

Risks Facing Youth Transitioning Out of Care

Youth who are currently or who have recently transitioned out of the child welfare system are more at risk for negative adverse experiences than their peers, and COVID-19 has only amplified existing issues. Increasing protective factors while youth are in care and after they have aged out will contribute to more positive life outcomes.

Foster Long-Term Connection.



Increase access to programs for youth that last after they have aged out of care, such as mentoring, mental health, and financial support programs.

Ease Access to Services.

Eliminate criteria barriers for receiving mental health support, housing support, and platforms for connection such as technology.



Ease Access to Cultural Programs.

Increase availability of culturally appropriate workers, placements, and programs while youth are in care and after they have transitioned out of care.



Allow Youth to Choose Their Family.

Allow separated siblings to interact in a non-clinical environment. Allow non-blood related long-term mentors to have visitor rights. Remove barriers to having animal companionship while in care, especially in regard to finding housing that allows pets.

Support Youth-Centred Decision Making.

Include youth in the conversation when decisions are being made about them.



Invest in Interests, Talents, and Strengths

Take genuine interest in the passions and talents the youth possesses. Provide opportunities to participate in those activities to increase confidence.



Increase Age Limit

Advocate for increasing the age at which youth age out of care so they may leave their homes more prepared like their peers not from care.