

Michigan Resources for Transition-Aged Youth who were Adopted or in a Guardianship

The Michigan Resources for Transition-Aged Adopted and Guardian Youth provides information primarily to applicable youth, though this document may benefit parents and/or caregivers as well. Resources, descriptions, and contact information are listed for areas such as medical coverage, higher education funding, employment, transitional housing programs, and substance abuse. It is our hope that applicable youth benefit from this document and take advantage of the unique opportunities, services, and funding that are available.

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*This resource guide was created by the Michigan Adoption Oversight Committee's Post Adoption Workgroup.
Please contact the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange if you would like a printed copy mailed to you.*

Michigan Resources for Transition-Aged who were Adopted or in a Guardianship

Post Adoption Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
Post Adoption Resource Centers	Post Adoption Resource centers are statewide and provide supportive services for adoptive/guardian families and individuals under the age of 21 who were adopted from Michigan's foster care system or through an international or a direct consent/ direct placement adoption while living in the state of Michigan or who were placed in a guardianship from Michigan's foster care system and who are eligible for Michigan's guardianship assistance program. Services include support, education, training, advocacy, information, service coordination with service and case management services.	www.michigan.gov/mdhhs Go to: http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs , Adult and Children's Services, Adoption, Post-Adoption Parent Resources, Post-Adoption Resource Centers
Central Adoption Registry and Adoption Records	The Central Adoption Registry maintains adoptee, former parent and adult former sibling statements providing consent or denial for the release of identifying information and contact information. Department within MDHHS where an adult adoptee would request information from their closed adoption records.	Connie S. Stevens 235 S. Grand Ave., Suite 514 PO Box 30037 Lansing MI 48909 517-335-6075 Fax: 517-335-6177 http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73971_7116_7125_7656-287404--,00.html
Medical Coverage Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)	Healthcare available to children and some adults with special and/or chronic health care needs. Eligibility is determined by residency status, citizenship, age, and the existence of a qualifying medical condition. There is a fee (based on income) to join CSHCS, which is waived if the child is covered by Medicaid or MICHild. The website provided gives instructions on how to apply for coverage.	https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs 800-359-3722 Email: cshcsfc@michigan.gov Go to: https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs , Assistance Programs, Children's Special Health Care Services Your local CSHCS office may be contacted by using the following list of Michigan locations: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/2015_CONTACTSATAGLAN_CE-9-2-15_499030_7.pdf
Medical Coverage	This website explains the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), which ensures that adopted youth enrolled in Medicaid on their	https://www.clasp.org/

	18th birthday (or the date of aging out in a particular state if later than age 18) are eligible for Medicaid until they turn age 26.	
Education Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
IEP's to 504 Plans	<p>The Michigan Alliance for Families is a statewide resource to connect families to resources to help improve their child's education. Every staff member is a parent or family member of an individual with a disability, who is able to help a parent with resources and advocacy.</p> <p>The Understood.org website provides information in regards to 504 plans.</p> <p>The Office for Civil Rights may be contacted with any questions pertaining to students with disabilities.</p> <p>State and federal laws guarantee Michigan children with disabilities the right to attend school with the services and supports necessary to help them learn and grow. Disability Rights Michigan has resources that explain the laws and how to get the services the law requires.</p> <p>The Office of Special Education (OSE) has developed the following awareness documents and training materials for the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Development Process.</p>	<p>http://www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/</p> <p>https://www.understood.org/articles/en/504-plans-your-questions-answered</p> <p>U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Bldg. 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202-1100 800-421-3481 Email: ocr@ed.gov Web site: https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html</p> <p>Disability Rights Michigan https://www.drnich.org/services/</p> <p>Michigan MDE Special Education https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6598---,00.html</p>
Higher Education Funding and Resources		
Financial Aid	This is a link to the website that has comprehensive information about student financial aid. It includes information about TIP and ETV.	http://www.michigan.gov/fyit/0,4585,7-240-44289---,00.html
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	This website provides information about and access to complete the FAFSA, which is required for all higher educational institutions and applies to undergraduate and graduate programs of study. Applications may be submitted starting in January of each year. From the financial information submitted on your FAFSA, your expected financial	<p>https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa Go to: Enter a new FAFSA and provide information 1-800-433-3243</p>

	contribution and eligibility for financial assistance (loans and grants) is calculated.	
Tuition Incentive Program of Michigan (TIP)	<p>Provides tuition assistance for the first two years of college education. Students must be enrolled in courses leading to an associate degree or certificate at a participating Michigan institution.</p> <p>Students must apply prior to earning their high school diploma or GED and must meet a Medicaid eligibility history requirement. Students with financial need are given preference so completing the FAFSA (see above) is highly encouraged.</p> <p>The first link provides a general overview of the program and the second gives more detailed eligibility and deadline information.</p>	<p>TIP site https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/0,4636,7-372--481218--00.html</p> <p>The Office of Student Scholarships and Grants https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/</p> <p>Tuition Incentive Program Student Scholarships and Grants P.O. Box 30462, Lansing MI 48909-7962 Toll-free: 888-447-2687 Fax: 517-241-5835 Email: mistudentaid@michigan.gov</p>
Michigan Education and Training Voucher (ETV)	<p>The ETV program allows Michigan to provide up to \$5,000 per year to a student in an accredited program such as: College /Trade School /University.</p> <p>If a youth is adopted, the adoption needs to have been finalized after the youth's 16th birthday, therefore a youth in foster care on or after their 14th birthday, but adopted before turning 16 is not ETV eligible.</p>	<p>https://mietv.samaritas.org</p> <p>Samaritas 729 W. Michigan Ave., Suite 200, Jackson MI 49201 Phone: 877-660-METV Fax: 517-789-6809 Contact person: Tanya Maki</p>
Scholarship Opportunities	<p>The first website displays twenty-five scholarships specifically for children adopted from foster care. Eligibility requirements and deadlines vary for each. Some scholarships only apply to universities in particular states while others may be paid to any university in the U.S.</p> <p>The additional website listed offers scholarships which, although not specifically developed for children adopted from foster care, offer many additional opportunities to receive higher education funding.</p> <p>Additional scholarships are usually offered through most universities; check their websites for more information.</p>	<p>www.top10onlinecolleges.org</p> <p>Additional resources for scholarships: www.fastweb.com www.finaid.org www.scholarships.com www.cappex.com www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org</p>

Fostering Futures Scholarship	This scholarship applies to individuals who entered the foster care system as a result of abuse and/or neglect on or after their 13 th birthday. Youth who were adopted after the age of 13 still qualify for this scholarship. These funds apply to undergraduate programs only and the student must be attending at least half-time. The student must also maintain satisfactory academic progress to retain these funds and there is no upper age limit for applying.	https://www.michigan.gov/setwithmet/0,4666,7-374-87551_61346---,00.html 1-888-447-2687
Fostering Success Michigan	Fostering Success Michigan is a statewide initiative that aims to increase awareness, access, and success in higher education and post-college careers for youth and alumni of foster care.	www.fosteringsuccessmichigan.com 1615 S Telegraph Rd Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 248-716-0931
Campus-Based Support Programs	Many colleges throughout the state of Michigan have programs geared toward helping students who have experienced foster care. Some youth who have been adopted or placed in guardianship after the age of 14 are eligible for these programs.	www.fosteringsuccessmichigan.com
Vocational, Technical, and Trade School Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
Michigan Career and Technical Institute (MCTI)	MCTI provides vocational and technical training programs to those with disabilities. A list of vocational and technical training programs is provided on the website listed.	https://www.michigan.gov/leo/0,5863,7-336-94422_96832---,00.html Michigan Career and Technical Institute 11611 Pine Lake Road, Plainwell MI 49080 269-664-4461
Employment Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
Michigan Works!	This employment service matches job seekers with opportunities available. On this site you can search for locations based on zip code and from there find contact information for each office in your area. You can also create or update your resume and search for available positions.	www.michiganworks.org 800-285-9675
Online Databases & Phone Apps	The website provides a list of online employment search tools that also function as phone applications. All websites allow you to search for open positions near you.	https://www.topresume.com/career-advice/job-search-apps

Higher Education Institutions	Universities and community colleges post open positions on their websites.	emich.edu umich.edu wmich.edu wccnet.edu
Military & Job Corp Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
Michigan Youth Challenge Academy	This no-cost program is offered to males and females ages 16-18 who meet the following criteria: -High school dropouts/potential dropouts. -U.S. citizen or legal resident of the U.S. and resident of Michigan. -Not currently on parole or probation for anything other than juvenile status offenses. -All court cases must be closed and not convicted of a felony. -Cannot be court ordered to the program. -Free from the use of illegal drugs and tobacco. Benefits to completing the 17.5 month, two-phase program are listed on the website provided.	https://www.michigan.gov/myca Michigan Youth Challenge Academy 5500 Armstrong Road Bldg. 13 Battle Creek, MI 49037-7314 800-372-0523
AmeriCorps	The Michigan DHS project centers on developing programs for older foster youth that prepare them for adult self-sufficiency. Mentoring and volunteer programs are in place which support community involvement and socialization skills. Housing education and resources are being developed which support youth attaining and maintaining housing, which decreases foster youth leaving care and becoming homeless.	https://americorps.gov/serve 1-800-942-2677
Housing Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
Housing Assistance	Information regarding housing assistance and shelter programs for homeless and runaway youth in Michigan can also be found on the Youth in Transition website under the housing tab.	http://www.michigan.gov/fyit/0,4585,7-240-44293---,00.html
Foster Care Alumni of Michigan	Foster Care Alumni of American's website provides a list of housing resources for Michigan youth formerly from foster care who are aging out of the system. The list includes transitional, independent living, and mentoring programs. Housing may be short-term or long-term and some programs offer additional assistance such as counseling, employment searches, educational planning, bus passes, clothing, and mentorship.	https://fostercarealumni.org/michigan-chapter/ 313-326-1408 Email: FCAA.Michigan@gmail.com

<p>Vista Maria- Shepherd Hall Transitional Living Program</p>	<p>Vista Maria’s Shepherd Hall Transitional Living Program applies to female youth ages 18-24 and is an affordable 12-18 month program designed to assist youth in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Earning your high school diploma -Budgeting and banking -Resume and application assistance -Relationship building -Creating post-secondary and vocational educational plan -Cooking, nutrition, and life skills 	<p>www.vistamaria.org Go to: What We Do, Transitional and Independent Living, scroll down to Shepherd Hall 20651 West Warren Ave, Dearborn Heights MI 48127 (313) 271-3050, Ext. 360 Fax: 313-271-6250 Email: intake@vistamaria.org</p>
<p>Angel House Child & Family Services</p>	<p>This residential program is referral based and serves pregnant and parenting teen females aged 13-18. The services offered assist in providing mothers and expectant mothers with support in transitioning to independent living and education in raising children. Youth may remain at Angel House anywhere from 9-12 months; however, an individual’s length of stay may be shorter or longer than the time stated based on individual circumstances.</p>	<p>childandfamily.org Go to: childandfamily.org, Services, Angel House 830 Kerns Road, Mason MI 48854 517-244-4444</p>
<p>Community Housing Network</p>	<p>This website provides information about the many types of services available through Community Housing Network, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Housing Resource Center -Leasing Assistance Programs -Housing and Transition Planning -Getting My Own Address Program 	<p>www.communityhousingnetwork.org Main office: 5505 Corporate Drive Troy, MI 48098 248-928-0111 Toll free: 866-282-3119 Fax: 248-928-0122 Macomb office: 196 N. Rose Street, Suite 30 Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 586-221-5900</p>
<p>Michigan Homeless Shelters</p>	<p>This website may be used to search for shelter availability by city; each shelter’s contact information is also displayed. A separate document lists shelters individually for convenience.</p>	<p>https://www.homelesshelterdirectory.org/state/michigan</p>

Behavioral Health Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
Community Mental Health Services (CMH)	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Community Mental Health Services Programs	Local mental health services/locations: http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-74638_72831_72837---,00.html
The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN)	Established to improve access to care, treatment, and services for traumatized children and adolescents exposed to traumatic events. The organization provides educational materials regarding the impact of trauma on children and those caring for them.	www.nctsn.org NCCTS — University of California, Los Angeles 11150 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 650 Los Angeles CA 90064 Phone: 310-235-2633 NCCTS — Duke University 411 West Chapel Hill Street Suite 200 Durham NC 27701 Phone: 919-682-1552
The Arc Michigan	The Arc Michigan provides services such as early intervention, supported employment, job training, transition planning, supported living, and transportation for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Additional services available at some chapters include: case management, medical and dental care and therapeutic services such as occupational and physical therapy, behavior management, speech therapy and more.	https://thearc.org/our-initiatives/ Lists all local Michigan chapters and all contact information
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)	The SAMHSA website offers a nationwide treatment facility locator with many filtering options, self-help, peer support, and consumer groups for mental health and addiction, informational websites, and hotline numbers (suicide prevention, treatment referral, etc.).	https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/ https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_2941_4871_29887---,00.html

Additional Funding Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative – Fact Sheet	<p>The program was created to improve outcomes for youth transitioning from the foster care system to adulthood. The program can assist with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and Employment • Housing • Physical and mental health • Permanency • Social and community engagement 	<p>Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative (MYOI)</p> <p>http://www.michigan.gov/fyit/0,1607,7-240-44524-162619--,00.html</p>
Youth in Transition	<p>Youth in Transition, (Michigan's name for Chafee) is a funding source available to cover expenses NOT covered by other government or community resources, or to augment or supplement services from other funding sources. A wide range of expenses can be covered for eligible youth.</p> <p>This funding only applies to youth who were in foster care on or after their 14th birthday.</p>	<p>Foster Youth in Transition</p> <p>http://www.michigan.gov/fyit/0,1607,7-240-44524-161180--,00.html</p> <p>A youth with a closed case must apply for closed case services (YIT) in the current county of residence through the local MDHHS office.</p> <p>Contact your local MDHHS office:</p> <p>http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970_5461---,00.html</p>
DHHS Application Assistance	<p>This website lists all forms available through MDHHS. Categories are listed and include adoption, cash assistance, food assistance, medical services, and more. Application instructions and contact information are listed on each form.</p>	<p>Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)</p> <p>http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71551_7338---,00.html</p>
Applying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	<p>Eligibility for SSI benefits is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The individual has a physical or mental condition or conditions that can be medically proven and which result in marked and severe functional limitations. -The medically proven physical or mental condition or conditions will last or are expected to last at least 12 months or could be expected to result in death. -The individual does not work at a job considered to be substantial work. <p>Additional information regarding eligibility, the application process, and DHS contact numbers can be found using the three websites listed.</p>	<p>www.ssa.gov</p>

<p>Assistance Extensions</p>	<p>Michigan passed the Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care (YAVFC) Act. By enacting this legislation, youth who were in state-supervised foster care, at the age of 18 or older, may continue to receive foster care services until age 21. These services are provided without court jurisdiction and are considered voluntary.</p> <p>Juvenile guardianship is a legally created relationship between a guardian and a foster child. The arrangement is intended to provide the child with a stable, permanent home.</p>	<p>General Website: www.michigan.gov</p> <p>Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care (YAVFC) Fact Sheet: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/083a7YAVFC_Fact_Sheet-edited1_2_487825_7.pdf</p> <p>Juvenile Guardianship Assistance Program: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dhs/DHS-PUB-0162_440579_7.pdf</p> <p>Contact your local MDHHS office: http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970_5461---,00.html</p>
<p>LGTBQ Resources</p>		
<p>Resource</p>	<p>Description</p>	<p>Contact Information</p>
<p>Youth Identifying as LGTBQ</p>	<p>This website provides information for LGTBQ youth in care, caseworkers working with LGTBQ youth, adoptive families with LGTBQ youth, and resources available to LGTBQ youth.</p>	<p>www.lambdalegal.org</p>
<p>Legal and Advocacy Resources</p>		
<p>Resource</p>	<p>Description</p>	<p>Contact Information</p>
<p>Legal Aid</p>	<p>The Michigan Legal Help website provides self-help tools, lawyer listings by county, court information and locations, and community services.</p>	<p>www.michiganlegalhelp.org</p>
<p>Advocacy Groups</p>	<p>Center for Adoption Support and Education (CASE) aims to nurture, inspire, and empower children, teens, and adults whom have been touched by adoption. The website offers access to forums, publications, and webinars (some free and others for a small fee).</p>	<p>www.adoptionsupport.org</p> <p>Center for Adoption Support and Education 3919 National Drive, Suite 200 Burtonsville, MD 20866 301-476-8525 Fax: 301-476-8526 Email: caseadopt@adoptionsupport.org</p>

Disability Rights Michigan	The Disability Rights Michigan website provides links to information about accessibility, community mental health, education, employment, guardianship, health insurance, housing, institutional rights, service animals, social security, and voting. Advocacy topics such as eliminating abuse and neglect, access to quality education, and equal employment opportunities are addressed.	https://www.drnich.org/ Lansing Office 4095 Legacy Parkway Suite 500, Lansing MI 48911-4264 800-288-5923 Fax: 517-487-0827 Marquette Office 129 West Baraga Ave Suite A, Marquette MI 49855-4644 906-228-5910 Fax: 906-228-9148
Adult Guardianships	Information regarding obtaining a guardianship over a child who has turned 18, is considered an adult guardianship, and there are a couple of helpful websites and numbers to get started. IF you are unable to afford legal counsel, you may want to consider contacting Michigan Legal Help. To locate legal help by county and “do it yourself” legal forms, you can visit the website listed at right.	https://michiganlegalhelp.org/
Pregnancy and Parenthood Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
Planned Parenthood	Services provided include birth control, STD facts and information, health insurance information, the morning-after pill, and abortions. The website provided lists Planned Parenthood and health center locations nationwide.	www.plannedparenthood.org 1-800-230-7526
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)	The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is a federally-funded program that serves low and moderate income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children up to age 5 who have a nutrition-related health problem.	http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_4910---,00.html Michigan.gov/dhhs>Assistance Programs>Women, Infants and Children 1-800-26-BIRTH

Northland Family Planning Center	The center provides women's health and gynecological services, emergency contraception, and early pregnancy and second trimester abortions.	Three locations: 1. 35000 Ford Road Suite 3, Westland MI 48185 734-721-4700 2. 3810 17 Mile Road Suite 1, Sterling Heights MI 48310 586-268-1700 3. 24450 Evergreen Road Suite 220, Southfield MI 48075 248-559-0590
Life Call	The website listed provides a list of crisis pregnancy centers by state or city, shelters that accept pregnant women, and shelters that accept pregnant women battling drug addictions.	www.lifecall.org 1-800-662-2678
General Resources		
Resource	Description	Contact Information
United Way 211	Free, confidential information and referral helpline and website that connects people to essential health and human services. Calling 211 connects the caller to a community resource specialist in their area.	http://www.211.org/ Dial 211