



Independent Living Program / Self-Sufficiency Services Annual Report

SFY 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

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.

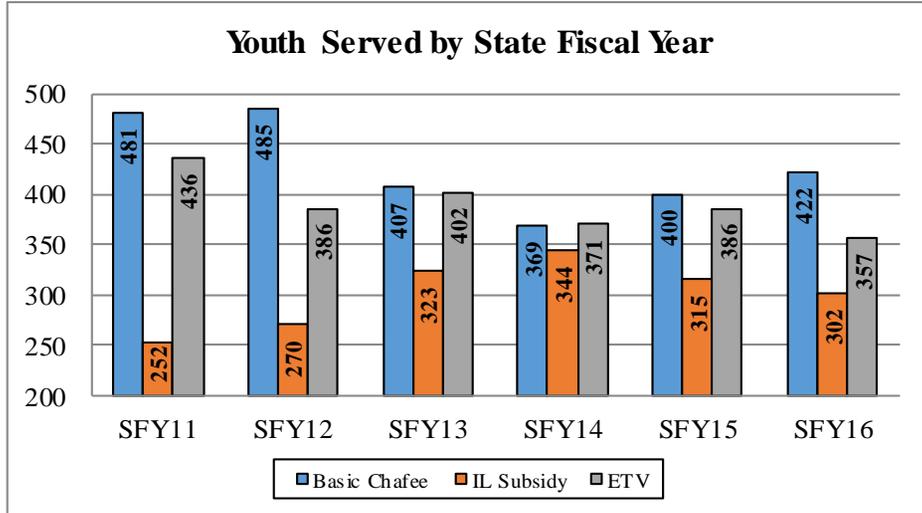
- ❖ Basic Chafee funds are used to help youth with education, employment, financial management, housing and emotional support. Youth must meet Chafee eligibility criteria of: 1) Youth who are in an eligible out of home placement in the custody of DCF, KDOC-JS, or Tribal Authority for any length of time on or after the 15th 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 15th 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 continue to receive ETV supports until age 23 if a student is in good standing at age 21. ETV eligibility will end at age 23.

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 SFY2011-2016.

Executive Summary:

- Independent Living Program served a total of 795 (unduplicated) young adults in SFY2016.
 - ◆ Of the 795 youth, a total of 422 received Basic Chafee funds, 302 received the IL Subsidy and 357 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 SFY2016 were female at 68.7% while 31.3% were male.
- In SFY2016, Basic Chafee, IL Subsidy and ETV total payments increased compared to SFY2015.
- Kansas Tuition Waiver new applications increased compared to SFY2015.

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

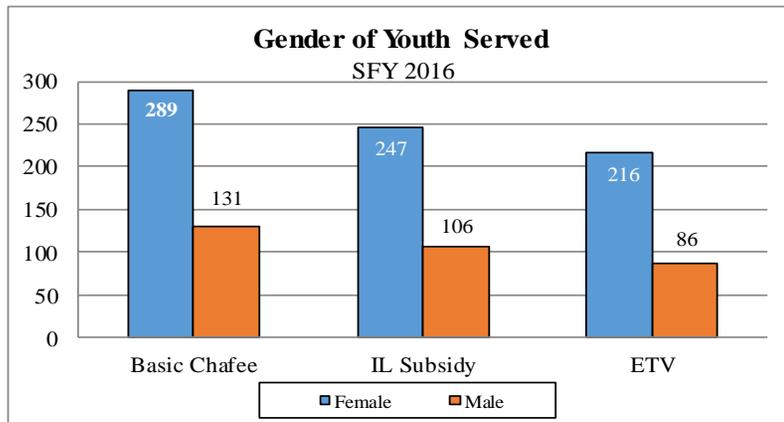
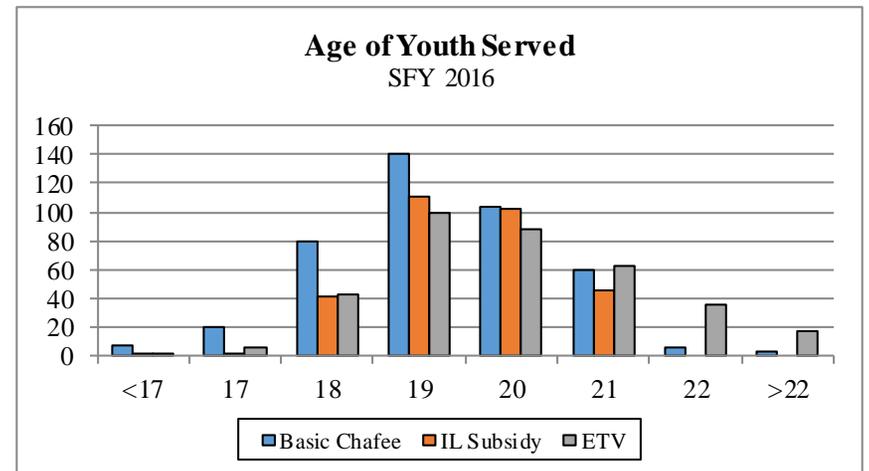


IL/Self-Sufficiency Program Trending over SFYs.

- Basic Chafee youth receiving Chafee funds increased 5.5% from 400 in SFY2015 to 422 in SFY2016.
- IL Subsidy youth participation has held steady since SFY2011 with an all-time high involvement of 436, to 302 in SFY2016.
- ETV youth participation have varied since SFY2011 with an all-time high involvement of 436, to 357 in SFY2016.

The largest percentage of young adults served by Basic Chafee, ETV and the IL Subsidy were 19 year olds (33.2% of youth served by Basic Chafee, 27.9% of youth served by ETV, and 36.8% of youth served by the IL Subsidy).

The majority of youth receiving Basic Chafee funds (58.3%) and IL Subsidy (51%) were under the age of 20; while the majority of youth receiving ETV funding (56.9%) were 20 years or older.



Young adult gender breakdown by IL program include:

- Basic Chafee, 68.48% were female while 31.04% were male.
- IL Subsidy, 71.52% were female while 28.48% were male.
- ETV, 69.58% were female while 29.86% 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 SFY2011 - SFY2016

In SFY 2016, the Basic Chafee incurred a total payment of \$294,028.81 across 422 youth averaging an annual payment of \$696.75 per youth. In comparison of SFY 2015 to SFY 2016, Basic Chafee payment total has increased by 22.4% while the program participants increased by 5.5%.

	SFY2011	SFY2012	SFY2013	SFY2014	SFY2015	SFY2016
Young Adults Served	481	485	407	369	400	422
Payment Totals	\$378,423.44	\$312,569.62	\$304,936.78	\$226,249.30	\$240,147.71	\$294,028.81
Annual Average per Young Adult	\$786.74	\$644.47	\$749.23	\$613.14	\$600.37	\$696.75

Table 2: Basic Chafee Funds Youth Served by Region SFY2011 - SFY2016

The East and Wichita Regions served the largest percentages of young adults receiving Basic Chafee funds in SFY2016.

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
East	113	23.50%	110	22.70%	98	24.10%	108	29.30%	119	29.80%	118	27.96%
Kansas City	104	21.60%	117	24.10%	119	29.20%	99	26.80%	80	20.00%	102	24.17%
West	104	21.60%	114	23.50%	77	18.90%	58	15.70%	84	21.00%	70	16.59%
Wichita	139	28.90%	144	29.70%	113	28.70%	104	28.20%	117	29.20%	132	31.28%
Unable to Determine	21	4.40%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Total	481	100.00%	485	100.00%	407	100%	369	100%	400	100%	422	100%

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 SFY2016, 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 SFY2011 - SFY2016

In SFY2016, 302 youth received services through the IL Subsidy, contained a total payment of \$294,028.81 averaging an annual payment of \$1,691.42 per youth. In comparison of SFY 2015 to SFY 2016, IL Subsidy payment total has increased by 7% while the program participants decreased by 4.1%.

	SFY2011	SFY2012	SFY2013	SFY2014	SFY2015	SFY2016
Young Adults Served	264	270	323	344	315	302
Payment Totals	\$362,965.26	\$398,895.67	\$494,460.13	\$546,087.67	\$477,439.00	\$510,808.00
Annual Average per Young Adult	\$1,374.87	\$1,477.39	\$1,530.84	\$1,587.46	\$1,515.68	\$1,691.42

Table 4: Independent Living Subsidy Youth Served by Region SFY2011 - SFY2016

	2011	Percent	2012	Percent	2013	Percent	2014	Percent	2015	Percent	2016	Percent
East	79	29.90%	58	21.50%	107	33.10%	124	36.00%	82	26.00%	82	27.15%
Kansas City	49	18.50%	52	19.30%	78	24.20%	80	23.30%	95	30.20%	97	32.12%
West	82	31.10%	92	34.10%	84	26.00%	78	22.70%	87	27.60%	69	22.85%
Wichita	43	16.30%	56	20.70%	54	16.70%	62	18.00%	51	16.20%	54	17.88%
Unable to Determine	11	4.20%	12	4.40%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Statewide	264	100%	270	100%	323	100%	344	100%	315	100%	302	100%

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 continue to receive ETV supports until age 23 if a student is in good standing at age 21. ETV eligibility will end when youth reaches 23.

Table 5: ETV Youth Served SFY2011 – SFY2016

In SFY2016, 357 youth received services through the ETV services, incurred a total payment of \$796,527.66 averaging an annual payment of \$2,231.17 per young adult. In comparison of SFY 2015 to SFY 2016, ETV payment total has increased by 6.7% while the program participants decreased by 7.5%.

	SFY2011	SFY2012	SFY2013	SFY2014	SFY2015	SFY2016
Young Adults Served	436	386	402	371	397	357
Payment Totals	\$620,675.63	\$645,509.35	\$728,235.63	\$715,719.09	\$746,486.36	\$796,527.66
Annual Average per Young Adult	\$1,423.57	\$1,672.30	\$1,811.53	\$1,929.16	\$1,880.32	\$2,231.17

Table 6: ETV Youth Served by Region SFY2011 - SFY2016

Regional distribution of youth served continues to fluctuate, with the East Region serving a slightly larger percentage in SFY2016 than the other regions.

	2011	Percent	2012	Percent	2013	Percent	2014	Percent	2015	Percent	2016	Percent
East	93	21.30%	83	21.50%	99	24.60%	106	28.60%	99	24.90%	95	26.61%
Kansas City	116	26.60%	92	23.80%	102	25.40%	100	26.90%	100	25.20%	84	23.53%
West	100	22.90%	92	23.80%	85	21.10%	76	20.50%	118	29.70%	93	26.05%
Wichita	108	24.80%	118	30.60%	116	28.90%	89	24.00%	80	20.20%	83	23.25%
Out-of-State Education	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.56%
Unable to Determine	19	4.40%	1	0.30%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Total	436	100%	386	100%	402	100%	371	100%	397	100%	357	100.00%

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 SFY2011 - SFY2016

In SFY2016, 278 new applications were approved for the Tuition Waiver Program. This is a 19.3% increase over the number of new applications approved for the Tuition Waiver in SFY2015.

Initial Semester of Participation	# of Applications Approved for Tuition Waiver					
	SFY11	SFY12	SFY13	SFY14	SFY15	SFY16
Fall	175	184	170	166	186	183
Spring	80	61	69	62	62	72
Summer	36	29	28	26	39	32
Total	291	274	267	254	287	287