



ILP Newsletter

CALIFORNIA YOUTH CONNECTION

By Nani P., WCC Youth Advocate

California Youth Connection (CYC) is a youth-led organization. Their mission is to develop leaders who empower each other and their communities to transform the foster care system through legislative, policy, and practice change. Their goal is for all foster youth to be equal partners in contributing to policies and decisions made in their lives; for all youth in foster care to have their needs met and the support to grow into healthy and vibrant adults.



CALIFORNIA YOUTH CONNECTION

CYC Website: <https://calyouthconn.org/>

CYC meetings for the Alameda Chapter are held at the ILP Office! During the CYC Reboot meeting, they introduced what the program offers. CYC is a program made to help pass bills for foster youth. CYC discusses things they see as a problem in the foster care system and would like to change. They create a wrap sheet to present to state senators. Within the process in getting these bills passed, CYC members share their personal experiences in the foster care system. CYC members are able to provide insight on how these bills being passed could impact youth in the foster care system in a positive way.

To be a part of CYC you will need to [register](#) as a cyc member. To be a part of the Alameda County Chapter you are required to attend chapter meetings that take place once a month. Contact your coach to learn more about CYC and the steps needed to get connected!

 [@AlamedaCountyILP](#)

 [@ilpAlameda](#)

 [@ILPAlameda](#)

www.alamedacountyilp.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

California Youth Connection.....	1
ILP Driving School.....	2
CHP Start Smart.....	2
Community Dinners.....	3
Tax Filing Workshop.....	3
Back to School Bash Highlight.....	4
What ILP Offers.....	5
Register for ILP Services.....	5
Virtual & Offsite Services.....	5
Distance Learning.....	5
Stay Connected.....	5
Staff Information.....	6

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Interested in ILP's Driving School? See page 2 for more information.
- Want to learn about community dinners? Details are on page 3.
- See page 3 to learn about ILP's tax filing workshops!
- Check out what incentives ILP offers on page 5!
- See page 6 for ILP staff contact information.



ALAMEDA COUNTY
INDEPENDENT LIVING
PROGRAM



Driving School Requirements

- Must be age 16-20
- Alameda County Dependent
- Must have your Drivers Permit
- Provide a current TILP
- CHP Start Smart Certificate

For more information, contact your ILP Coach or call the ILP Office at 510-667-7696.

Upcoming CHP Start Smart Driver's Education Workshop

Join us on February 13th for the next CHP Start Smart Driver's Education Workshop! This workshop is for ILP-eligible youth ages 16-20. Attending this class is required to enter the ILP Driver's School Program.



Use the QR code above for more workshop information and to RSVP!

ILP DRIVING SCHOOL

By Nani P., WCC Youth Advocate

The Alameda County Independent Living Program (ILP) offers behind the wheel driving lessons through driving school to youth who are between the ages of 16-20 years old.

ILP partners with driving schools throughout Northern California. Some of the driving schools that ILP partners with are B.A.D.S, Safest Way, Easy Driving school, and All Good Driving School. Most youth usually take driving school through B.A.D.S also known as Bay Area Driving School. ILP expanded their driving school options so that youth who live far away are able to access driving school as well. The driving instructors get youth ready for driving exams.

ILP also offers youth who are under 18 the opportunity to participate in an online driving course with Coastline Academy. Coastline offers up to 40 hours of Drivers ED. ILP coaches support youth of all ages with

passing their DMV permit tests. Reach out to your coach to start your driving school journey!



CHP START SMART

By Nani P., WCC Youth Advocate

In order for youth to be eligible for the ILP Driving School, they will need to obtain their permit and attend the CHP Start Smart course through ILP.

ILP is excited to partner with our local CHP office to offer the Start Smart class at the ILP office. Youth can join the ILP Driving School year round. Youth can contact their social worker, ILP coach, or call the ILP office to get connected to ILP's Drivers Education Program.



COMMUNITY DINNERS

By Anthony V., WCC Youth Advocate

ILP hosts a monthly Community Dinner. This is a great event for youth and community providers to have a welcoming space to connect with one another. Members from other programs were able to share what work they do, exchange information, and meet new people while enjoying a delicious plate of food. ILP partners with Community Kitchens to provide meals for the Community Dinners.

This event is important for community building, strengthening new and familiar friendships, and for networking with other programs. My favorite part about the Community Dinner I attended was talking with my peers about what we can do for foster youth.

Reach out to your coach to RSVP for the next Community Dinner!



ILP & JBAY TAX FILING WORKSHOP

By Anthony V., WCC Youth Advocate

The Independent Living Program (ILP) and John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY) teamed up to create a workshop designed for youth to file their taxes for free! They will be having one workshop a month up until tax day! Tax volunteers and professionals will be present during these in-person workshops to assist youth with filing their federal and state taxes.

The tax filing workshop is an amazing opportunity to learn how you can file taxes by yourself, and a great way to take advantage of the help given by JBAY as they walk you through each step of the process. It's important to know how to file taxes and to know how to file for free since tax filing services can be expensive.

My favorite aspect about the event is that youth can do this all for free, and they are provided with food. This is a great workshop and I recommend any youth needing to file their taxes to attend!

To get started, look through JBAY's [Tax Prep Checklist](#) that lists out what documents are needed to file. Contact your coach for more tax filing workshop details.

The upcoming Tax Filing Workshops dates are listed below:

- ⇒ **February 15th**
- ⇒ **March 14th**
- ⇒ **April 9th**

Use the following link to register: <https://forms.office.com/r/4xkfa67gHV>



Can't make it to a workshop? See the website below to file your taxes for FREE!

Myfreetaxes.org

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH HIGHLIGHT

By Liz V., WCC Youth Advocate

ILP organized a Back to School Bash held last year that the Youth Advocate Program (YAP) attended. ILP went above and beyond by generously giving away school supplies to help students start the school year off right. They also had an awesome lineup of resources offering housing, jobs, mental health support, and education resources. The resource programs that were at the event included Alameda County Social Services, Casey Family Programs, Chabot College: Foster and Kinship Care Education, Civicorps, CSU East Bay: Renaissance Scholars Program, CYC, EBCLO, Fly Program, FURS, Love Never Fails, New Door Ventures, Rising Oaks, Side by Side, Unity Care, and our program YAP.

Not only did they provide resources and supplies, but there were also food trucks to keep everyone fueled. They added an extra layer of fun by having carnival games that YAP helped set up. ILP really thought of everything to make it an unforgettable experience for everyone that brought the community together and provided valuable support for students.

Reach out to your coach if you are interested in attending ILP's upcoming events!





WHAT ILP OFFERS

Alameda County ILP supports youth in education, employment, health and wellness, permanent connections, housing, and money management. These topics are covered in ILP workshops which youth can earn \$25 for each session they attend. Youth can also receive one-on-one coaching with an ILP coach to assist them with creating and accomplishing individual goals!

REGISTER FOR ILP SERVICES

Complete a [Request For Service \(RFS\)](#) form with a Worker of the Day (WOD) over the phone. Our Intake Coordinator will call/email you regarding your eligibility. It takes around 1-2 days to process your RFS form. Once contacted, you will virtually meet with an ILP Coach to discuss your needs, interests, and goals. Your coach will assist you with registering for workshops, activities, and any services that appeal to you!

INCENTIVES

The following items are what ILP eligible youth may be able to receive by participating in ILP services:

- * ILP Workshops
- * Education Program
- * ACLSA
- * Chromebooks
- * School Stipend
- * Education Testing
- * ILP Scholarship
- * Prom/Senior Portraits
- * Book Money
- * California ID Waiver
- * Driver's Training
- * Gas Reimbursements
- * Security Deposit
- * Baby Stipend



For more information, contact the ILP office at (510) 667-7696.



VIRTUAL & OFFSITE SERVICES

Do you want to connect with your ILP coach, but it's difficult for you to get to our office? We've got you covered! You can virtually meet with your ILP coach. You can also schedule an in-person meeting with your coach at a location that works for you. Call the ILP office for your coach's phone number and email. See page 6 for the ILP office contact information. We hope to see you soon!

DISTANCE LEARNING

Check out the two types of virtual learning that ILP is offering! ILP will have a Zoom option for most in-person workshops that include guest speakers and activities that you can do at home. ILP's Distance Learning program is a self-paced module that has engaging topics like Mental Wellness and Entrepreneurial Exploration. ILP staff can assist you with using the Distance Learning website, and with getting the Zoom information for live workshops!

STAY CONNECTED

Do you want to make sure that you don't miss any ILP workshops, activities, or virtual events? Want to keep up with the latest services, resources, and news for transitional aged youth? Follow ILP on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter! See page 1 for ILP's social media links.

Are you not on social media? Visit the ILP website for the latest updates on workshops, events, and other important information regarding the program.

www.alamedacountyilp.org/

ILP STAFF DIRECTORY

Staff Name	Title	Email
Chontae Burks	ILP Receptionist	cburks@alamedacountyilp.org
Dwana Timms	Education and Career Coach/Case Manager	dtimms@beyondemancipation.org
Elizabeth Villagomez	ILP Coach/Case Manager	evillagomez@alamedacountyilp.org
Eugenia Robinson	Receptionist	erobinson@alamedacountyilp.org
Ixchel Mayorga	Education and Career Coach/Case Manager	imayorga@beyondemancipation.org
James Hernandez Velasco	Transitions Coach/Case Manager	jhernandez@alamedacountyilp.org
James Keovilayphone	ILP Coaching Manager	jnguyen@alamedacountyilp.org
Kelsey Sanchez	ILP Coordinator	ksanchez@alamedacountyilp.org
Kenya Davis	Assistant Housing Coordinator	kdavis@beyondemancipation.org
LaCole Martin	Education and Career Manager	lcmartin@beyondemancipation.org
LaShea Martin	Intake Coordinator	lmartin@beyondemancipation.org
Maida Medrano	Education & Career Coach	mmedrano@beyondemancipation.org
Martha Lopez Rosas	ILP Coach/Case Manager	mlopezrosas@alamedacountyilp.org
Monica Peyton	ILP Coach/Case Manager	mpeyton@alamedacountyilp.org
Roosevelt Callahan	Interim Director of Programs	rcallahan@beyondemancipation.org
Sema'J Wyatt	Housing Navigation Coach/Case Manager	swyatt@beyondemancipation.org
Zion Cobb	Education and Career Coach/Case Manager	zcobb@beyondemancipation.org

ILP GENERAL INFORMATION



675 Hegenberger Road Suite 100
 Oakland, CA 94621
 Phone: 510-667-7696 Fax: 510-667-7629
 Office Hours: M-F 8:30am-4:30pm



Thank you for supporting ILP!

