



## **Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Transition to Adult Placement**

### **When should I begin the guardianship process?**

You should work with your Qualified Support Professional(QSP) to begin the adult guardianship process when your youth is 17.5 years old. Your QSP can assist you in understanding the process.

### **When does my child age out of The Hope Institute?**

Youth age out the day before their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday

### **What is PUNS?**

Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services(PUNS) is a form completed with families and the PAS agent that categorizes your need for services as one of the following:

- Emergency-need immediate services
- Critical-need services within 1 year
- Planning for need-need services in 1 to 5 years

PUNS lets DHS know about your need for services.

### **Do I need to be on the PUNS for placement?**

Yes.

### **How do I complete the PUNS?**

The legal guardian must contact their PAS agent and request a PUNS. If the youth lives in a 17D placement at Hope, then the PAS agency would be CISA. If the youth lives in a 19D placement at Hope, then you would contact the PAS agency in your area to request a PUNS. Your QSP can give you the contact information for your local PAS agency.

### **How is a referral made to adult providers?**

Your PAS agent will work with The Hope Institute to send referral packets to the providers you have signed releases of information for.

### **How long does it take to obtain placement?**

Placement is dependent upon vacancies and funding support.

### **What is the difference between Intermediate Care Facility(ICF/DD) and Community Integrated Living Facility (CILA)?**

An ICF/DD is usually a larger facility (16 and above) and can have 24 hours nursing, (though few do).

A CILA is a smaller home consisting of 8 or fewer consumers.

**When should I begin touring providers in the area I want my child to live as an adult?**

Start when the PAS agents send releases. Tour homes when the residents are home after Day Program or on the weekend so you see the home in “action.” We would recommend that you tour local provider facilities a year or more before you are thinking of changing placements so you are aware of what is available in your area, and what type of setting would be the best fit for your young adult.

**What is Day Program?**

Day Program is where the individuals will go during the day. Most Day training centers have work programs and classes to help with different skills such as cooking, arts and crafts, and socialization. They will attend 5 days a week. Day training centers also have work programs, some being in the community if the young adult is qualified to work in the community.

**If my child has a spot in a CILA that has accepted him/her will DHS-DDD then approve funding?**

You will need to apply for funding through your PAS agency.

**Is it easier to get my child placed in an adult residential setting if my child already lives at Hope?**

Yes, when an individual living at Hope turns 22 years old, they must be discharged from Hope. DHS will then consider that young adult as meeting the crisis criteria for placement.

**Can my child get into a CILA without self-help skills?**

Every agency has different criteria for their CILA programs. These vary greatly so you would need to check with that specific program. Not having good self-help skills does not disqualify your child from CILA placement.