

# Resource Guide for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care

## Crime Victims Compensation

If you or your family members are innocent victims of a violent crime, financial assistance may be available. The Ohio Attorney General's Office pay for a wide range of expenses such as medical counseling bills, work loss, and funeral expenses. The Ohio Attorney General's Office generally can't pay for lost property expenses. Please visit: <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Apply-for-Victims-Compensation> for more information on how to file a new claim or manage an existing claim.

Who may be eligible to receive a payment:

- Dependents of homicide victims.
- Victims injured as result of violent crime.
- Claimants responsible for crime victims' expenses, such as parents or guardians

## Checklist for Youth Aging Out

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Contact | <input type="checkbox"/> Current Medical History               | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security Card        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Records                       | <input type="checkbox"/> High School Diploma or GED  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Insurance  | <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Information for Medical Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Buss Pass or Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> Government Issued Photo ID            |  |

## EDUCATION

### Cuyahoga Valley Career Center

Free adult classes to work on reading, math, and writing, GED Prep  
(440.526.5200, [cvccworks.edu/adult-education](http://cvccworks.edu/adult-education))

### Polaris Career Center

Job and career training programs, continuing education, GED classes  
(440.891.7600, [polaris.edu/o/pcc/page/adult-education](http://polaris.edu/o/pcc/page/adult-education))

### Seeds of Literacy

GED and high school equivalency classes with 1 on 1 tutoring sessions  
(216.661.7950, [seedsofliteracy.org/who-we-are/about-us](http://seedsofliteracy.org/who-we-are/about-us))

### ASPIRE Greater Cleveland

GED and citizenship test preparation, adult programs, bridging to work or education support  
([cuyahogalibrary.org/services/adult-education/aspire-greater-cleveland](http://cuyahogalibrary.org/services/adult-education/aspire-greater-cleveland))

### Tri-C Scholars Mentoring Program

Pairs students with a faculty member to provide encouragement, emotional support and connection to College resources  
([tri-c.edu/student-resources/reach-youth-scholars.html](http://tri-c.edu/student-resources/reach-youth-scholars.html))

College Now Greater Cleveland  
Scholarships and financial assistance  
([collegenowgc.org](http://collegenowgc.org))

CSU Sullivan-Deckard Scholarship Opportunity Program  
Provides an opportunity for highly motivated youth who are aging out of foster care to pursue an undergraduate degree  
(<https://www.csuohio.edu/prattcenter/sullivan-deckard-scholarship-opportunity-program-0>)

### Kevin O'Boyle Scholarship Fund

Helping local college or vocational-school bound former foster youth continue their education and training in preparation for an independent and stable adulthood  
([cfadvocates.org/scholarship-fund](http://cfadvocates.org/scholarship-fund))



## JOB TRAINING

### Ohio Means Jobs

Resume help, interview practice, employment programs, job search, online training, job skills training, apprenticeships  
(ohiomeansjobs.ohio.gov)

### Youth Opportunities Unlimited

Employment programs, research center, internships  
(youcle.org)

## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

### Care Alliance Health Center

Medical, dental, behavioral care for all  
(216.535.9100, carealliance.org/)

Alcohol, Drug, Addiction, and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County  
(216.241.3400, adamhscc.org/resources/finding-help)

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 988  
Cuyahoga County Hotline: 216.623.6888  
Ohio Crisis Text Line: Hello to 741741

## LIVING ASSISTANCE

### Greater Cleveland Food Bank

Community resources and market, food assistance  
(216.738.2067)

### Twice Blessed Free Store

Clothing, household items, toiletries  
(9900 Madison Avenue, Cleveland, 440.331.7676)

### Benefits.ohio.gov

Apply for Medicaid, food and cash assistance, and energy assistance

### BRIDGES

Housing, education, employment, and well-being. Eligible if under 21 and if you left the Ohio foster care system at age 18, 19 or 20.  
(614.656.6328; ne.region@cfhcoho.org)

## HOUSING

### Fill this House

Providing household needs to foster aging out of foster care  
(216.633.2448, fillthishouse.org)

### Frontline Services

Emergency housing and shelters, permanent supportive housing, eviction support  
(216.623.6555, frontlineservice.org)

### Independence Place (YWCA)

Permanent supportive housing for young adults  
(216.674.6700,  
<https://www.ywcaofcleveland.org/independence-place-nia>)

## OTHER RESOURCES

### Youth Navigator Network (ynn.ohio.gov)

Provides access to resources, one on one support with housing, basic needs, food, shelter, education, forms/processes

### Pathway Caring for Children (800.838.7284)

Individual and group-work with those ages 14-21 to develop goals like meal prep, paying bills, job interviewing, college applications, home maintenance, and more

### United Way 211 (Chat on 211oh.org or Dial 2-1-1)

Free and confidential 24- hour access to a compassionate professional who will review your options for help, develop a plan and act as your advocate if you are faced with barriers to service

### LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland (216.651.5428)

Health and wellness programs, queer youth programs, community groups, trans wellness, training programs

### The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland (lasclev.org, 888-817-3777)

Civil legal services in permanent custody, planned permanent living arrangement, and recently aged out of foster care

### Ohio Reach (ohioreach.org)

Supporting foster youth reaching for higher education

