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 about the NAK project email:
Suzanne Hodges at suzerr@comcast.net
Stephanie Cloud at stepcloud@verizon.net

For more information about ILYA, email at Lois Morris lcm2unow@gmail.com

First Unitarian Church of Wilmington has the NAK

New Apartment Kits

Can you help a young person who has aged out of foster care set up housekeeping in their first home out on their own?

ILYA
Independent Living For Young Adults

Supporting social justice in our community
**How it works**

To become a supporter:

Visit the Sign Up Genius website to see what items are needed and sign up.

Decide if you want to purchase the items you signed up for or donate the total cost for the items you chose.

Purchased items can be brought to church or arrangements can be made to deliver them to one of the project coordinators.

Checks to cover the cost of selected items not purchased should be made out to “First Unitarian Church of Wilmington” with “NAK” on the memo line.

A receipt for your donation is provided for tax purposes if you would like one.

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**What’s Needed**

Basic items that young people often take for granted when leaving a foster home...

**Bath Items** –
Toilet tissue/ Toothpaste/ Toothbrush/ Hand soap/toilet brush/Waste basket

**Kitchen Items** –
Paper towels & napkins/ Dish cloths & towels/ Dish soap/ Sponges/ Hot pads/ Cleaning products/ Knives/ Cooking utensils/ Plastic wrap/ Aluminum foil/ Zip-lock bags/ Trash can & liners/ Manual can opener/ Scissors/ Salt & pepper shakers/ Coffee mugs/ Frying & sauce pans with lids/ Casserole dish with lid/ 4 Place settings (plates, flatware & glasses)

**Household Items** –
Laundry basket/ Laundry soap/ Coat hangers/ Extension Cord/ Rechargeable batteries with charger/ Scotch tape

**Nice to Have Wish List** –
Vacuum cleaner/ Mop & broom/ Small appliances (Microwave, crock pot, coffee maker, toaster oven, food processor)/ Bed & bath linens/ Desk lamp/

**Gift Cards in Any Amount from Target or Walmart**

*All items must be new*

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“I can’t thank you enough for helping me get started in my new apartment. I had no idea there were so many basic things I’d need to make life work. Your help kept me from starting from behind. Thank you ILYA!!” EP – age 18

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