

HOUSING SUPPORT AND RESOURCE

OPTIONS FOR YOUTH 16 AND OLDER

- **Independent Living Help:**
Job & Family Services
449 S. Meridian Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266
Scott Lazzara: (330)297-3748
- **Employment and Case Management:**
Job & Family Services
449 S. Meridian Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266
Carly VanZant (330)297-3719
- **Public Assistance Medicaid:**
Job & Family Services
449 S. Meridian Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266
(330)297-3750
- **Housing Options:**
Portage Area Transitional House (PATH)
5650 South Prospect St. #101, Ravenna, Ohio 44266
(330)296-0024
- **Housing and Emergency Support Services (HESS)**
705 Oakwood St., Ravenna, Ohio 44266
(330)296-1111
- **Jack Kohl Realty-Housing**
141 E. Main St. Ravenna, Ohio 44266
(330)296-9996
- **Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority**
2832 State Route 59 Ravenna, Ohio 44266
(330)297-1489

OTHER RESOURCES:

- **FAFSA.ed.gov:** website for student aid
- **LGBTW Youth:** ItGetsBetter.org
- **Law.capital.edu/FYAC:** Assists with legal documents
- **Making Healthy Choices:** understanding psychotropic medications
- **OhioBenefits.org:** Apply for benefits including Medicaid
- **OhioHigherEd.org:** offers grant money
- **OhioMeansJobs.com:** Search engine to find and apply for jobs
- **OhioRech.Wikispcaes.com:** Assists former foster youth in exploring higher education opportunities
- **PCSAO.org/ohioyouth.htm:** The Ohio Youth Advisory Board- an organization for youth ages 14-24
- **StateVoucher.org:** information regarding Education and Training Voucher Program-offering \$5,000 a year to eligible youth
- **Housing Support and Resource Options:**
Bridgestosucces.jfs.ohio.gov



Job & Family Services

Children Services Location:

446 S. Chestnut Street
Ravenna, Ohio 44266
24/7 Abuse/Neglect Hotline (330)296-CARE
Adoption (330)297-3809
Social Services Supervisor: Scott Lazzara,
Scott.Lazzara@jfs.ohio or (330)297-3748
Independent Living Coordinator: Kate Fahey,
Kate.Fahey@jfs.ohio.gov or (330)221-3578

Public Assistance and Administration Location:

449 S. Meridian Street
Ravenna, Ohio 44266
(330)297-3750

Child Support Location:

209 S. Chestnut Street
Ravenna, Ohio 44266
(330)297-3791

OhioMeansJobs Portage County Location:

253 S. Chestnut Street
Ravenna, Ohio 44266
(330)296-2841

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Closed all major holidays

Director:

Kellijo Jeffries, MSW, LSW

Portage County Board of Commissioners:

Vicki A. Kline, CPA
Kathleen Clyde
Sabrina Christian-Bennett



Independent Living Services

**For youth age 14-21 who are in the
custody of Portage County Children
Services or emancipated foster
youth living in Portage County**



Job & Family Services

Financial services available for Independent Living Youth

Youth must provide vendor sheet, invoice, and/or original receipt to issue payment

- Social & recreation funds: sports, scouting, 4H, cheerleading, pool pass, homecoming attire, etc.
- Camps
- Senior Expenses: Senior pictures, cap and gown, class ring, prom attire (hair not included).

Upon approval, Chafee funds can be used to pay all or a portion of the following support services:

- Over the counter medications
 - Driver's education classes/test costs
 - Furniture
 - Tools/work supplies
 - Uniforms/professional clothing
 - Matching funds (dollar for dollar) with youth's savings for the purchase of an automobile
- (Youth may be asked to research and compare costs before purchasing items)

*NOTE: the maximum lifetime amount of matching independent living funds for purchase of an automobile is \$2,000 and contingent upon agency approval of the overall independent living agreement and service plan. Contingent on having employment and insurance.

All services are subject for approval and may require additional documentation and research. Ask your caseworker if you are unsure prior to making the purchase.

****The youth are responsible in obtaining information, research costs, and provide documentation listing the cost for social and recreational funds, camps, and senior expenses.****

Additional services and funds available to emancipated youth in Portage County:

Emancipated Youth: youth in the agency's legal custody at the time they reach 18 or are between the ages of 18-21 and meet specified criteria are able to utilize additional funds. Funds may be used to pay for the following services:

- Assistance with rent
- Furniture
- Medications
- Other services may be available

*NOTE: Once the youth ages out of foster care and custody has been terminated, they are required to call the Portage County Cares Line, (330)296-CARE, and request Emancipated Youth Services in order to take advantage of Emancipated Youth Services.

Incentive Overview

14 Years old or in the 7th grade and up
For each grading period that youth receive the following GPA, report card must be submitted to social worker for verification.

****It is the youths responsibility to submit the required documents to receive incentives****

GPA	CHECK AMOUNT
2.0-2.49	\$25
2.5-2.99	\$50
3.0-3.49	\$75
3.5+	\$100

Employment, Education, and Savings
Provide the most recent pay stub to your social worker to verify length of employment and receive one of the following:

Employment Retention

3 Months = \$25
6 Months = \$50
9 Months = \$75
12 Months = \$100

Graduation, GED, or Trade

\$500 upon verification of graduation, GED, or trade certificate

Savings Match

Up to \$500 savings match for the minimum dollar amount kept in the Independent Living youth's savings account for an entire six month period. Account must be in the Independent Living youth's name and bank statements must be provided for verification. Matching amount starts over every six months and will not exceed \$500 for each six month period.

****All money received from the incentives must be put into a savings account and cannot be spent without a social workers approval****