

Boys Republic

Aftercare Before and After STRTP

- ### Design
- Privately funded
 - Aftercare Specialists by area
 - Knowledge of available resources
 - Develop personal connections and contacts to provide links for youth and their families.
 - 3 Phases

Phase 1 – Pre-Release

- As needed – cottage staff contact Aftercare specialist to assist when resources are needed by family to support home assessment so youth can go on home passes or allow youth to stay in placement knowing family needs are being addressed:
 - Furniture required by probation for youth to go on home passes (bed, dresser, refrigerator)
 - Help family find suitable housing
 - Resources for emergencies such as pregnant/homeless girlfriend
- Receive referral 30 days prior to discharge so Aftercare Staff:
 - Meet with student to discuss transition plan
 - Identify transition plan needs.
 - Prep for education transition – high school or college
 - Discuss meeting times and services available once youth leaves.

Phase 2 - Release

- Aftercare Specialist will meet with youth at regularly scheduled intervals to see how the transition is going and provide support to youth and family.
- Aftercare specialist will also connect youth with their County ILSP provider to see what services and incentives are available.
- Transition Plan Components:

Phase 2 – Transition (Plan Components)

- **Living Arrangement – Family Support**
 - Provide support to help youth and family
 - Housing in safer neighborhood
 - Job leads for parents who are out of work
 - Financial assistance from BR to help with food and clothing to offset initial cost of youth moving into home (based on need).
 - Provide community resources as needed:
 - Food banks,
 - food stamps,
 - Medi-Cal,
 - tattoo removal,
 - etc

Phase 2 - Transition

- **Education**
 - High School
 - Help family get youth re-enrolled in school (navigate the system)
 - Relationships with people in the Schools or School Districts
 - Know the laws when schools try to stop youth from re-enrolling
 - Help youth understand benefits of ROP for vocational training
 - Provide financial assistance if needed for school supplies, clothes, and participation in school activities like sports or band, etc.
 - **College or vocational training**
 - Help fill out FAFSA, Pell Grant, Chafee Grant, BOGG waiver, Guardian Scholar Application (if eligible)
 - Personally support youth while connecting to resources on campus like financial aid, EOPS, and Foster Care liaison.
 - Provide financial assistance for books and supplies for 1st semester.

- **Employment**

- Help youth find employment as needed
- Provide resources to local one stop centers, workshops, WIA and IFOSTER for laptop or phone.
- Provide information on Military, CCC & Job Corp

- **Transportation**

- Provide bus passes, help with first 1 prior to County ILSP
- Purchase bike or skateboard
- Occasionally – donated cars can be purchased for minimal cost if youth has a drivers license and the ability to maintain upkeep. Initially insurance is paid for by BR.
- Scholarships can be used to purchase a vehicle if youth has the ability (income) to maintain gas, oil changes, repairs, insurance, etc.

- **Community Resources –**

- Health insurance – Medi-Cal
- Juvenile Record Sealing
- Assistance for youth with children or pregnant partner
- Financial assistance to acquire food and clothing

Phase 3

- Aftercare specialist and BR staff are available by phone whenever needed, forever!
- Aftercare specialist will help with connections to community resources, provide personal contact and financial support based on evaluation of need and making sure the money doesn't create dependency.
 - Homeless youth, graduated 1 year ago, shows up high, hungry, and dirty, with nothing but the clothes on his back.
 - Father who is 25 and has 3 year old with cancer, living in car during winter to stay close to hospital while daughter is in treatment. (older children with mother in law hours away)
 - 30 year old whose mother just died. Lives in another state, taking custody of developmentally delayed sibling, needed financial assistance to take sister and belongings home.

STRTP - Aftercare

- Comprehensive Transition Plan beginning at intake
- Change in perspective - Focus on Permanency not just transition from placement
 - Living arrangement – Plan A,B, and C
 - Family finding to locate multiple options and added support
 - Complete Transition Plan worksheets for each plan with behavioral expectations and budget
 - Aftercare representative as part of CFT to identify needs of the family while youth is in placement to support transition (more coordinated and consistent across program)
 - Aftercare Representative will share with the family what support is available through aftercare

Added Benefits to Aftercare with STRTP

- More family engagement
- Home passes more productive with goals from CFT
- More resources to get family ready for transition
- Clinician to continue individual & family therapy
 - Allows for continued progress and awareness of setbacks
- Added services through Mental Health (IHBS)
 - Mental Health Rehab Specialist continue from cottage
 - Increase visits first few months to support permanency

Aftercare Needs - STRTP

- **Crisis Stabilization** – to enhance Permanency
 - Ability to identify problems before youth reoffend.
 - Youth staying out late
 - Youth hanging with delinquent peers/gang
 - Unsafe environment when youth becomes target of gang
 - Youth not following directions at home
 - Youth not going to school
 - Family not comfortable with youth in their home (fear of youth who is aggressive, abusive and acting out)
 - Provide Brief/Temporary intervention – bring back to placement for weekend or week. Provide individual and group counseling to discuss concerns. Give family a break.
 - CFT to discuss if living arrangement is still viable or if time to look at other identified living arrangements.
- **Consistency between Counties on funding for aftercare.**
- **Aftercare for Northern Counties**