

## **INDEPENDENT LIVING PROVIDER GUIDELINES**

Being an Orchards Independent Living Provider is a unique roll. It is to each provider's discretion how involved he or she is with the Independent Living youth. For example, a provider who is not residing in the home with the youth may be much less involved than a provider who is living with the youth. The following guidelines are to be referred to when establishing your role as a provider.

### **1. House Rules and Discipline**

1.1. An independent living provider is a different role than a foster parent. A provider is not responsible for the youths actions, therefore, is not responsible for implementing disciplinary action on the youth. Although, it is encouraged for the provider to inform the case worker of any concerning behaviors including but not limited to; school attendance, attitude, sexual behavior, substance abuse, and any other illegal activities

1.2. It is the providers right to establish household rules and/or chores with the youth and the caseworker

1.3. Should the youth repeatedly and/or intentionally disobey household guidelines the provider may request for the youth to be replaced after giving the agency at least 2 weeks notice

1.4. As the youth is preparing for independence the provider is encouraged to teach and support the youth with independent living skills

### **2. Rent and Food**

2.1. During the initial provider assessment the provider is asked to choose between two payments of either \$117.37 every 14 days or \$138.08 every 14 days.

2.2. A payment of \$117.37 assumes rent and utilities are covered for the youth per month

2.3. A payment of \$138.08 assumes rent, utilities, and two meals a day are provided to the youth

2.4. Providing two meals a day does not imply that the provider must prepare and cook for the youth, but that food for two meals a day is available to them in the home

2.5. If the youth provides their own food, sufficient storage space should be made available to them

2.6 Should a change or dispute in food and/or rental payment occur, the provider, youth, and caseworker may further discuss changes in the agreement

### **3. Transportation**

3.1. Transporting the youth is not a requirement for Independent Living providers

3.2. It is to the providers discretion if they choose to accommodate to the youths transportation needs

### **4. Personal Belongings**

4.1. The youth's personal space in the providers home, aside from emergency situations, should not be invaded without the youth or case workers permission

4.2. If the provider sees reason to enter the youths personal space, he or she should contact the youths caseworker the discuss the situation

4.3. The youths personal belongings are not to be used or removed by the provider unless given permission by the youth

4.4. If youth is removed from the home or leaves the home voluntarily, the provider must allow him or her, along with an agency representative, to obtain the youths personal belongings within a 24 hour period of the youths exit from the home

---

Independent Living Home Provider Signature

---

Date

---

Youth Signature

---

Date

---

Independent Living Case Worker Signature

---

Date