



# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT of CHILD SAFETY

November 28, 2023

## Did you know?

- The EFC Success Coach program is a new contracted service that is replacing the standard DCS case management for those 18-21 years old in Extended Foster Care.
- The EFC Coach will meet with the youth to support the DCSS in accomplishing key tasks to prepare for 18: obtaining vital records, behavioral/physical health records, immunization records, school transcripts etc.

## The Transition Plan will address:

- The program's supports and services to be offered
- The young adult's responsibilities including EFC eligibility criteria
- Housing options to include semi-supervised living arrangements if appropriate as to which best meets the young adult's needs
- Health insurance assistance, education planning, opportunities for mentors, employment services, opportunity to attain driver's license, establishing permanent connections, financial literacy, and improving overall health and well-being

## Extended Foster Care Success Coaching Program

### Description of Service

The purpose of the Extended Foster Care (EFC) Coaching program is to provide young adults with intensive, "coach-like" support and case management for young adults 18 and older. The program will ensure permanent connections to caring adults, cognitive and social-emotional competencies (life skills), opportunities for educational programming, and person-centered transition planning so young adults who have experienced foster care have the opportunity to prepare and achieve outcomes equal to or better than non-Foster Care experienced young adults.

### Eligibility Criteria

- Young adults in out-of-home care at 17 years of age or older who have been identified as likely to reach the age of 18 without finding permanency through reunification, adoption or permanent guardianship.
- Young adults who have reached the age of 18 in Arizona Department of Child Safety foster care system who are not yet 21, and who meets the criteria for the EFC program pursuant to section 8-521.02, and signs a voluntary agreement to participate in the program.

### Referral Process

- The Permanency and Youth Services (PYS) unit will submit the referral (CSO-3498) for eligible young adults who are in care at age 17.5 or older.
  - ▶ PYS Unit will assign the young adult to the EFC Success Coach provider agency for ongoing support.
- Youth who are likely to reach permanency prior to 18, will not be referred to the EFC Coaching program, but will be supported in transition planning by the DCSS and the EFC Transition Facilitator.

### DCS Specialist's Role

- Communicate in a collaborative manner with the PYS Unit and the assigned EFC Success Coach to ensure a smooth transition into EFC.
- Communicate with the youth and their supports to ensure their case and transition plan supports their goals.
- Identify key people to invite to the AOM meeting and relay contact information to the EFC Coach.
- Inform [ExtendedFosterCareReview@azdcs.gov](mailto:ExtendedFosterCareReview@azdcs.gov) when a youth's case plan is changing from reunification, adoption or permanent guardianship to EFC.

Intensive case management can also address the following:

- Legal Residency Status
- Justice Involvement Assistance
- Behavioral Health Support
- Serious Mental Illness (SMI)
- Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
- Substance Use
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Parenting/Pregnant
- Career Aptitude Exploration

### PYS Role

- The Transition Facilitator will monitor youth 17.5 to age 18 to identify EFC eligible youth and young adults.
- The Transition Facilitator will submit a referral to the provider for EFC Coaching for eligible youth and young adults.
- The Transition Facilitator will support AOM Meetings for youth as needed.
- The PYS Unit will submit the completed Voluntary Extended Foster Care Agreement and the Addendum Report to the Duty Assistant Attorney General to file a motion with the court.

### EFC Success Coach Role

- The EFC Success Coach will meet with the young adult in collaboration with the DCSS to build rapport and prepare the adult for the AOM/ Transition Plan meeting.
- The EFC Success Coach will work collaboratively with the youth, DCSS, caregiver, Behavioral Health, Juvenile Justice, educational supports, natural supports to assist in transition planning.
- Complete an AOM/ Transition Plan meeting with youth at ages 17.5 and one month prior to their 18th birthday (depending on case plan and date entered care).
- Complete the Voluntary Extended Foster Care Agreement with the youth within 5 days after the youth turning 18 and submit to the PYS Unit.

### Youth Role

- Communicate with DCS, the EFC Success Coach and supports to develop the transition and case plan.
- Communicate strengths, needs, and barriers to DCS and EFC Success Coach to ensure for successful transition and case planning.
- Demonstrate actions that are in alignment with the expectations of the Extended Foster Care Program.

Please email questions to [ExtendedFosterCareReview@AZDCS.gov](mailto:ExtendedFosterCareReview@AZDCS.gov).