. Youth must be approaching 18 years of age, willing to participate in life skills training and be committed to obtaining further education to become self-sufficient. Once admitted into the facility, the youth will be enrolled in an Educational Program based on their needs.

Admission Age: 18 – 23 years

Gender: ALL

Pathway to Everyday Life supports and respects all gender identification within the LGBTQ+ community and religious observances. Young adults in independent housing must be self-motivated and responsible for their life choices. The staff of our programs will support and encourage the young adults to meet all goals set by the case management plan.

The youth referred to the transitional program must have a demonstrated history of functioning at a level appropriate for community-based living and must comply with mental health services and/or all medication as prescribed.

Young adults who may not be appropriate for our program are individuals who have academic issues, aggressive behavioral issues, sexual issues, fire setting, and in some cases, repetitive elopement and some charged criminal history.



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Independent Living Program

What Is a Independent Living Program?

Our Independent Living Program is a residential service specifically designed to serve young people 18 years or older, for whom independent living services or treatment goals include basic life skills training for independent living. The independent living program allows opportunities for young people to start early to build a strong foundation of life skills and community connections.

Independent Living programs work with youths on various subjects, each providing the skills and coping mechanisms needed to live a healthy, independent life. We provide and teach basic skills such as nutrition, financial management, preventative health, conflict resolution, communication, and job attainment skills. Our program also works with young people to develop long- and short-term goal-setting skills that can be applied to their current situation and future endeavors.

Admission

Criteria for Acceptance into the Independent Living Program:

Age Range: Our programs are designed for individuals between 18 to 23 years of age.

Motivation to Participate: Youth must be willing to actively engage in the program's services, including life skills training, job search assistance, and case management.

Initial Contact: Potential residents can contact the program by phone, obtain a referral from Brevard County Family Partnerships of Central Florida agency, or visit our website.

Application Process: Individuals interested in the program must complete an application form providing personal information, details about their current placement situation, and reasons for seeking transitional housing.

Intake Interview: A staff member will conduct a comprehensive interview to assess the client's needs, eligibility, and potential risks.

Needs Assessment: This evaluation may include a review of the client's mental health, substance abuse history, employment status, and educational background.

What to Expect from the Independent Living Program

The independent living program has a comprehensive life skills training program for youth that develops competency in the following areas:

- Health and general safety.
- Money management, budget planning, and knowledge of available financial resources.
- Use of local transportation resources.
- Accessing local community resources.
- Child health and safety, child development, and parenting skills if the youth is a parent of a child living with them.

Other areas of life skills training should include:

- Encouraging the youth to participate in community life and form interpersonal relationships/friendships outside the transitional living programs, such as community team sports, extracurricular activities, and after-school employment.
- Consumer education includes meal planning, meal preparation, grocery shopping, apartment searches, and setting up utilities.
- Career planning and enrolling in higher education or a vocational/technical training program.
- Assisting in accessing medical and dental care, therapy, mental health services, legal resources, and emergency assistance.
- Problem-solving, stress management, and establishing short and long-term goals for independence.

The Staff Development Supervisor will conduct monthly training modules focusing on practical skills. Youths are required to attend as part of their IL placement. Modules focus on daily living skills, household management, behaviors/reactions, money management, interpersonal communication, conflict resolution, educational services, substance abuse awareness, human trafficking awareness, preventive health services, community resource training, and transportation.

Young Adults Served

- Youth served are aged 18 to 23 years.
- Male and Female youths
- Must be enrolled in high school, college, university, vocational program, or trade school.
- The youth must comply with mental health services and/or all medication as prescribed.

Through IL, a young adult will:

- Youth will be required to attend mandatory IL training and development sessions.
- Experience age-appropriate mistakes and consequences and learn responsible behaviors.
- Practice how to manage their finances, budget, resume writing and interviewing skills
- Maintain and develop connections with family and supportive networks.

Program activities and objectives and anticipated outcomes

Pathway to Everyday Life program's primary goal is to assist youth receiving services through the Family Partnerships of Central Florida in developing the skills and coping mechanisms necessary to live independently and healthily. Some of the objectives of our programs include:

- Teaching life skills such as nutrition, financial management, and communication
- Setting short- and long-term goals
- Fostering independence and responsibility
- Building a strong sense of community
- Providing support to prevent substance abuse
- Promoting preventive health activities such as smoking avoidance and nutritional education
- Offering personal and emotional support
- Assisting with job placement and retention

The anticipated outcomes for the program at Pathway to Everyday Life are as follows:

Stable housing: Independent housing can help individuals find and maintain stable housing. For instance, a study found that 73% of youth in a independent living housing program could transition to stable housing.

Employment: Independent Living housing can assist individuals in finding and maintaining employment. For example, a study found that youth employment rates were higher during participation in transitional living programs than before.

Education: Independent Living housing can help individuals enroll in school.

Life skills: Independent Living housing can help individuals learn essential life skills, such as how to file taxes.

Substance abuse treatment: Independent Living housing can aid individuals in receiving treatment for substance abuse.

Economic well-being: Independent Living housing can help individuals improve their financial well-being.

Health and safety: Independent Living housing can help improve specific outcomes related to health and safety.



Individual Ratio Supervision Program (I:I)

What Is a I:I Supervision Program?

Pathway to Everyday Life's Individual Ratio Supervision Program (I:I) program is an additional service within the Independent Living (IL). We will provide 24-hour personal I:I staff supervision, support, and services to the youth. The staff will provide all the services of Pathway to Everyday Life to the assigned youth, services such as life skills training-introduction to home management, time management, money management, credit management, human sexuality, sex trafficking awareness, fire safety, personal care, consumer shopping, social interaction, maintaining a safe and healthy home, public transportation, and nutrition education. Staff also accompany the youth to school as their paraprofessionals during school hours, as needed.

I:I supervision is provided on the recommendation of the court, county, healthcare professional, or Pathway to Everyday Life management. The criteria for I:I service is based on a history of elopement, aggressive tendencies, kleptomania tendencies, and individuals with special needs such as autism, ADHD, and IDD. This service is available upon admission or anytime during the individual's Pathway to Everyday Life stay.

Pathway to Everyday Life will provide 24-hour supervision with qualified childcare staff working 12-hour shifts. The childcare workers or case coordinators are skilled in teaching the youth cooking skills, money management, fire safety, budgeting, basic life skills, and social skills for educational and community involvement. The staff is assigned to and is responsible for one youth during their shift.

Admission

Criteria for Acceptance into the I:I Supervision Program:

Age Range: Our programs are designed for individuals between 18 and 23.

Motivation to Participate: Clients must demonstrate one or more of the following: repeated elopement, aggressive tendencies, kleptomania tendencies, recovering drug addicts, and special needs, such as Autism, ADHD, and IDD.

Initial Contact: Potential clients can contact the program by phone, obtain a referral from Brevard County Family Partnerships of Central Florida agency, or visit the website.

Application Process: Individuals interested in the program must complete an application form providing personal information, details about their current placement situation, and reasons for seeking transitional housing.

Intake Interview: A staff member will conduct a comprehensive interview to assess the client's needs, eligibility, and potential risks.

Needs Assessment: This evaluation may include a review of the client's mental health, substance abuse history, employment status, and educational background.

The I:I program has a comprehensive life skills training program for youth that develops competencies in the following areas:

- Health and general safety.
- Money management, budget planning, and knowledge of available financial resources.
- Use of local transportation resources.
- Accessing local community resources.
- Child health and safety, child development, and parenting skills if the youth is a parent of a child living with them.

Other areas of life skills training should include:

- Encouraging the youth to participate in community life and form interpersonal relationships/friendships outside the transitional living programs, such as community team sports, extracurricular activities, and after-school employment.
- Consumer education includes meal planning, meal preparation, grocery shopping, apartment searches, and setting up utilities.
- Career planning and enrolling in higher education or a vocational/technical training program.
- Assisting in accessing medical and dental care, therapy, mental health services, legal resources, and emergency assistance.
- Problem-solving, stress management, and establishing short and long-term goals for independence.

Young Adults Served

- Youth served are aged 18 to 23 years.
- Male and Female youths
- Youth with special needs, such as Autism, ADHD and IDD

1:1 supervision will help to minimize and/or prevent:

- Elopement
- Aggressive tendencies
- Kleptomania tendencies
- Recovering Drug Addict
- Health and Safety Risk

Program activities and objectives and anticipated outcomes

Pathway to Everyday Life program's primary goal is to assist youth receiving services through Brevard County Family Partnerships of Central Florida in developing the skills and coping mechanisms necessary to live independently and healthily. Some of the objectives of our programs include:

- Teaching life skills such as nutrition, financial management, and communication
- Setting short- and long-term goals
- Fostering independence and responsibility
- Building a strong sense of community
- Providing support to prevent substance abuse
- Promoting preventive health activities such as smoking avoidance and nutritional education
- Offering personal and emotional support
- Assisting with job placement and retention

The anticipated outcomes for the program at Pathway to Everyday Life are as follows:

Stable housing: Helping individuals find and maintain stable housing.

Employment: This involves assisting individuals in finding and maintaining employment. For example, a study found that youth employment rates were higher during participation in independent living programs than before.

Education: Helping individuals enroll in high school, college, trade/vocational school.

Life skills: Helping individuals learn essential life skills, basic housekeeping, and ADL.

Substance abuse treatment: Help individuals receive substance abuse treatment.

Economic well-being: Help individuals improve their financial well-being and money management.

Health and safety: Help improve specific outcomes related to health and safety.