

# Questions for Supervising Case Practice with Older Youth in Care

## Questions to ask workers about all youth by age 12-14:

What are this youth's strengths?

What are this youth's hopes and wishes for the future?

In what youth development areas is this youth progressing?

### Identity

Safety/Structure  
Self Worth  
Belonging/Membership  
Responsibility/Autonomy  
Mastery/Future  
Self Awareness/Spirituality

### Ability

Physical Health  
Mental Health  
Civic and Social Ability  
Cultural Ability  
Employability  
Intellectual Ability

Who and what are the youth's current sources/types of support? What is the quality/consistency of this support? Gaps? Ideas for enhancing support?

### Persons

- Emotional
- Motivational
- Strategic

### Types of Support

- Nurturance and Friendships
- Standards and Boundaries
- High Expectations
- Options Assessment and Planning
- Access to Resources

What is the youth interested in? What opportunities is this youth participating in?

Expression and Creativity  
Exploration, Practice and Reflection

Contribution and Service  
Group Membership

Are there any additional services that would enable the youth to take better advantage of opportunities and supports for his or her development?

Are there any additional considerations regarding this youth's physical and emotional development?

Who is talking to the youth about culture and identity? Where is the youth in terms of development of racial and ethnic identity?

Relationships important to this youth? Who is this youth important to?

What is being done to maintain these relationships?

What is being done to assure permanency or permanent connections for this youth?  
What else could you try?

How is the youth's permanency team involved? How could they be involved?  
If the youth has entered puberty:

- Has the youth received comprehensive sexuality education?
- Does the youth have access to reproductive health services?

Is the youth sexually active? If so, does he or she plan on becoming a parent in the next year? If not, does he or she need assistance in securing a means to prevent pregnancy? Is he or she familiar with safer sex practices?

What are the youth's educational/career aspirations and plans?

- What educational supports are being provided to support realization of these plans?

Other:

**Age 14-16 (add the following questions)**

Additional opportunities: part-time paid employment? career exploration?

Does the youth have opportunities for learning skills for independent living?

How do you assess the youth's communication skills?

Other:

**Age 16-18 (add the following questions):**

What does the youth say about how prepared he/she feels for living on his/her own?  
What are your ideas/concerns?

What supports/services are in place to assist the youth in learning skills for living on her/her own? Are we missing anything? Is there anyone else who could teach/model?

Does the youth know about the options for remaining in care past his or her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday? What does the youth say about post-discharge resource options? Are they considering aftercare? If not, what might we do to encourage their further exploration of aftercare/ETV/etc.?

What are the youth's housing plans and how are we facilitating them? What about temporary housing or friends/family for breaks/leaves/holidays?

If youth is college bound, who is helping with college apps? financial aid?  
Has the youth reconnected with birth family? How is it going? What supports are needed to help the youth negotiate healthy adult relationships with birth family?

Who has gone over the ACLSA with the youth? What goals were created as a result of the assessment results? When will the assessment be taking again?

