



# Independent Living Program

FALL 2023

## NEWSLETTER

Dream Center, 1801 19<sup>th</sup> St.  
Bakersfield, CA 93301  
<http://www.kcdhs.org/ILP/>



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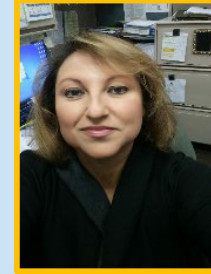
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## *What Is ILP?*

The Independent Living Program (ILP) is a federally funded program that provides services to assist eligible youth (16-18 years of age) in making successful transitions from foster care to independent living. Any youth who were in or are in foster care/probation and placed in out-of-home foster care at any time from their 16<sup>th</sup> to their 18th birthday are eligible for ILP Services. The services are also offered to those youth who qualify for extended foster care (AB 12) from the ages of 18-21. ILP offers a vast amount of services to help youth achieve self-sufficiency prior to exiting foster care. The following are some of those services:

- **Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP) – completed with ILP worker/probation officer every 6-months to explore goals related to self-sufficiency**
- **Education Planning – plan for completion of high school and options for college**
- **College and financial aid application assistance**
- **Community resources that provide career planning, job leads, and resume assistance**
- **Transitional housing for emancipated youth**
- **Emancipation conferences**
- **Life skills**
- **Referrals to resources**
- **Assist youth in opening a savings account**
- **ILP trust fund**
- **Senior packet - cap/gown, etc.**
- **Transportation assistance – bus passes and/or assistance with obtaining a driver’s license**
- **Introduction to California Youth Connection (CYC)**
- **Incentives for ILP participation**
- **Referral to a mentoring program**
- **Assist youth in obtaining their birth certificate, social security card, California Identification Card or California Driver’s License**
- **Assist youth in obtaining access to view their child welfare case file(s)**





## September 2023

### ***Parenting Class***

Date: September 21 st

Time: 4:30pm – 6:00pm

Location: At the Dream Center at 1801 19<sup>th</sup> Street  
& on Microsoft Teams

### ***Tier 1 and Tier 2 Life Skills Classes***

Intake/Orientation:

Date: September 12<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5:00pm-6:00pm

Location: Career Resource Dept. (CRD)-  
2727 F St. Bakersfield, CA 93301

Classes begin on September 19<sup>th</sup> – November 7<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5:00pm – 6:30pm at CRD only

\* **NO Microsoft TEAMS**

## UPCOMING ILP EVENTS

## October 2023

### ***Tier 1 and 2 Classes continue at CRD***

September 19<sup>h</sup> – November 7<sup>th</sup>

from 5:00-6:30 PM

At the Career Resource Department  
at 2727 F. Street Bakersfield, 93301

### ***\*Independent City***

October 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-4:00 PM

At Bakersfield College 1801 Mt. Vernon  
Ave, Bakersfield, Ca  
breakfast and lunch are provided.



## November 2023

### ***Life Skills 101***

Date: November 3<sup>rd</sup>

Time: 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Location: At the Dream Center at  
1801 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Bakersfield, Ca  
& on Microsoft Teams

### ***Budgeting and Paying Bills***

Date: November 15<sup>th</sup>

Time: 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Location: At the Dream Center  
1801 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Bakersfield  
& On Microsoft Teams

**\*All dates, times, and locations are subject to change\***

**Please contact ILP Supervisor Robin Chambers at 661 636-4971 or at [chamber@kerndhs.com](mailto:chamber@kerndhs.com) to register for workshops**





# Dream Center DC

***Located At:***

**1801 19th Street Bakersfield, CA 93301  
Main Phone Number 661-636-4488**

**Collaborative Building-1807 19<sup>th</sup> Street Bakersfield, 93301  
Main Phone Number 661 636-4900**

***Hours of operation- Monday thru Friday from 8:00am – 4:30pm***

- The Dream Center is an innovative resource center for current and former foster youth. Youth can receive assistance with education, employment, Cal-Fresh/Medi-Cal, and community resource needs. Youth can utilize Dream Center services up to the age of 25.
- All current and emancipated youth will find their ILP Workers, Keith Hollins, Maria Escalante, and Tamara Roberts, Edward Wilson, Human Service Aide Vanessa Torres Gamino, Supervisor Robin Chambers and Program Specialist Claudia Cervantes at the Dream Center.
- AB 12 Social Workers, Somphou Siripane, Alberto Arteaga, Ana Ellis, and Lorena Altamirano and Supervisor David Rosales are also located at the Dream Center. *AB 12 Worker Francisco Martinez 661 631-6206 is stationed at DHS located at 100 E. California Ave.*
- The Dream Center is a Condom Access Site for Kern County. Condoms help keep you safe and protected from Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's) and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI's), including unwanted pregnancies.
- Hot food is currently served on Wednesdays Only (Lunch on Us). Snack bags will only be given out when the youth is leaving the center for the day. Limited emergency food can be provided.
- The Dream Center clothing closet offers work attire and everyday wear. Youth can only utilize the clothing closet once a month.
- Youth may wash and dry a load of clothing and/or take a shower onsite. *Laundry products, cleaning supplies and supplies for the shower will be provided.*

**Like the Dream Center on Face book for news and information!**

# Dream Center Updates



## Making Things Happen!

Inspire yourself! The Dream Center is here to help you to be successful at whatever you want to make happen.

- **Enrolled in school or want to enroll?** We can help with enrollment, tutoring, and other support. We also have new backpacks and school supplies. Feeling unsure about school? Come see us about FREE job training programs.
- **Want to get a job?** We can help with your resume, job leads, and paid work experience programs.
- **Want something to do and a way to meet new youth who are making things happen?** Attend Dream Center workshops and activities. Monthly calendars are available at the front desk or visit: <https://kern.org/kcnc/dream-center/>.
- **Turning 18, exiting AB 12 within 6 months, or homeless and need help with housing?** Come explore housing program options with us or see what donated household items we have.

Adulting can be challenging, ask for help! We're here to help to every step of the way. Call us at (661) 636-4488 or come by Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing you soon.





# Services Available at the DC



## Foster Youth Services



### **Tutoring**

Are you having a hard time with your class work and assignments? So you feel like you are falling behind in school? Foster Youth Services Program has got your back! Come study with our friendly tutors from Kern Tutoring for FREE twice a week and catch up. Our tutors will work with you in person at your school or home as well as on Zoom. They will make learning personalized...and fun! Register for tutoring at [bit.ly/kerntutor](https://bit.ly/kerntutor) or by calling 661-636-4900.

### **Peer Support Specialists**

There is a team behind every life goal at the Dream Center! Our Peer Support Specialists, Gennessa Fisher and Brian Johnson, are here to help you find services that are beneficial to you as you near graduation or if you need help making your college dreams happen. They can assist you with applying for college and financial aid, enrolling in vocational school, and finding the right community services to help you with your everyday needs. Gennessa and Brian understand where you are at and where you are going. They are a valuable resource to you as you transition to becoming an adult. Set up an appointment to meet them by calling 661-636-4900.



### **BC at the Dream Center**

Is college in your plans after high school? To help you transition to Bakersfield College (BC), you can meet with an education advisor from the Next UP program here at the Dream Center every Wednesday from 10am to 4pm. You will receive assistance with financial aid and academic advising, register for courses, and get important information about student resources and services. Later times and Zoom appointments are available. Make an appointment by calling at 661-636-4900.



# Services Available at the

DC

Kern County  
Superintendent of Schools  
Office of Mary C. Barlow ...advocates for children

Kern Tutoring

## Academic Support for Students in Foster Care

### In-Person & Online Tutoring




**Now Accepting Referrals**

- Current Students in Foster Care Residing in Kern County
- Available for Grades 4-12
- Experienced & Qualified Tutors
- Up to 40 Hours of Services

**FREE Quality Tutoring**

Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) helps connect students in foster care that need additional academic support with free tutoring resources through Kern Tutoring.

For More Information  
**661-636-4900**  
fosteredcoordinator@kern.org

Refer a student today at:  
[bit.ly/kerntutor](https://bit.ly/kerntutor)  
or  
scan the QR Code



Refer a student who is not not already receiving other tutoring services. Services are based on need and funding availability.



#### 1. Is the tutoring service free?

YES! One-on-one tutoring through FYSCP is free for all Kern County 4th-12th grade students who have an open Dependency court or an open Probation/Delinquency court case, living in a suitable placement. Any school can submit a referral to a school liaison. Once processed, the school liaison will provide us with student's contact information.

#### 2. Who are the tutoring coaches?

Tutors are from Kern Tutoring and are credentialed teachers or trained paraprofessionals. They have years of experience working in the education field with a diverse group of students. There are Spanish-speaking tutors as well. Every tutoring coach has gone through background checks and received training on supporting students who have experienced trauma, foster care, and homelessness.

#### 3. Where does tutoring take place?

Services are designed to be one-on-one in-home tutoring with adult supervision, however, students can also receive tutoring at their school, local library, and the Dream Center. Online tutoring and group tutoring are also options. The tutoring sessions can be held at a student's school, via Zoom, the Dream Center, or at the student's home. At-home services will be held under the supervision of an adult.

#### 4. What to expect after your student's referral is submitted?

Kern Tutoring will contact the caregiver listed within a week for background information about the student's needs and set up a schedule.

#### 5. Can a student get a different tutor if it is not a good match?

Yes, a student can get a different tutor if it is not a good match.

#### 6. How long can a student work with a tutor?

Students may be eligible to receive up to 40 hours of academic support with a review for potential additional hours, which may end before end of the fiscal year (June 30). Coaches will work with your student for an hour, two or three times a week.

#### 7. How will tutoring help my student?

The tutoring program's primary focus is to increase a student's academic achievement. Students will be assisted with homework and/or missing assignments in order to improve their grades. Kern Tutoring coaches create a positive and safe environment to build positive mentoring relationships between them and the foster youth.

#### 8. How do you keep track of a student's growth?

Our primary goal is to keep track of student's academic growth. Student's grades and total of missing assignments are collected. Pre-assessments and post assessments are also gathered about students' performance and progress. The data is being tracked in the beginning of the tutoring program and throughout the end of each month.

#### 9. What happens if a student routinely misses their tutoring session?

A student or supportive adult should always notify a tutor if they are going to miss a session. If a student misses more than three tutoring sessions, coaches are to contact school liaison and inform them of this student. This student may result in being dropped out of the tutoring program. If the student changes their mind, a new referral can be made.

#### Interested?

Please complete the referral at: [bit.ly/kerntutor](https://bit.ly/kerntutor) or call 661-636-4900 for more information.



## Who's New at the DC



**Jeff Jenkins**  
**ILP Administrative Coordinator**  
**661 631-6475**



**Ramona Benevidez**  
**ILP OST**  
**661 636-4995**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

**NORTH KERN**

**DELANO**

Bakersfield College  
Delano Campus  
(661) 720-2024

**WASCO**

Wasco Adult Education Center  
(661) 758-7414

**SOUTH KERN**

**BAKERSFIELD**

Bakersfield Adult School  
"Job Spot"  
(661) 396-4992

**ARVIN**

Arvin High School  
(661) 396-3992

**HOW TO ENROLL AT BC**

- Step 1** Apply
- Step 2** Orientation
- Step 3** Placement
- Step 4** Education Plan
- Step 5** Register for Classes



**Financial Aid Information**

Federal School Code: 001118  
Phone: (661) 395-4428  
Fax: (661) 395-4688  
[bc\\_faid@bakersfieldcollege.edu](mailto:bc_faid@bakersfieldcollege.edu)

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE  
**Student Outreach  
and Academic  
Re-engagement  
(SOAR) Program**

Program funded by  
the Employers Training Resource,  
a Department of the County of Kern.

**BAKERSFIELD  
COLLEGE**



## EOP&S

EOP&S Program

CalWORKs

CARE

Cal-SOAP

Dreamers

Foster and Kinship Care

### Contact us

#### EOP&S Office

CSS Bldg, 2nd floor

**Phone:** 661-395-4351

**Fax:** 661-395-4768

**Email:** [eops@bakersfieldcollege.edu](mailto:eops@bakersfieldcollege.edu)

[EOPS Facebook](#)

#### Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday:

7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Friday:

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



## Extended Opportunities Programs & Services (EOP&S)

### Apply to NextUp!

BC is currently recruiting former and current foster youth to apply to our BC NextUp program. You must be former or current foster youth after your 16th birthday and enrolled in 9 units at BC. If eligible, services include book voucher, counseling services, priority registration, meal vouchers, transportation assistance, and more.

Apply at the EOP&S office in the 2nd floor of the CSS building across from Financial Aid.

### About Our Programs

The Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOP&S) Office, located on the second floor of the Center for Student Success building (CSS) on BC's main campus, offers several programs that provide additional assistance for Bakersfield College students to succeed in college. For more information about any of our programs, email us at [eops@bakersfieldcollege.edu](mailto:eops@bakersfieldcollege.edu)

### EOP&S

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOP&S) is a state funded program that serves educationally and financially disadvantaged students. EOP&S provides services that assist students who have the potential to succeed in college.

Interested in EOP&S? Please check the [EOP&S Eligibility Requirements](#).

### CARE

The Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) Program promotes students' success by offering specialized services to EOPS students who are single parents receiving public assistance (CalWORKs/TANF).

Interested in CARE? Please check the [CARE Eligibility Requirements](#).

### CalWORKs