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“Reset for Success” – Supportive Housing Pilot
New Option Helps Older Youth Transition into Permanent Housing



Department of
Youth Services



I am excited to share that we just launched *Reset for Success*, a supportive housing pilot project to provide a seamless continuum of care for older youth in need of housing and returning to Hamilton and Cuyahoga Counties. *Reset for Success* is a partnership between DYS, the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), FrontLine Service, and Lighthouse Youth Services. A total of 24 beds will now be available to older youth leaving DYS who are unable to reside with family and are ready to journey into independence. FrontLine will serve youth in Cuyahoga County while Lighthouse Youth Services will assist youth in Hamilton County.

Currently our average age on parole is about 18 ½, and DYS has long-supported placements for youth when living with family isn't an option. This new pilot is reserved for older youth who lack stable housing and face significant barriers, such as a lack of employment history and social supports, in returning to the community. *Reset for Success* helps us expand the options for individualized services and supports to meet the needs of each youth. Transitioning youth who are served by this program not only get to reside in their own apartments, but also are supported through wraparound services.

Partnering organizations work with local landlords to identify one-bedroom and large studio-style apartments suitable for housing a single young adult, and efforts are made to assure youth are living as close as possible to any natural supports. FrontLine and Lighthouse make payments to landlords through discharge from the program. Ideally, youth will be able to remain in their units and sustain the housing units independently once their service needs have stabilized.

A *Reset for Success* case manager partners with the youth's parole officer, beginning service while the youth is still residing in one of our facilities, planning for the youth's future. Once the youth is released and living in his or her own apartment, this professional provides regular visits to provide coaching, instruction, coordination for needed community services and/or wraparound services that are needed. A cognitive behavioral approach reinforces youths' skills and progress gained while at DYS.

For the youth who are not able to reside with family members due to a family's own housing hardships, expectation that the youth now live independently, relocation by the family, or strained relationships, this kind of access to safe and supportive housing is critical. Transitioning from childhood to adulthood alone is challenging, and this is compounded when a youth has been incarcerated. The supports offered through *Reset for Success* help youth as they return to the community, reunite with family, and become independent. I look forward to sharing success stories with you as youth benefit from this program and develop healthy, productive adulthoods.

If you have any questions regarding this pilot, please contact Larome Myrick, Reentry Administrator, at Larome.Myrick@dys.ohio.gov or by phone at (419) 241-5015.