

March 6, 2024

Dear Partners:

Child & Family Service of Northwestern Michigan is pleased to announce **our brand-new Independent Living Plus (ILP) Program, Next Level @ Pete's Place**. The purpose of this program is to provide up to **seven foster youth** with the opportunity to develop and retain a strong set of independent living skills and transition them to successful young adulthood.

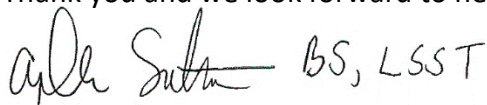
Next Level is for **teens 16-19 years old**, who are not yet self-sufficient enough to be in general independent living placements, but have the motivation, potential, and beginning skill set to work toward that goal. They must have an **active Foster Care case** (Neglect Abuse court case) and can be either temporary or permanent wards.

Each teen must also be willing and able: to engage in developing independent living skills with the assistance of their ILP coach and staff; to attend school to receive their high school diploma or equivalent; to attend higher education; to obtain employment and/or volunteer experience; to engage in mental health services; and to get along with peers of similar age and circumstances.

Next Level is **not** for teens in Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care (YAVFC), or for teens who have a recent pattern of violent behavior, sexual perpetrating behaviors, or a recent pattern of substance use/unwilling to abstain from substances.

We are now **ready to accept referrals and our doors will officially open on March 18, 2024**. To submit a referral please email [intake@cfs3L.org](mailto:intake@cfs3L.org) or call **(231)218-1612**.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!



Aprille Sutton  
Child Welfare Director

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