



Independent Living Program / Self-Sufficiency Services Annual Report

SFY 2020 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

The Independent Living (IL) program assists youth transitioning from foster care into adulthood, which can include self-advocacy, accessing community resources and supports, daily living skills, and efficiently managing financial resources. Kansas Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) provides for an array of services and supports to youth who are likely to "age out" of the foster care system. Kansas CFCIP services includes Basic Chafee, Subsidy, Start-Up Costs, Vehicle Repair and Maintenance, Transportation Costs, Education and Training Voucher (ETV), and Kansas Foster Child Educational Assistance Act, and Aged Out Medical.

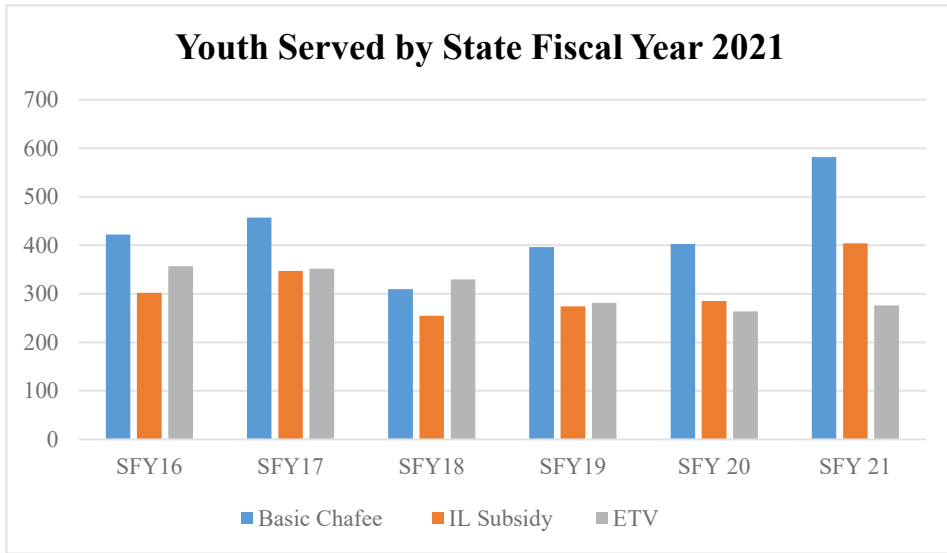
- ❖ Basic Chafee funds are used to help youth with education, employment, financial management, housing and emotional support. Youth must meet Chafee eligibility criteria of: 1) Youth who are in an eligible out of home placement in the custody of DCF, KDOC-JS, or Tribal Authority for any length of time on or after the 14th birthday and 2) Chafee eligibility ends at age 21.
- ❖ Independent Living Subsidy (IL Subsidy) funds are used to assist youth working towards completion of secondary education and/or obtaining/maintaining stable employment. Young adults must meet Subsidy eligibility criteria of: 1) Released from an eligible out of home placement in the custody of DCF, KDOC-JS, or Tribal Authority on or after their 18th birthday and 2) Subsidy eligibility ends at age 21.
- ❖ ETV are available to youth for post-secondary education or certified training program expenses. Youth must meet ETV eligibility criteria of: 1) Youth served by DCF, KDOC-JS, or Tribal Authority currently or previously in foster care for any length of time on or after the 14th birthday, 2) Youth earned a high school diploma or GED, 3) are enrolled in a post-secondary education that is a pre-accredited, accredited, or certified training program, and the youth meets one of many sub-criteria, and 4) Youth can receive ETV supports for a maximum of five years. ETV eligibility ends when a youth turns 26.

This report examines six years of data on youth who received Basic Chafee, IL Subsidy, ETV and/or Kansas Foster Child Education Assistance Act as part of Independent Living/Self-Sufficiency services through Department for Children and Families Prevention and Protection Services between SFY2016-2021.

Executive Summary:

- Independent Living Program served a total of 966 (unduplicated) young adults in SFY2021.
 - ◆ Of the 966 youth, a total of 582 received Basic Chafee funds, 404 received the IL Subsidy and 276 were provided post-secondary educational assistance through ETV. Youth may receive funding through multiple sources based on eligibility and Self-Sufficiency Plans.
- The majority of youth served by the IL Program within SFY2021 were female at 68.0% while 32.0% were male.
- There were 171 Kansas Tuition Waiver new applications in 2021.

Part I: Youth Served in Independent Living/Self-Sufficiency Program

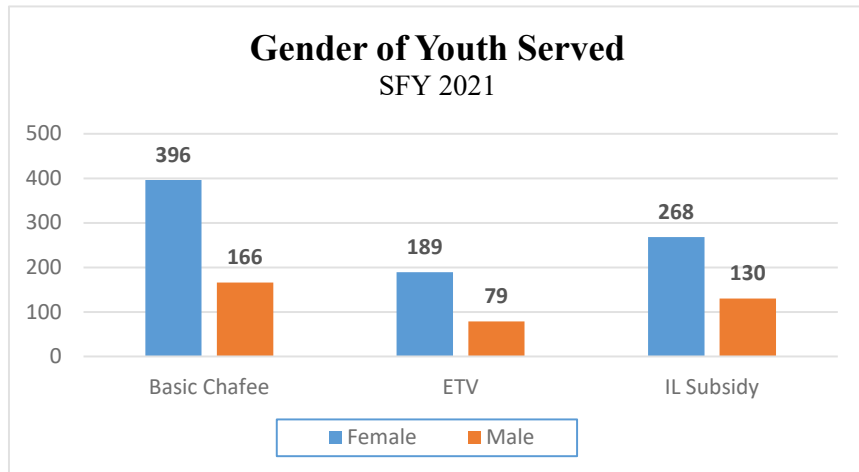
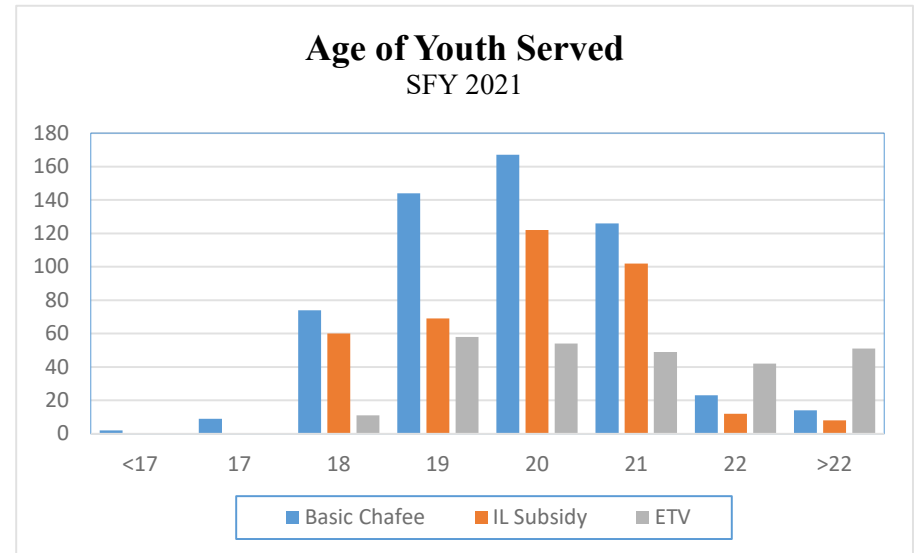


IL/Self-Sufficiency Program Trending over SFYs.

- Basic Chafee youth receiving Chafee funds is 582 for FY2021.
- IL Subsidy youth participation is 404 for FY2021.
- ETV youth participation is 276 for FY2021.

Twenty year olds represented the largest age group for two of the three programs: 1) Basic Chafee - 28.70%; and 2) IL Subsidy - 30.20%.

The majority of youth receiving Basic Chafee funds (56.7%) and IL Subsidy (60.4%) and ETV funding (71.0%) were 20 years or older.



Young adult gender breakdown by IL program include:

- Basic Chafee, 70.46% were female while 29.54% were male.
- ETV, 70.52% were female while 29.48% were male.
- IL Subsidy, 67.34% were female while 32.66% were male.

Part II: Basic Chafee Funds

Basic Chafee activities and programs include, but are not limited to, help with education, employment, financial management, housing, emotional support and assured connections to caring adults for older youth in foster care.

Table 1: Basic Chafee Funds Youth Served SFY2016 - 2021

	SFY2016	SFY2017	SFY2018	SFY2019	SFY 2020	SFY 2021
Young Adults Served	422	457	310	396	403	582
Payment Totals	\$294,029	\$308,762	\$206,660	\$209,945	\$213,428	\$678,728
Annual Average per Young Adult	\$696.75	\$675.63	\$666.65	\$530.17	\$529.60	\$1,166.20

Table 2: Basic Chafee Funds Youth Served by Region SFY2016 - 2021

	SFY2016		SFY2017		SFY2018	
East	118	28.0%	108	23.6%	57	18.4%
Kansas City	102	24.2%	84	18.4%	64	20.6%
West	70	16.6%	105	23.0%	96	31.0%
Wichita	132	31.3%	160	35.0%	93	30.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	422	100%	457	100%	310	100%
	SFY2019		SFY2020		SFY2021	
East	115	29.0%	86	21.3%		
Kansas City	75	18.9%	71	17.6%		
West	50	12.6%	66	16.4%		
Wichita	156	39.4%	180	44.7%		
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
Total	396	100%	403	100%		

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Part III: Independent Living Subsidy (IL Subsidy)

IL Subsidy is short-term assistance between the youth (ages 18 up to 21) and IL program. Youth shall be working towards completion of secondary education and/or obtaining/maintaining stable employment. The youth will be expected to work with his/her mentor (if assigned) and IL Coordinator to achieve the identified self-sufficiency goal. IL Subsidy is funded through the CFCIP. Youth's financial need and participation in the program are criteria for financial support which shall not exceed \$350.00 per month.

In SFY2018, IL program updated IL Subsidy policy to provided a tiered approach to target vulnerable youth transitioning from foster care towards independence.

Tier 1: Months 1-12 100% of subsidy based on need (PPS 7000A)

Tier 2: Months 13-18 90% of initial subsidy amount

Tier 3: Months 19-24 80% of initial subsidy amount

Tier 4: Months 25-36 70% of initial subsidy amount

Table 3: Independent Living Subsidy Youth Served SFY2016 - 2021

	SFY2016	SFY2017	SFY2018	SFY2019	SFY2020	SFY2021
Young Adults Served	302	347	255	274	285	404
Payment Totals	\$510,808	\$551,284	\$406,034	\$387,525	\$411,512	\$1,030,950
Annual Average per Young Adult	\$1,691.42	\$1,588.71	\$1,592.29	\$1,414.32	\$1,443.90	\$2,551.86

Table 4: Independent Living Subsidy Youth Served by Region SFY2016 - 2021

	SFY2016		SFY2017		SFY2018	
East	82	27.2%	68	19.6%	42	16.5%
Kansas City	97	32.1%	100	28.8%	75	29.4%
West	69	22.8%	89	25.6%	65	25.5%
Wichita	54	17.9%	90	25.9%	73	28.6%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Statewide	302	100%	347	100%	255	100%
	SFY2019		SFY2020		SFY2021	
East	76	27.7%	86	30.2%		
Kansas City	83	30.3%	93	32.6%		
West	55	20.1%	61	21.4%		
Wichita	60	21.9%	45	15.8%		
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
Statewide	274	100%	285	100%		

KEES Error - Are records that missing INF45 data due to KEES programming errors so we are unable to determine the expenditure code and sometimes the region of the expense. Budget is working with KEES and SMART Programmers to get this corrected.

Part IV: ETV

The ETV program provides youth who meet eligibility criteria with post secondary support. Criteria includes completion of Self-Sufficiency Plan, ETV Program Plan documenting all post secondary educational costs, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and successful submission of three scholarship applications. To receive financial support youth shall attend accredited public, private or non-profit post-secondary school or training programs in or out of state. ETV funds may be used to pay for education related costs including room and board, books, materials or tutoring. All ETV Plans shall begin July 1 and end June 30 of each year. Youth can receive ETV supports for a maximum of five years. ETV eligibility ends when a youth turns 26.

Table 5: ETV Youth Served SFY2016 – 2021

	SFY2016	SFY2017	SFY2018	SFY2019	SFY2020	SFY2021
Young Adults Served	357	352	330	281	264	276
Payment Totals	\$796,528	\$695,789	\$520,596	\$437,620	\$437,620	\$1,046,850
Annual Average per Young Adult	\$2,231.17	\$1,976.67	\$1,577.56	\$1,557.37	\$1,657.65	\$3,792.93

Table 6: ETV Youth Served by Region SFY2016 - 2021

	2016		2017		2018	
East	95	26.6%	73	20.7%	62	18.8%
Kansas City	84	23.5%	97	27.6%	95	28.8%
West	93	26.1%	97	27.6%	86	26.1%
Wichita	83	23.2%	85	24.1%	87	26.4%
Out-of-State Education	2	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	357	100%	352	100%	330	100%
	2019		2020		2021	
East	66	23.5%	58	22.0%		
Kansas City	85	30.2%	66	25.0%		
West	54	19.2%	56	21.2%		
Wichita	76	27.0%	83	31.4%		
Out-of-State Education	0	0.0%	0	0.0%		
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	1	0.4%		
Total	281	100%	264	100%		

KEES Error - Are records that missing INF45 data due to KEES programming errors so we are unable to determine the expenditure code and sometimes the region of the expense. Budget is working with KEES and SMART Programmers to get this corrected.

Part V: Kansas Foster Care Educational Assistance Act Program (Tuition Waiver)

The Kansas Tuition Waiver Program waives tuition and required fees at state educational institutions in Kansas, including vocational-technical schools, community colleges, and state universities. Youth who are eligible to apply for the Kansas Foster Child Educational Assistance Act are enrolled in a Kansas educational institution and meet one of the following:

- i. In the custody of DCF and in a foster care placement on the date the youth attained 18 years of age; or
- ii. Released from custody of DCF prior to attaining 18 years of age, after having graduated from high school or fulfilled the requirements for a GED while in foster care placement and the custody of DCF; or
- iii. Adopted from a foster care placement on or after the youth's 16th birthday; or
- iv. Left a foster care placement subject to a permanent custodianship or guardianship under chapter 38 or 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated on or after the youth's 16th birthday.

In order to remain eligible for participation in the program, youth shall remain in good standing at the Kansas educational institution where the youth is enrolled and shall make satisfactory progress toward completion of the requirements of the educational program.

Eligibility for Kansas Foster Child Education Assistance service component ends at the conclusion of the semester during which the youth attains 23 years of age

Table 7: Tuition Waiver data from 2016 - 2021

Initial Semester of Participation	# of Applications Approved for Tuition Waiver					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Spring	72	82	81	53	46	1
Summer	32	23	29	33	9	10
Fall	186	239	244	192	183	160
Total	290	344	354	278	238	171