

## ***Step Up Independent Living Program - Overview***

Clark County Social Service operates the “Step Up” program and our goal is to assist **“aged-out” former foster youth** of the Nevada foster care system make the transition from foster care to economic self-sufficiency. To qualify, participants need to have attained the age of 18 years while a child in foster care in Nevada. This means they “aged out” of foster care.

Due to a program merger in fall of 2016, Step Up is now the “one stop” program that services approximately 300 young adults every month that “aged-out” of the foster care system in Nevada. This “no wrong door” approach specifically assists these young adults.

### **HOW WE HELP**

We offer various forms of financial assistance (and referrals to our network of community partners) to assist young adults including housing assistance, educational assistance, employment assistance, transportation, resources, and case management. This includes funds for rental assistance, help with move-in fees and deposits, move-in kits (kitchen supplies, cleaning supplies, etc.), graduation incentive, monthly 30 day bus passes, and other resources.

### **CASE MANAGER (advocate)**

Young adults participating in the program will be paired with a qualified case manager who will assist them in their journey to become self-sufficient. Together, they will work on individualized case plan goals and the young adult will have access to someone who will be their advocate and help guide them.

### **YOUNG ADULT DROP-IN CENTER (for ‘aged-out’ former foster youth)**

Our drop-in center opened September 2015 and is centrally located in Las Vegas (near Charleston/Rancho) and is close to a main bus route. The center features an open kitchen with snacks, several resource cabinets (hygiene, school supply, parenting resources), information boards (medical, education, employment, legal, events, etc.), and computers with internet access that are open for the young adults to use. The center is designed to support the needs of the ‘aged-out’ former foster youth.

