

**Learning Circle Five:  
Involve a diverse array of stakeholders in the development of a comprehensive continuum of services and supports for youth transitioning out of the foster care system.**

Supervisory Competencies:

- Appreciates that young people transitioning out of foster care need a range of supports and services that extend beyond the child welfare system.
- Knows and understands that collaboration and networking with multiple systems in the community is essential to creating a “safety net” for transitioning youth.
- Knows and understands that the development of comprehensive continuum of supports is the shared responsibility of the community.
- Knows how to reach out to and work with a diverse array of stakeholders to build and sustain a continuum of supports and services for young people.
- Knows how to effectively collaborate with a diverse array of both youth-serving and non-youth serving systems and stakeholders in the community.
- Can and is able to provide build awareness about challenges facing youth in foster care through public education and training.
- Can and is able to facilitate the involvement of young people in the community.
- Can and is able to create linkages to resources in the community for young people to promote their successful transitions to adulthood.

Guiding Principles:

- A comprehensive continuum of supports, services and opportunities to promote the safety and well being of young people involved with and transitioning from the foster care system.
- A diverse array of community stakeholders are involved and investing in preparing young people for adulthood.
- Effective community interactions and interagency collaboration model for youth the importance of networking and community support systems.

Practices:

- Identify existing community resources and link young people to services and supports prior to their discharge from foster care.
- Facilitate the involvement of youth with the community to promote a sense of connection and belonging.
- Provide cross system training and education about the challenges facing youth as they transition out of foster care.
- Engage both traditional and non-traditional partners in the community to broaden awareness and advocate for the need for services to prepare youth for adulthood.
- Create formalized mechanisms to facilitate collaborative efforts.