**AMP**

Achieving Maximum Potential

**WHAT IS AMP?**
AMP is a youth-driven, statewide group that seeks to unleash the full potential for personal growth among foster and adoptive children in Iowa. AMP offers leadership opportunities, service learning projects, speaking opportunities, and educational/vocational assistance. AMP also provides the life skills youth need to become self-sufficient, independent adults.

**WHO ARE AMP YOUTH?**
AMP members are ages 13 and up who have been involved in foster care, adoption or other out-of-home placements.

**WHAT DO AMP YOUTH DO?**
- Train to become advocates for themselves and others.
- Participate in valuable leadership opportunities.
- Develop their voices by telling their own stories.
- Educate legislators, foster parents, the public, child welfare professionals, and juvenile court representatives about foster care and adoption from the youth perspective.

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**IOWA AFTERCARE SERVICES NETWORK:**

**ON YOUR OWN BUT NOT ALONE**

**IASN STATEWIDE SERVICES:**
An average of 450 young people age-out of foster care in Iowa every year. Without intervention, these young adults are at high risk for poor outcomes, including homelessness, unemployment, crime, and poverty. IASN services are designed to help youth successfully transition from foster care to adulthood by providing encouragement, stability, guidance, and the opportunity to build a positive future.

IASN can help if you are age 18, 19 or 20 and:

- Are Iowa residents between 18 and 21 years old.
- Exit foster care*, Iowa State Training School (STS), or a court-ordered Iowa juvenile detention center at age 18 or older, or between 17 ½ and 18 and have been in any combination of care for at least 6 of the previous 12 months.
- Are adopted from foster care or entered a subsidized guardianship arrangement from foster care, on or after their 16th birthday.

**RESOURCES:**
To access resources for the varied topics listed below, please go to [http://www.iowaaftercare.org/Resources.html](http://www.iowaaftercare.org/Resources.html)

- Educational and Vocational
- Employment
- Financial Capability
- Housing
- Life Skills
- Health
- Supportive Relationships and Permanency
- Other Helpful Resources

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*Exit foster care includes anyone who has received foster care services within the past year.*
The Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative® is a systems-change effort that works at the local, state, and national levels to advance policies and practices to most effectively meet the needs of young people transitioning from foster care to adulthood.

The Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative works to ensure that young people ages 14-26—who have spent at least one day in foster care after their 14th birthday—have equitable access to the resources, relationships, and opportunities they need to achieve positive well-being and success as they transition into adulthood.

The Jim Casey Initiative has developed substantive tools and resources, including:

**Keys to Your Financial Future**, a curriculum that helps young people build the financial skills they need to gain financial independence.

**Expectant and Parenting Youth in Foster Care: Systems Leaders Data Toolkit**, a toolkit to assist system leaders in gathering, assessing, sharing, and leveraging data on expectant and parenting youth in foster care.

**Future Savings: The Economic Potential of Successful Transitions from Foster Care to Adulthood**, a report that details the economic potential of investing in better results for young people as they transition from foster care.

**Fostering Youth Transitions**, a publication utilizing the most comprehensive data to fill in key details about young people who have experienced foster care.

**Equity Conversation Guides for Young Leaders and Partners**, a set of four guides that provide step-by-step instructions for facilitators to lead groups of young people in understanding the history of structural racism.

**Brain Frames**, a series of printable handouts that break down The Road to Adulthood report with quick bullets, fact boxes, and sample conversations.

**Brain Gains**, a video that discusses adolescent brain development and ways child welfare systems inhibit or encourage opportunities for a successful transition to adulthood.

**The Road to Adulthood**, a guide that educates adults on how they can do more to ensure the road leaving foster care will take young people to self-sufficiency and successful adulthood.

To access these resources, please click this [link](#):