



Chafee Strengthening Outcomes for Transition to Adulthood

Building Evidence to Support Youth Success

Chafee Strengthening Outcomes for Transition to Adulthood Project Selects Four Programs to Participate in Innovative Evaluation

The Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) has selected four programs to participate in the Chafee Strengthening Outcomes for Transition to Adulthood (Chafee SOTA) evaluation. The Chafee SOTA project is exploring innovative ways to evaluate programs that serve youth transitioning out of foster care, which have historically proven difficult to evaluate with traditional methods.

Following a national call for nominations, evaluability assessments were conducted with eight programs from among those nominated. Four sites were selected for inclusion in the project. The Chafee SOTA evaluation sites are:

- **Great Expectations (Richmond, VA)** is a coaching model implemented by the Virginia Community College System in all 23 community colleges across Virginia for youth with foster care experience. The model provides one-on-one support services and mentoring, education and employment assistance, and support with other needs.
- **Just in Time (San Diego, CA)** is a nonprofit organization providing supports and services to around 2,800 youth with foster care experience per year. Just in Time provides concrete supports, skill-building workshops and programs, individualized coaching, and a sense of connection to a community.
- **My First Place (Oakland, CA)**, implemented by First Place for Youth, provides subsidized housing, intensive case management, education and employment supports to youth aging out of foster care in six California counties. Each participating youth meets regularly with a housing specialist, education and employment specialist, and youth advocate.
- **Works Wonders (Providence, RI)** is an employment program for youth currently or formerly in foster care in Rhode Island, and is implemented by Foster Forward. The program assists young people in increasing their employment and building relational competencies such as self-determination and conflict resolution.

Over the next two years, these four programs will partner with the Chafee SOTA evaluation team, led by Westat and its partner the Kempe Center, to carry out evaluation activities using innovative learning methods tailored to each program's service model. Ultimately, Chafee SOTA aims to develop a portfolio of innovative

learning methods to improve the implementation of promising practices and programs while strengthening the evidence of their effectiveness in supporting successful outcomes for youth transitioning out of foster care. #3E778E

More information from the Chafee SOTA project is available at
www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/project/chafee-strengthening-outcomes-transition-adulthood

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