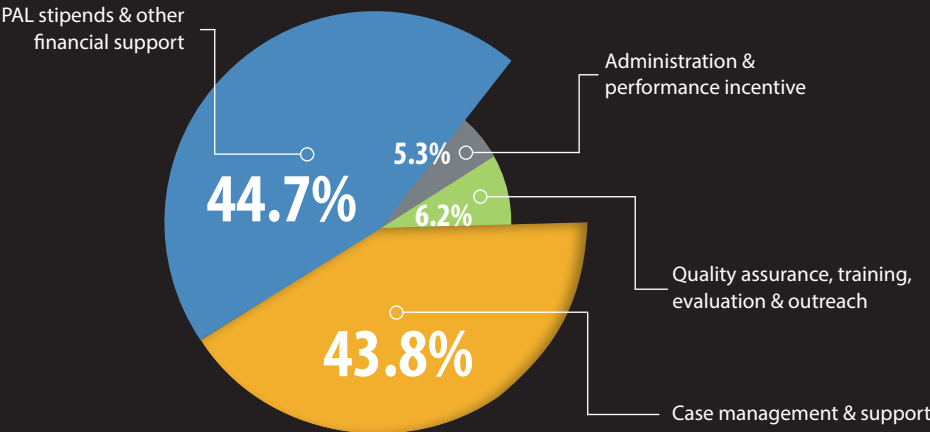


Investing in their future

For SFY 2018 the Iowa Legislature appropriated approximately **\$4 million** for the PAL program. This state appropriation and a portion of the state's federal Chafee allotment are contracted by the **Iowa Department of Human Services** for the IASN to operate the PAL and Aftercare programs statewide.

Total 2018 Expenditures: \$4,825,588



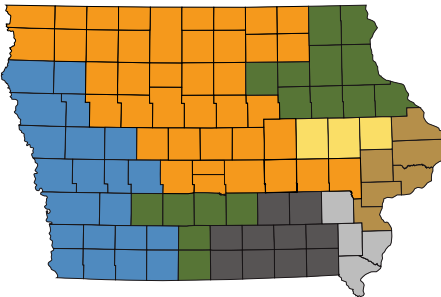
Annual Summary
SFY 2018



Network Organization and Leadership

The IASN is currently comprised of eight human service agencies. The following organizations provide Aftercare services to eligible youth throughout the state.

- American Home Finding Association
- Children's Square, USA
- Family Resources
- Foundation 2
- Four Oaks
- Young House Family Services
- Youth Homes of Mid America
- YSS (Lead agency)



YSS, in addition to providing direct services, manages subcontracts to the other seven direct service agencies. YSS also subcontracts with the Youth Policy Institute of Iowa to provide central coordination, program development, evaluation and quality assurance.

For more information
SFY 2018 Annual Outcomes Report • www.iowaaftercare.org/ProgramResults

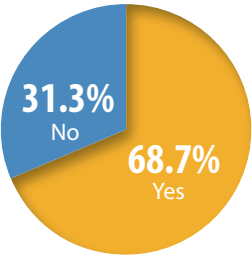
This Summary was prepared by the **Youth Policy Institute of Iowa (YPII)**. YPII provides policy development, technical assistance, quality assurance, marketing and evaluation services for the IASN. Visit www.ypii.org or call 515.727.4220 for more information.

Funding provided by:
Iowa Department of Human Services
www.dhs.iowa.gov

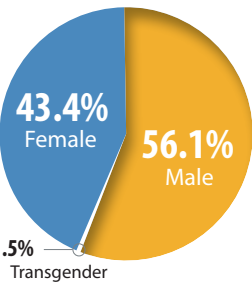


Participant Characteristics (N=798)

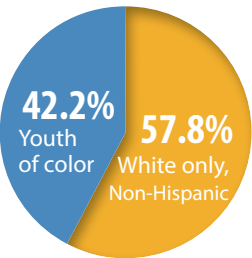
Received PAL Stipend



Gender



Race/Ethnicity



The Aftercare population is very diverse. The Network continues its efforts to understand the impact of race and ethnicity on young people and to ensure that Aftercare services are culturally responsive to the needs of all participants.

About Aftercare

The **Iowa Aftercare Services Network (IASN)** provides services statewide to eligible youth ages 18 to 21 who have aged out of foster care or other court-ordered out-of-home placement. Aftercare is a voluntary program designed to help these young people make the connections and develop the skills they need as emerging adults.

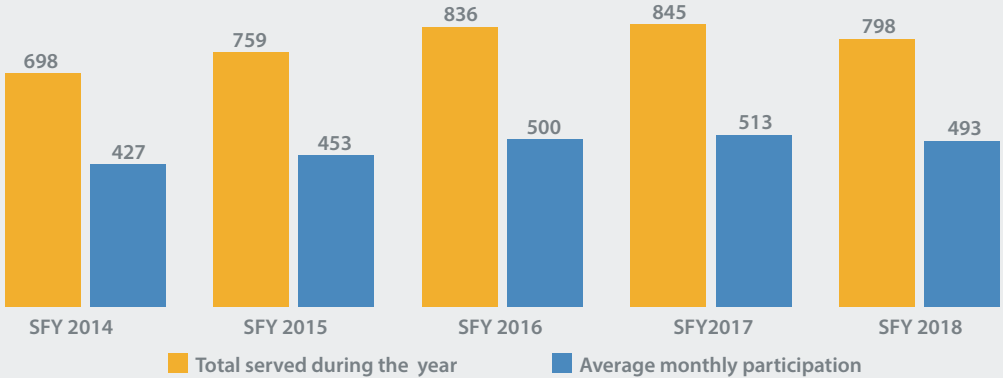
Aftercare provides case management and support to participants on a range of issues, including: housing, education, employment, health, and relationships. In addition, the Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) component provides monthly financial support to qualifying youth who are continuing their education or training and/or who are working.



Number Served

Nearly 800 young people were served by IASN during SFY 2018, a slight decrease from the previous two years. Of those, 251 youth accessed services for the first time

during the year, including 44 who aged out of the State Training School (STS) or a detention center. Participation averaged 493 young people monthly in SFY 2018.



251
young people
accessed Aftercare
for the first time

60
counties where new
participants accessed
services

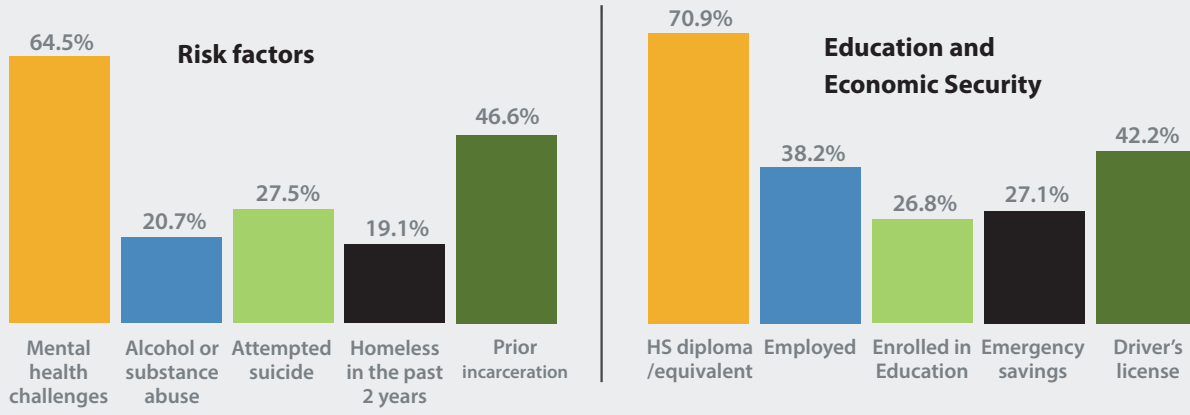
548
youth received a
PAL stipend at least
one month

635
days average duration
of participation for all
exiting youth

150
active participants
reached age 21
becoming ineligible
for continued services

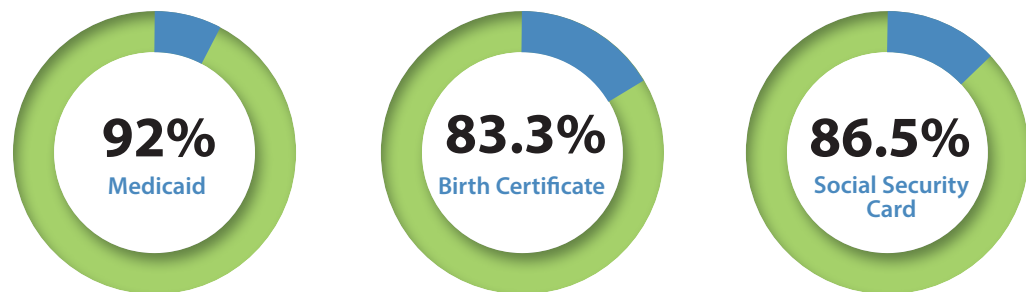
INTAKES: An uphill climb to adulthood

In SFY 2018, 84% of youth first accessed Aftercare within 100 days of being discharged from their last foster care or juvenile court placement, with half starting services within two weeks. The following graphs highlight characteristics of these young people when entering Aftercare, illustrating the circumstances of youth as they emancipate from Iowa’s child welfare or juvenile justice systems.



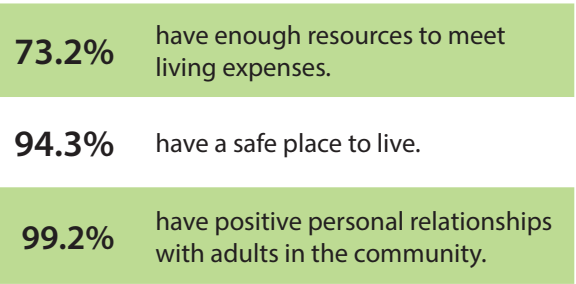
BRIGHT SPOTS: Health insurance and essential documents

Efforts to ensure that young people maintain health insurance and receive essential documents before they age out of care have been successful. Data from SFY 2018 show that the vast majority of youth entering Aftercare have the following:



MOVING FORWARD: Connections and stability

Aftercare Advocates help young people make connections in the community, secure housing, and move toward self-sufficiency. Results of a survey of 382 active participants in April 2018 show that while receiving services:



EXITS: Demonstrated progress but continued uncertainty

The outcomes achieved by participants in Aftercare are promising. Significant gains in education attainment, employment and income, housing stability, and health are demonstrated each year, even as the population accessing the services presents greater challenges. Still, many young people are struggling at age 21 when their eligibility for Aftercare ends.

Moving to Self Sufficiency

- 57% of participants are employed at exit compared to 38.2% at intake. Unemployment decreases from over one-third of all participants at intake to 14.4% at exit.
- 95% report having positive personal relationships with adults in the community.
- 86.5% have a high school diploma or equivalent at the time they exit (including 13% who attain their high school credential while in Aftercare).
- 67.1% of youth are contributing toward their housing costs at exit compared to 56.2% at intake.
- 99% have health insurance at exit.
- 75% of young people have a checking account and 68% have a savings account at exit.

Ongoing Challenges

- Only 3.8% have a post-secondary credential or certificate.
- Nearly 44% pay more than half of their income for housing; 39% report they are behind on rent or utilities.
- Less than half (46.4%) have enough money to cover expenses with earned income alone.
- 34.6% of females and 18.7% of males are parents.
- Only 60.3% have a driver's license.
- 40.5% have been incarcerated or detained in the past two years.
- At least one episode of homelessness in the past two years reported by 28.3%.



On a 10-point scale, 382 participants rate the helpfulness of meeting with an Aftercare Advocate 9.2.



Source: April 2018 Satisfaction Survey

“Aftercare has helped me a lot with becoming financially stable and being independent. After leaving my meetings I always feel determined and focused and ready to accomplish my goals.”