



**Office of Children's Services
Independent Living Program**

Independent Living Referral Process

Independent Living (IL) services and funds are provided to assist youth in meeting an independent living goal (securing employment, maintaining stable housing, etc.)

1. Tribal/ICWA workers will complete necessary documentation to determine that the youth in tribal custody is qualified for Chafee funds and send or fax the documentation to Shar Wharton.
2. Shar Wharton will fax the request form and the information on the youth to the Regional Independent Living Specialist (RILS) so a case can be opened in ORCA.
3. The RILS will contact the tribal case worker to determine what would be the best way for the youth to receive the funds.
4. The RILS will send the request for funds to Shar Wharton for approval.
5. The RILS will contact the tribal case worker when the funds are available.

Please share this information with the tribal organizations in your region and ask those who have youth in tribal custody to contact the Independent Living Program Coordinator at (907) 465-8659.