NATIONAL MODELS OF TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Central Kansas Dream Center is scheduled to open in March 2014. They plan to accept 25 former foster care youth ages 18-21 into the program, providing a safe home-like environment where they learn skills necessary for the successful transition to independent living. Youth will be provided with housing, utilities, meals, social activities and spiritual support, staying as long as they need the additional support. Youth will participate in 35 hours of training per week, including school, employment, on-site mentors and financial instruction.

Delaware's Life Lines Housing Programs serve current and former foster care youth between ages 16-23. Youth participants are connected with educational and training endeavors, financial education, medication management, employment placement assistance, mental health services, and general life skills instruction. Their programming is specially designed to help youth become self sufficient, contributing members of society.

StarVista in California provides a transitional housing placement program for emancipated foster youth, ages 18-24. The program includes safe and stable housing, and caring counselors offer mental health counseling and basic life-skills training that helps youth learn to manage their finances, pursue their education, and obtain jobs. Youth who graduate from the program are assisted in finding secure housing.

Vermont provides Transitional Housing Funds to young adults who aged out of foster care at 18 but are not yet 21 years of age. Up to $1500 per year is available to help with room and board, which is defined as rent, rent deposits, or boarding arrangements that include meals as a part of the rent. Utility costs are not included in this fund, but may be paid from other funds for which the youth is eligible. Funding is intended to help youth move into and maintain housing. Youth are also provided with transitional services.