

Stark County Job & Family Services

Division of Human Services

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Cash, food, & medical assistance applications
Customer service: 1-844-640-OHIO (6446)
Child Care: 330-452-4661

Division of Children Services

402 2nd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Report child abuse and neglect: 330-455-KIDS
Foster care and adoption: 330-451-8789

Division of Child Support

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Customer service: 330-451-8930
Payment information: [JFS.ohio.gov/ocs](https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocs)

Executive Offices

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Customer service: 330-452-4661

Visit our website at
StarkJFS.org



Independent Living and Emancipated Youth Services

Division of Children Services



Stark County Job & Family Services
221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Phone: 330-452-4661
StarkJFS.org

Contact Information for Independent Living Specialist

Sarah Goins

Supervisor
330-451-8209
Sarah.Goins@jfs.ohio.gov

Paige Horn

Independent Living Specialist
330-451-8785
Paige.Horn@jfs.ohio.gov

Alexis Dillard

Independent Living Specialist
330-451-8870
Alexis.Dillard@jfs.ohio.gov

Independent Living Casework Services

Independent Living Casework Services are federally recognized, state-mandated programs serving youth between the ages of 14-21, who are in the custody of Stark County Job & Family Services or have emancipated.

An Independent Living (IL) Specialist and your caseworker are responsible for assisting you in your journey from foster care to adulthood. During your journey, your IL worker will provide you with an assessment, case planning, and life skills training to assist you in planning for your future. Trainings and activities include:

- Academic Support and Career Preparation
- Post-Secondary Support
- Healthy Relationships
- Housing and Home Management
- Budget and Finances
- Health Education and Risk Prevention



Teen Rights

All teens and young adults have the right to a permanent, safe, and healthy place to live, and to receive support and nurturing. In addition, you have the right to:

- be treated with courtesy and respect
- be spoken to with words you understand
- ask questions and make your ideas known
- hear and talk about your strengths, family risk, and safety issues
- take part in talking about, designing and reviewing your Independent Living case plan
- decide whether or not to take part in surveys or research (if you decide not to there will be no consequences)
- complain about the way you have been treated or about concerns you have
- have those complaints investigated and to get an answer



Emancipated Youth Services

If you are emancipated and between the ages of 18-21; have had your custody terminated from a child welfare agency due to reaching the age of majority; and have exhausted community resources, Stark County Job & Family Services (SCJFS) Division of Children Services may be able to assist you on a voluntary basis.

By participating in emancipation/aftercare services, you are agreeing to take personal responsibility in developing and completing your emancipation agreement goals. Contact the IL Supervisor to obtain services.