

Aging out of foster care in Delaware

In Delaware, young people age out of foster care at age 18 or upon graduation from high school. They enter the adult world often with an extended history of no stability, little trust in "the system" and people in general and few skills that support them being fully independent.

Having been told where and with whom to live (often experiencing many changes) and what to do with little opportunity to make the decisions, many just want to be free of the system. But then what?

With few resources, they set out into the adult world. But they aren't alone. ILYA, a Social Justice Program at First Unitarian Church of Wilmington is here to help.

For more information,
contact

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**Please visit our Facebook page
for more up-to-date
information.**



First Unitarian Church
of Wilmington Delaware

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**First Unitarian Church of
Wilmington
Provides**

Supportive Grants

Funding for urgent needs

ILYA

Independent Living
For Young Adults

Supporting social justice in
our community





Donations can be made at any time by sending a check made out to First Unitarian Church with "ILYA Supportive Grants" in the memo line.

How it works

For young people aging out of foster care, having to come up with an apartment or utility security deposit or school admission fees can be almost impossible. Many work but find their paycheck only covers their day-to-day needs without any extra for savings.

ILYA provides one-time grants to match funds for these special needs. The purpose of these grants is to enable a young adult to secure housing, work or attend school where funds are not otherwise available.

Applications must be submitted by their Independent Living Coordinators (provided by the state of Delaware) who indicate the need as well as that the recipient has the strong potential to follow through on education, job, and related responsibilities?

An ILYA committee reviews every application and approves funds as appropriate. Checks are sent directly to creditors (rental offices, utilities, admissions offices, etc.) and payments are confirmed by the Independent Living Coordinators.

Funding for Supportive Grants comes from:

- Special Collection Sunday
- Memorial gifts
- Gifts honoring a special occasion (a special anniversary or birthday.)
- Some families donate rather than give holiday gifts

The ILYA team thanks you!!!

Supportive Grants:

- **Prevent homelessness**
- **Ensure apartments have heat & lights**
- **Remove barriers to entering higher education**
- **Remove barriers to jobs that require specialized equipment**



Independent Living for
Young Adults - ILYA