

The FAST TRACker

Your Community Guide To FAST TRAC Results

Issue 4 Fall 2014

About FAST TRACKER

This guide is intended to provide information about the Clermont County System of Care called FAST TRAC for youth with emotional and behavioral challenges and their families. FAST TRAC is a federal grant program overseen by the Clermont County Mental Health & Recovery Board. This issue of FAST TRACker is about the Transition to Independence Process (TIP) program and how FAST TRAC has enhanced support to youth in our community. Below are the results of an evaluation to see how TIP is working with youth throughout Clermont County.

What is TIP?

Here are just some of the things that youth say TIP has done for them and can do for others:

TIP staff **gives the support that youth often do not have** when living on their own for the first time. The staff have been there to help youth find housing that fits their needs. TIP also **connects youth to resources** that help youth not only become independent, but continue to **live successfully on their own**.

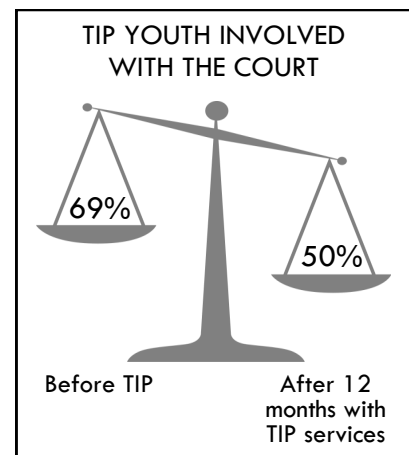
TIP helps youth find the right care for their health. They can help with filling out applications for jobs and assistance for food and housing. This helps **youth focus on their goals** such as finishing education programs that **prepare them for the job** they want and to keep motivated to live on their own long-term.



Who uses TIP?

TIP services focus on transition-aged youth, ages 16-21, who have been involved with and are aging out of the care of Children's Protective Services and/or Juvenile Court. Youth participating with TIP also have emotional and behavioral challenges.

TIP youth aging out of the system often do not have the same **support systems or the chance to develop social skills** that their peers have had throughout childhood and adolescence. These skills and supports are important when youth find themselves on their own **looking for a job, finding a place to live, and even managing their money**. For example, transition-aged youth are almost 3 times more likely than their classmates to be unemployed out of high school.



Turn this page over to see more of what TIP is doing for community youth



Clermont FAST TRAC, a system of care initiative of the Clermont County Mental Health & Recovery Board, is funded by a grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

www.clermontfasttrac.org

Is TIP working in Clermont County?

With support from TIP, **youth are making decisions for better physical and mental healthcare**, both of which help them to **achieve independent living**.

After one year with TIP services:

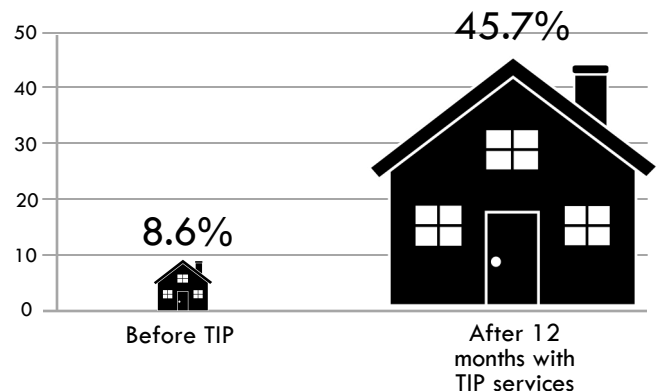
83.3%

of youth now have their own regular doctor. This is important because having a regular doctor can help prevent illnesses from becoming long-lasting, serious health issues.

63.2%

of youth are now successfully managing their mental health. This allows them to focus more on building skills for employment and independence.

With assistance from TIP, more and more youth are **living independently**.



Both support services and participants in Clermont County agree that TIP is helping to **make independent living a reality for youth** in the community.

*“As a **part of our team** approach to care, TIP is there to help when we can’t be. TIP has **helped many youth locate housing and connect to local resources. They have provided ongoing mental health services and kept youth focused on their goal to finish school. TIP advocates for the youth. There is no other service in our area that can do what they do for our youth.**”*

-Children’s Protective Services Caseworker

*“Working with different people who understand my disability gave me the **chance to live on my own and help finding where to go.**”*

-TIP Youth

What can I do as a parent or a community member?

Help us spread the word about the great work that TIP is doing for our youth and families and about everything the FAST TRAC System of Care is doing in our community!

- Pass this information on to family members, neighbors, co-workers, and even your local Trustees, Commissioners, Representatives or Senator! Remember, **FAST TRAC** is funded by a grant that **will end in 2015. Services will not continue to grow unless your community supports them!**
- Join a FAST TRAC Workgroup to **share your perspective as a youth or family member in our community.**
Call: 732-5400

For more information on FAST TRAC, visit our website:
<http://www.clermontfasttrac.org> or call us: 732-5400

If you’d like to know more about the TIP program, contact:
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