

A FRAMEWORK FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY WITHIN FOSTER CARE TRANSITION

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OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH TRANSITIONING OUT OF CARE

2/3 of all children in foster placement

HAVE MENTAL/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS

4.2 MILLION YOUNG ADULTS EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS

1/3 TO 1/4

ARE YOUTH FROM FOSTER CARE

1 OF 2 FOSTER YOUTH

WILL **NOT** HAVE
GAINFUL **EMPLOYMENT**BY AGE 24

22%

of youth transitioning out of care will be incarcerated at age 19

1,703 OF 11,350

REQUIRED
SUBSTANCE USE
TREATMENT AT AGE 19

CURRENT TRANSITION PROCESS & SUPPORTS

- Federal law mandates starting the transition process at a minimum of 90 days prior to the youth turning
 18
- Transition services Include: permanency supports, post-secondary education services/supports, sustainable social capital



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS ROLE

Advocating

- Apply for grants
- Become recognized as qualified mental health practitioners (QMHP)
- Partner with community and academic institutions

PEOP Model

Apply to the:

- Person Level
- Group Level
- Populations Level



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PERSONS LEVEL

- Individualized assessments, interventions and environmental modifications
- Social interaction skills, executive function skills, self advocacy, interpersonal skills for collaborative work environments
- IADLs and life skills training
- Activity patterns and establishing roles and routines

GROUPS LEVEL

OT's along with case
managers, group home staff,
transition team members
could develop screening
resources for specific client
factors or performance skills,
and toolkits for organizations
to improve performance skills

POPULATIONS LEVEL

- Consult with federal and state systems
- Develop a transition model which mirrors the four-year IDEA plan
- Recommend system wide screenings, resources, toolkits, environmental modifications, implement and disseminate evidence of successful programs
- Recommend systems level
 measurement tools that focus on
 performance outcomes of current
 transition programs