



## ***Probation Service Definition***

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS & PROBATION

<b>SERVICE NAME</b>	<b>Independent Living</b> <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Juvenile</span>
<b>Category</b>	Non-treatment
<b>Setting</b>	Residential
<b>Facility License</b>	Licensure is not required for this service. Staff must be affiliated with an agency who provides independent living services.
<b>Service Description</b>	Independent living is a living arrangement for youth 17-18 years old that maximizes a youth’s independence and engagement within the community. A staff provides assistance with direct skill training on life skills, mentoring, coaching, support and supervision to youth who are living independently, or with a roommate who is also in the program. This service assists the youth in developing the competence and skill that enable them to reside independently in the community.
<b>Service Expectations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of an assessment related to independent life skills (i.e. Ansell-Casey Life Skills Assessment) and other pertinent information in order to develop a written individualized plan to support the youth</li> <li>• The agency with the youth, probation/problem solving court officer and other stakeholders identified will develop a written individualized service plan based on services referral information (criminogenic risk, needs and responsivity) relevant collateral documentation/assessments and youth goals. This plan will assist the youth in stabilization and preparing for transition to be able to sustain housing beyond the age of 19</li> <li>• The plan must address goals to include behavioral, treatment/evaluation services, medication compliance, education, transition planning, these will all be related to criminogenic risk levels</li> <li>• A crisis (safety risk reduction) plan shall be developed and updated as needed throughout the service. The youth and the parent, guardian, caregiver must be able to demonstrate they have the knowledge and skills to implement the crisis plan. The crisis plan will be shared with the probation/problem solving court officer</li> <li>• Participation in monthly engagement meetings via face-to-face or teleservices</li> <li>• Based on the youth’s individualized goals, the youth shall be involved in highly structured daily activities to include but not be limited to teaching/educational interventions, employment/employment training, community support planning, household management, connections to formal and informal supports, knowledge of community supports and strategies that aid in individual skill development in the community</li> <li>• The agency will document the progress toward the individualized daily program schedule in their reports. Probation/Problem Solving Court Officer will verify with staff to determine if progress is being made. If</li> </ul>

	<p>progress is not indicated, the staff shall provide a rationale as to what changes will be made to initiate a plan to indicate progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement with the youth shall include meeting face-to-face with the youth a minimum of 2-3 times per week for a minimum of 1 hour each meeting up to 4 hours. The staff will be available to the youth for 24-hour crisis intervention. The youth will clearly understand and demonstrate how to access the staff.</li> <li>• Phone calls and other forms of communication shall be utilized when not meeting with the youth face-to-face. This will be outside of the face-to-face meetings</li> <li>• Intentional visits with the youth's form/informal support system, when appropriate, should be planned with the youth, supportive team members and probation/problem solving court officer, these meeting shall be utilized to enhance the youth's functioning in the achievement of independent living goals.</li> <li>• Supporting agency will ensure that educational needs are being met. School may be in the community or in an alternative program. Youth shall attend their home school whenever possible</li> <li>• Ensure that the youth has transportation available to and from dental and medical appointments, school, employment, court, therapy, home visits and routine day-to-day activities. Transportation costs within a 25 mile radius will be the responsibility of the provider. Transportation beyond that radius will be the responsibility of the agency supporting the youth</li> <li>• If a youth is gone without permission and does not return or cannot be located within 2 hours, the provider/agency will contact the assigned Probation/problem Solving Court Officer or if occurring after hours, the on-call/after hours contact identified for that youth. The agency will continue to make efforts to locate and engage with the youth, parent, and probation until the youth is located and/or discharged. Such efforts should be clearly documented and included in the documentation to probation including the dates /hours the youth's whereabouts were unknown and the efforts made to locate them</li> <li>• The agency will collaborate and proactively plan with the probation/problem solving court officer for the discharge of youth from service, this will plan will begin upon placement. During this process, a trauma informed approach will be utilized to prepare the youth for the transition to ensure the most appropriate post-discharge placement is available for the youth prior to discharge. Criteria for discharge will be individualized, determined by the youth/team, and approved by the court. The court must approve all discharges and placement changes</li> <li>• If the agency requests a youth to be removed the independent living service, an engagement meeting shall be held within 72 hours to develop a transition plan for the youth. The plan will include educational, clinical, living, environment etc.</li> <li>• When the youth's discharge is not planned, the provider shall give the probation/problem solving court officer a fourteen (14) calendar day notice in writing. During the fourteen (14) day period of time, the agency shall use a trauma informed approach to prepare the youth for the impending and will work</li> </ul>
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	<p>collaboratively with probation to determine the most appropriate transition or post discharge placement for the youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A fourteen (14)-calendar day written notice is not required when the provider and probation mutually agree that it is in the best interests of the youth to move sooner</li> <li>• Probation/Problem Solving Court Staff may make an immediate change in placement without court approval only if the juvenile is in a harmful or dangerous situation (e.g. natural disaster). Approval of the court shall be sought within twenty-four hours after making the change in placement or as soon thereafter as possible. The office shall provide all interested parties with a copy of any report filed with the court by the office pursuant to this subsection. Reference NE Revised Statute 43-297.01. Probation Officers will work collaboratively with facility staff or foster parent(s) to determine if an immediate change in placement is necessary. The team will work collaboratively to execute a plan for the youth’s immediate placement. The youth’s educational, environmental, and emotional needs will all be addressed in this plan</li> </ul>
<b>Service Frequency</b>	24 hours/day, 7 days/week
<b>Length of Service</b>	Up to 6 months
<b>Staffing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The independent living staff must hold a Bachelor’s Degree in a related field or an Associate’s Degree with four years’ experience with in-home behavioral interventions</li> <li>• Each independent living staff must be affiliated with an agency</li> <li>• Each independent living staff must register individually with the Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation</li> <li>• All staff who has direct contact with youth and will have an understanding of youth development principles, trauma informed care best practice in juvenile justice and criminogenic risk and needs</li> </ul>
<b>Staff to Client Ratio</b>	1 staff to 6 youth
<b>Hours of Operation</b>	24-hour emergency contact
<b>Service Desired Outcomes</b>	<p>To provide an out-of-home environment in which the youth can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn to independently develop positive daily structure</li> <li>• Develop self-reliance</li> <li>• Enhance personal and community functioning</li> <li>• Successfully complete an individualized plan, including initial goals and reduction of identified criminogenic domains</li> <li>• Attend school/work regularly without the need of outside supports</li> <li>• Learn employment skills; maintain steady employment</li> <li>• Is successfully discharged from probation</li> </ul>
<b>Unit and Rate</b>	See rate sheet

