



Resource Sheet for Teens/Young Adults in Foster Care in Jasper County

Updated August 2023

CAREER & INTERNSHIPS

- **Missouri Job Center - Joplin**

Free assistance with writing a resume, filling out job applications, practicing for interviews, and exploring vocational training programs. They also host professional development workshops and career fairs: <https://jobs.mo.gov/job-centers/joplin-job-center>

Phone: (417) 629-3000

- **MOSO CAPS**

Local internship program for high school students that is facilitated by Missouri Southern State University: <https://mosocaps.yourcapsnetwork.org/about/faqs/>

Phone: (417) 625-9623

- **Vocational Rehabilitation**

Free career exploration, job search, placement, and on-the-job training services for individuals with disabilities: <https://dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/vocational-rehabilitation>

Phone: 1-877-222-8964

EDUCATION

- **Adult Education & Literacy**

Free tutoring to prepare students for the high school equivalency exam (HiSET), ACT, SAT, ASVAB, and more: <http://hsejoplinael.org/>

- **Educational Opportunity Center**

Free help with researching colleges and vocational training programs, filling out applications for postsecondary educational programs, and applying for financial aid/completing the FAFSA:

<https://www.crowder.edu/services/trio/eoc/eoc-office-locations/>

Phone: (417) 455-5475

- **Upward Bound**

Free program funded through the US Department of Education that works with high school students to help prepare them for post-secondary education. Activities include college visits and field trips, academic and career assessments, ACT readiness, student success workshops, financial aid assistance, essay writing practice for scholarship applications, self-esteem and community building, and a summer program on a college campus.

✓ Crowder College Upward Bound: <https://www.crowder.edu/services/trio/Upward-Bound/>

✓ MSSU Upward Bound: <https://www.mssu.edu/student-affairs/trio/upward-bound/index.php>

HOUSING

- **Older Youth Transition Specialist for Southwest Missouri – Justin Nations**

Older Youth Transition Specialists are located in Children's Division county offices throughout the state. Their job duties include providing support to and overseeing contracted services for Transitional Living and Chafee Programs: <https://dss.mo.gov/cd/older-youth-program/files/map-older-youth-transition-specialist.pdf>

Phone: (417) 629-3952

Tip – Contact your Chafee worker for information about transitional living resources and housing support. If you don't know who your Chafee worker is, ask your caseworker.

- **Path (Pre-Adult Transitional Housing)**

Ozark Center PATH provides long-term housing options for young adults age 17-22. To qualify, participants must have a serious emotional disturbance determined through an assessment: <https://www.freemanhealth.com/ozarkcenter/service/housing-programs#964037043-1943474497>

Phone: (417) 347-7580

- **Jasper County Public Housing Agency**

Manages housing programs (must be outside of Joplin City Limits) in Jasper, Barton, Newton, and McDonald Counties. Ask about the Housing Choice Voucher Program – must be 18 to qualify:

<https://www.escswa.org/housingassistance/>

Phone: (417) 627-2022

MENTAL HEALTH

- **Ozark Center – Crisis Services**

24/7 support to people of all ages and backgrounds who are experiencing a personal, emotional or mental health crisis: <https://www.freemanhealth.com/ozarkcenter/specialty/crisis-services>

Phone: (417) 347-7720

- **ACT-TAY (Assertive Community Treatment for Transitional Age Youth)**

Intensive wraparound mental health program offered through Ozark Center for individuals with a mental health diagnosis ages 16-25: <https://www.freemanhealth.com/service/assertive-community-treatment-for-transitional-age-youth-act-tay>

Phone: (417) 347-7450

SUBSTANCE USE SUPPORT

- **Preferred Family Healthcare – Wildwood**

Adolescent-focused program that offer substance use assessments, comprehensive residential and outpatient services. Serve Jasper, Newton County, and surrounding areas: <https://pfh.org/locations-details?q=5620+w.+wildwood+ranch+parkway>

Phone: (417) 623-1990

TRANSPORTATION

- **Alliance of Southwest Missouri**

Driving lessons: <https://www.theallianceofswmo.org/behind-the-wheel-driving-lessons-2/>

Phone: (417) 782-9899

- **Higher Power Garage**

Low-cost vehicle program: <https://www.higherpowergarage.org/low-cost-vehicle-program>

Phone: (417) 208-5829

- **Joplin Public Library**

Downloadable MO driver's handbook & free practice tests: <https://joplinpl.driving-tests.org/missouri/>

Phone: (417) 623-7953

- **MAPS Transit**

Public transportation in Joplin and surrounding cities including Webb City and Oranogo:

<https://www.joplinmo.org/365/Public-Transportation>

Phone: (417) 626-8609

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- **Online resource guide for Southwest Missouri**

Search by category, including medical, dental, substance abuse prevention, housing, food pantries, clothing assistance, transportation, legal, LGBTQ+ services, and more:

https://www.theallianceofswmo.org/resource_guide/

- **Jasper County CASA – Fostering Futures**

Training and resources for Court Appointed Special Advocates in Jasper County and the teens they serve: <https://jascocasa.org/volunteer-portal-resources/>

- ✓ [Guide for Older Youth in Foster Care](#)
- ✓ [Career Exploration & Planning: Self-Discovery Worksheet](#)
- ✓ [Transition Toolkit for Teens/Young Adults in Foster Care](#)
- ✓ [Permanency Options for Youth in Foster Care](#)
- ✓ [Missouri Older Youth Program & Resources](#)
- ✓ [Older Youth Transition Specialist – Jasper County](#)
- ✓ [Fostering Futures – Jasper County CASA Older Youth Program](#)