

RESOURCE GUIDE

for Post-Secondary Students from Government Care



FEDERATION
OF BC YOUTH
IN CARE
NETWORKS

BY COMING TOGETHER, WE'RE NOT ALONE



WELCOME

This is a resource guide for post-secondary students from government care! This guide was created by your siblings from care at the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks (the Fed). We're a youth-driven, provincial non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of youth in and from care in BC.

We know that working toward your post-secondary education is a huge undertaking. It can be overwhelming and challenging at times, and it can be hard to know where to get help when you need it. With contributed content from youth-serving organizations and agencies around BC, we've put together a handy collection of accessible and affordable resources, supports and services available to students in and from care.

Our hope is that in difficult times, your resource guide will remind you that you're not alone and that help is available to you.

Who is this guide for?

This resource guide is for students on Vancouver Island. The location of each agency is listed, but many offer services across BC as well as in their own communities.

Organizations with this icon have services available even if you don't live or go to school in their listed location.



Where else can I find support?

If you can't find an agency that can help you, please don't hesitate to connect with someone at the Fed! Find our contact info on our website at <https://fbcyicn.ca/contact-us>

Most post-secondary schools have student support workers, student services centres or financial aid offices you can reach out to if you need help. Some schools even have navigators who specifically work with students with care experience.

At the end of this guide, you can find a list of key contacts of some post-secondary schools around BC that you can reach out to if you need help and aren't sure where to start.

[CLICK HERE TO SKIP AHEAD TO THE LIST](#)

Or find it on page 31



WHAT IS IN THE GUIDE?

In this guide, you will find resources for:



You can find organizations that offer resources and supports for these areas in Multi-Service Agencies (page 4) and in other sections of the guide.

MULTI-SERVICE AGENCIES

In this section you'll find organizations that offer lots of different services. Check out the Support icons to see how they can support you!



Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks



ABOUT

The Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks is open to youth in and from care in BC between the ages of 14 and 24. They provide volunteer opportunities, training, and bursaries for education and skill development. They also share resources and information, host youth retreats, and support youth groups around BC. They help youth navigate barriers to make sure they receive the support they need.

LOCATION

New Westminster (Provincial)

CONTACT

Phone [1-800-565-8055](tel:1-800-565-8055)

Email info@fbcyicn.ca

Website www.fbcyicn.ca

Facebook [@YouthInCareBC](https://www.facebook.com/YouthInCareBC)

Instagram [@fbcyicn](https://www.instagram.com/fbcyicn)

Twitter [@FBCYICN](https://twitter.com/FBCYICN)

SUPPORTS



WE'RE
YOUR FED
FAMILY!!



MULTI-SERVICE AGENCIES

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The John Howard Society of the North Island

ABOUT

The John Howard Society of North Island provides programs and support to help children, youth, adults, and families lead safer, healthier lives. Programs include substance use and mental health counselling, social services (including employment support), peer support, cultural support, housing, transition to adulthood (help with applications, budgeting, cooking and other life skills, and food bank connections), and housing.

They also operate Foundry Campbell River, which offers youth aged 12-24 access to mental health and substance use support, primary care, peer support and social services.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Campbell River & Courtenay

CAMPBELL RIVER LOCATION CONTACT

Phone [250-286-0611](tel:250-286-0611)

Email mail@jhsni.bc.ca

Website www.jhsni.bc.ca

Facebook [@JHSNI](https://www.facebook.com/JHSNI)

COURTENAY LOCATION CONTACT

Phone [250-338-7341](tel:250-338-7341)

Email mail@jhsni.bc.ca

Website www.jhsni.bc.ca

Facebook [@JHSNI](https://www.facebook.com/JHSNI)

FOUNDRY CAMPBELL RIVER CONTACT

Phone [250-286-0611](tel:250-286-0611)

Email mail@jhsni.bc.ca

Website www.foundrybc.ca/campbellriver

Instagram [@foundrycampbellriver](https://www.instagram.com/foundrycampbellriver)

MULTI-SERVICE AGENCIES

In this section you'll find organizations that offer lots of different services. Check out the Support icons to see how they can support you!

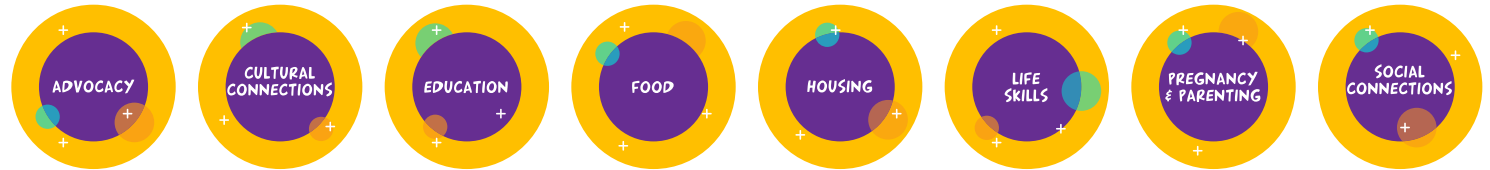


Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre

ABOUT

As a non-profit organization, the Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre's (NAC) work focuses on education, culture and family. While their programs and services are designed with the urban Indigenous community in mind, all of their programs and services are open to anyone living in Nanaimo. They offer cultural programs including Youth Leading Reconciliation and Tribal Journeys, food programs, and four suites of affordable housing for youth. They also offer education programs such as the Munu Learning Centre, a licensed daycare for Indigenous children ages 3 to 5 years old.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Nanaimo

MAIN CONTACT

Phone [250-585-0947](tel:250-585-0947)

Munu Learning Centre

Phone [250-591-0798](tel:250-591-0798)

Email info@nanaimoaboriginalcentre.ca

Website

www.nanaimoaboriginalcentre.ca

Facebook [@NanaimoAboriginalCentre](https://www.facebook.com/NanaimoAboriginalCentre)



MULTI-SERVICE AGENCIES

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Pacific Centre Family Services Association

ABOUT

Pacific Centre Family Services is a non-profit counselling agency located in Colwood, serving the Westshore and Sooke communities. They offer a variety of programs including youth and family counselling, substance-use counselling (19+), Stopping the Violence program (individual and group counselling), Family Violence Program (individual and group counselling), and Crime Reduction and Exploitation Diversion (youth). They also offer email counselling for youth at youthtalk2@pcfsa.org.

LOCATION

Colwood

CONTACT

Phone [250-478-8357](tel:250-478-8357)

Email pacificcentre@pcfsa.org

Website

www.pacificcentrefamilyservices.org

Facebook [@PCFSA](https://www.facebook.com/PCFSA)

Instagram [@PCFSA](https://www.instagram.com/PCFSA)

SUPPORTS



MULTI-SERVICE AGENCIES

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Sasamans Society

ABOUT

Sasamans Society's Aboriginal Youth Navigator program provides support and guidance to Aboriginal youth involved with the Ministry, youth transition planning, youth on probation, youth agreements, or aging out of and/or in government care. Youth can also voluntarily seek services for other advocacy support. This service is based out of Campbell River, Courtenay and Port Hardy and works to ensure young adults are aware of services available to them once they age out of Ministry care.

LOCATION

Campbell River

CONTACT

Phone [250-914-2212](tel:250-914-2212)

Email reception@sasamans.ca

Website www.sasamans.ca

Facebook [@sasamansociety](https://www.facebook.com/sasamansociety)

SUPPORTS



MULTI-SERVICE AGENCIES

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Wachiay Friendship Centre

ABOUT

Wachiay Friendship Centre is a place for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to come together, to share traditions and to learn from one another. Wachiay is here to provide vital support and services to the peoples of the Comox Valley including youth in and from care ages 14-24 years of age. They provide food to community members in need, family and poverty law advocacy, income tax preparation, housing support for those individuals that are homeless or at risk of being homeless, and emergency assistance for medical, dental and prescriptions.

LOCATION

Courtenay

CONTACT

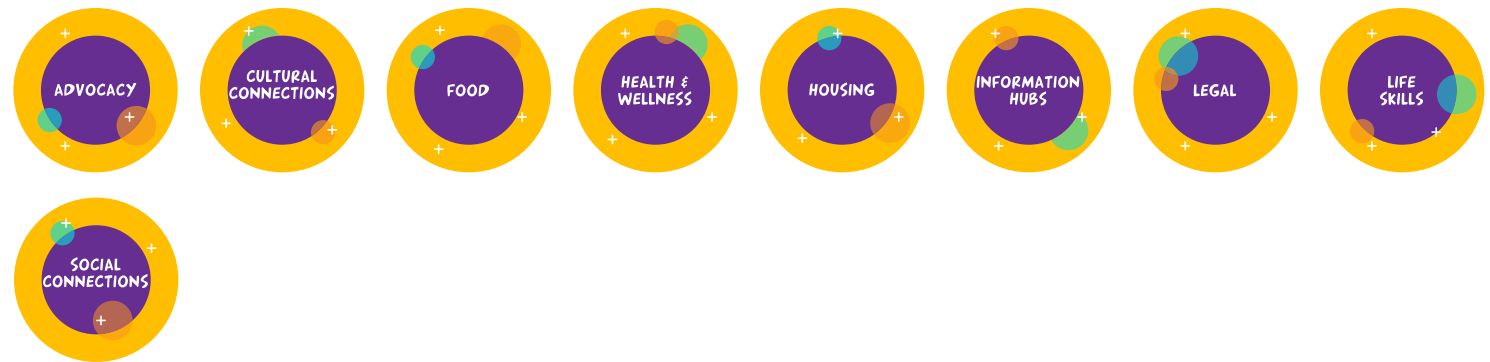
Phone [250-338-7793](tel:250-338-7793)

Email reception@wachiay.org

Website www.wachiay.org

Facebook [Wachiay Friendship Centre Nonprofit Organization](#)

SUPPORTS



MULTI-SERVICE AGENCIES

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QMUNITY



ABOUT

QMUNITY provides support to LGBTQIA2S+ youth between the ages of 14-25. They provide one-on-one support, run weekly drop-ins, host queer events and provide free gender-affirming garments through their Bras, Binders and Breast Forms Program. They are based in Vancouver but offer provincial services.

LOCATION

Vancouver (Provincial)

CONTACT

Phone [604-684-5307](tel:604-684-5307)

Email reception@qmunity.ca

Website www.qmunity.ca

Facebook [@Qmunity](https://www.facebook.com/Qmunity)

SUPPORTS



MULTI-SERVICE AGENCIES

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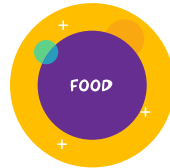
Salvation Army



ABOUT

The Salvation Army serves all people without discrimination. Their services vary from community to community across BC. Youth can expect to find support, food, shelter, clothing, community, youth events, volunteering opportunities and more.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

55 Locations across BC (Provincial)

CONTACT

Phone [1-800-725-2769](tel:1-800-725-2769)

Visit <https://salvationarmy.ca/locator/> for the email address of the Salvation Army closest to you.

Website www.salvationarmy.ca/britishcolumbia/

Facebook [@thesalvationarmybcdivision](https://www.facebook.com/thosalvationarmybcdivision)

Instagram [@salvationarmybc](https://www.instagram.com/salvationarmybc)

Twitter [@salarmybc](https://twitter.com/salarmybc)



MULTI-SERVICE AGENCIES

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Service Canada



ABOUT

Service Canada provides a single access point to a wide range of government services and benefits. You can access benefits you're eligible for, find jobs in the Job Bank, get a passport, and lots more.

LOCATION

Multiple Locations (Provincial)

CONTACT

Website <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/portfolio/service-canada.html>

YouthCO HIV & Hep C Society



ABOUT

YouthCO HIV & Hep C Society is led by youth impacted by HIV and Hep C. They provide peer education and support, primarily through group programming at locations throughout the Lower Mainland, Fraser Health Authority, and Prince George, as well as online and in rural and remote Indigenous communities.

LOCATION

Multiple Locations (Provincial)

CONTACT

Phone [1-855-968-8426](tel:1-855-968-8426)

Email info@youthco.org

Website www.youthco.org

Facebook [@YouthCOBC](https://www.facebook.com/YouthCOBC)

Instagram [@YouthCO](https://www.instagram.com/YouthCO)

Twitter [@youthco](https://twitter.com/youthco)

SUPPORTS



ADVOCACY

Organizations in this section can help you get the supports and services you're entitled to and can help you make sure your rights are being respected.



Representative for Children & Youth (RCY)



ABOUT

RCY provides advocacy support to children and youth across BC who are accessing services from the Ministry of Children and Family Development, including youth on Agreements with Young Adults. If you're having trouble accessing government services, or you feel like you're being treated unfairly or not being listened to, an RCY Advocate can help you over the phone, online chat or email.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Provincial

CONTACT

Phone [1-800-476-3933](tel:1-800-476-3933)

Website www.rcybc.ca

Facebook [@RCYBC](https://www.facebook.com/RCYBC)

Instagram [@rcybcyouth](https://www.instagram.com/rcybcyouth)

Twitter [@RCYBC](https://twitter.com/RCYBC)





FOOD

Organizations in this section can help you access free or low cost food.

Comox Valley Food Bank

ABOUT

The Comox Valley Food Bank Society distributes food to people in need Monday to Friday and assists other organizations, such as charities operating soup kitchens, and Transition Society by donating food items to them. Students attending post-secondary education who need assistance accessing an adequate food supply are able to come to the food bank.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Courtenay

CONTACT

Phone [250-338-0615](tel:250-338-0615)

Email comoxvfb@shaw.ca

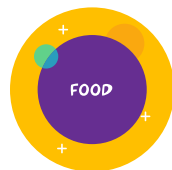
Website comoxvalleyfoodbank.ca

Loaves & Fishes Community Food Bank

ABOUT

Loaves & Fishes Food Bank provides free food to individuals and households in Nanaimo and Port Hardy. They also provide free food to other organizations throughout Vancouver Island five days per week. To register for food, all you need is one piece of government issued ID for every person in the household. Households and individuals in Nanaimo may access fresh food and bread at one of Loaves & Fishes' open depots 6 days per week. Non-perishable food can be accessed every 2 weeks. Households and individuals in Port Hardy may access food at the open depot every two weeks.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Nanaimo & Port Hardy

CONTACT

Phone [250-754-8347](tel:250-754-8347)

Email info@nanaimoloavesandfishes.org

Website nanaimoloavesandfishes.org

Facebook [@NanLoavesFishes](https://www.facebook.com/NanLoavesFishes)

Instagram [@nanaimoloavesandfishes](https://www.instagram.com/nanaimoloavesandfishes)

Twitter [@nanaimofoodbank](https://twitter.com/nanaimofoodbank)



WorkBC



ABOUT

WorkBC helps people find jobs, explore career options and improve their skills. They offer a variety of supports through WorkBC Centres across BC and online, including resume building, interview prep, job searches and more.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Multiple Locations (Provincial)

CONTACT

Phone [1-877-952-6914](tel:1-877-952-6914)

Email via online form

<https://www.workbc.ca/Contact-Us.aspx>

Website www.workbc.ca

Facebook [@WorkBC](https://www.facebook.com/WorkBC)

Twitter [@WorkBC](https://twitter.com/WorkBC)

EMPLOYMENT

Organizations in this section can help you find a job, build your job search skills, and help set you up for success at work.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Organizations in this section can support you with your overall health, including physical, mental and emotional.



8-1-1

ABOUT

Operated by HealthLinkBC, 8-1-1 is a free health information and advice phone line. When you call 8-1-1, you'll be connected to a Health Service Navigator, who can connect your call to a registered nurse, registered dietitian, qualified exercise professional, or pharmacist, whichever you need. They can also help you find health information and services across BC.

SUPPORTS



Foundry

ABOUT

Foundry offers young people aged 12-24 across BC health and wellness services and supports, both in-person through host agencies and online. Foundry services include drop-in counselling, peer support, phone and online chat, and information and resources.

SUPPORTS



CONTACT

Phone Dial **8-1-1**

Website

www.healthlinkbc.ca/about-8-1-1



LOCATION

11 Locations across BC (Provincial)

CONTACT

Email info@foundrybc.ca

Website www.foundrybc.ca

Facebook [@Foundrybc](https://www.facebook.com/Foundrybc)

Instagram [@foundry_bc](https://www.instagram.com/foundry_bc)

Twitter [@Foundrybc](https://twitter.com/Foundrybc)

HOUSING

Organizations in this section can help you with housing and challenges you might face in finding and keeping housing.



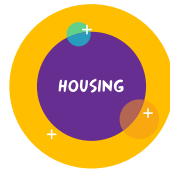
BC Housing



ABOUT

BC Housing provides housing assistance across BC including low income housing, rent subsidies, housing support for women escaping violence and homelessness services.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Multiple Locations (Provincial)

CONTACT

Phone [1-800-257-7756](tel:1-800-257-7756)

Website www.bchousing.org

Facebook [@bchousing.org](https://www.facebook.com/bchousing.org)

Instagram [@bchousing](https://www.instagram.com/bchousing)

Twitter [@BC_Housing](https://twitter.com/BC_Housing)

Tenant Resource & Advisory Centre



ABOUT

The Tenant Resource & Advisory Centre (TRAC) provides information and resources for renters in BC on their website. They break down the BC Residential Tenancy Act in plain language, so you learn about your rights and responsibilities as a tenant.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Provincial

CONTACT

Phone [1-800-665-1185](tel:1-800-665-1185)

Website www.tenants.bc.ca

Facebook [@tracbc](https://www.facebook.com/tracbc)

Instagram [@trac_bc](https://www.instagram.com/trac_bc)

Twitter [@TRAC_BC](https://twitter.com/TRAC_BC)

INFORMATION HUBS

Organizations in this section have lots of resources and supports listed in one place to help you find what you need.



AgedOut.com



ABOUT

AgedOut.com is a one-stop information warehouse with life-skills resources that aims to support youth in and from care across BC in their transitions into community and independent living. They offer fun gamified quests, as well as info and service pages where you can find a ton of great resources and information. They have a detailed list of what scholarships are available to youth in and from care, and youth can earn up to \$150 in gift cards when they use AgedOut.com!

LOCATION

Online (Provincial)

CONTACT

Phone [604-320-7330](tel:604-320-7330) ext. 125

Email info@agedout.com

Website www.AgedOut.com

Facebook [AgedOut.com](https://www.facebook.com/AgedOut.com)

SUPPORTS



bc211



ABOUT

bc211 is a provincial service that specializes in providing information and referrals for community, government and social services including food, shelter, mental health, addictions, and legal and financial assistance.

LOCATION

Provincial

CONTACT

Phone [2-1-1](tel:2-1-1)

Website www.bc211.ca

Facebook [@bc211](https://www.facebook.com/bc211)

Twitter [@bc211Help](https://twitter.com/bc211Help)

SUPPORTS





Public Guardian & Trustee of BC



ABOUT

The Public Guardian and Trustee of BC protects the legal and financial interests of children and youth in care in BC. If you're about to age out of care, you have money being held by the PGT, and you don't know what to do with it, they can hold your money and help you manage it until you turn 27.

LOCATION

Provincial

CONTACT

Phone [1-800-663-7867](tel:1-800-663-7867)

Email cys@trustee.bc.ca

Website www.trustee.bc.ca

SUPPORTS



LIFE SKILLS

Organizations in this section can help you build skills to help you get through life.





Citizens' Counselling Centre of Greater Victoria



ABOUT

Citizens' Counselling Centre of Greater Victoria offers quality, affordable counselling services, both in-person and remotely, to adults over 18 years old. Their counsellors are volunteers, trained and supervised by professionals. They are based in Victoria but offer remote counselling services to folks living anywhere in Canada.

LOCATION

Victoria (Provincial)

CONTACT

Phone [250-384-9934](tel:250-384-9934)

Email info@citizenscounselling.com

Website www.citizenscounselling.com

Facebook [@CitizensCounselling](https://www.facebook.com/CitizensCounselling)

SUPPORTS



BC YMCA Y Mind Youth



ABOUT

Offered by the BC YMCA, Y Mind Youth is a free online seven-week program delivered across BC for youth ages 18-30. This program supports young people who are experiencing symptoms of anxiety to learn and practice evidence-based strategies to cope with stress and anxiety. Y Mind is led by trained mental health professionals and gives youth the chance to connect with others who are experiencing similar thoughts and feelings.

LOCATION

Vancouver (Provincial)

CONTACT

Phone [604-673-6182](tel:604-673-6182)

Email ymind@gv.ymca.ca

Website www.gv.ymca.ca/mental-wellness

SUPPORTS



MENTAL HEALTH
Organizations in this section can support you with your mental health.



OTHER

Organizations in this section can provide supports with things that aren't listed in other sections.

Telus Mobility for Good



ABOUT

The Telus Mobility for Good program offers youth who were in care (continuing, temporary, or a Youth Agreement) when they turned 19 or who are eligible for AYA with a free phone and 2-year data plan at no cost. After the 2 years is up, you can continue to have a low cost, \$35/month plan.

CONTACT

Website

<https://www.cafdn.org/for-youth/telus-mobility-good/>





Forest Circle Society for Families

ABOUT

Forest Circle Society for Families, a registered non-profit society, provides licensed group care for children aged 0 to 5 at two Campbell River child-care facilities. Forest Circle Child Care is located on the North Island College campus, and Cari's Infant and Toddler Centre is on the grounds of Carihi Secondary School. Both purpose-built centres give priority for childcare spaces to families where a parent is attending an educational institution.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Campbell River

FOREST CIRCLE CHILD CARE AND MAIN CONTACT

Phone [250-923-4440](tel:250-923-4440)

Email kyla@forestcircle.ca

CARI'S INFANT & TODDLER CENTRE CONTACT

Phone [250-286-1193](tel:250-286-1193)

Email caris@forestcircle.ca

Website www.forestcircle.ca

PREGNANCY & PARENTING

Organizations in this section can help you navigate pregnancy and being a parent.



SUBSTANCE USE

Organizations in this section can help you with substance use and addiction.



Discovery Youth & Family Substance Use Services

ABOUT

Offered by Island Health, Discovery Youth and Family Substance Use Services offers free community-based counselling services, access to residential care and treatment for youth aged 13-19 struggling with substance use. They assist youth and/or their families to reduce the harms associated with substance use and related issues. Discovery's services are available to anyone in the community directly or indirectly impacted by substance use.

SUPPORTS



LOCATION

Nanaimo

CONTACT

Phone [250-739-5790](tel:250-739-5790)

Email Discovery@islandhealth.ca

Website <https://www.islandhealth.ca/our-services/youth-family-substance-use-services/youth-family-substance-use-services/discovery-youth-family-substance-use-services>



SUPPORT & CRISIS LINES

Organizations in this section can provide you with support when you're in crisis or when you just need someone to talk to.



Crisis Centre BC (1-800-SUICIDE)

ABOUT

1-800-SUICIDE is crisis support line open 24/7 for folks who are having thoughts of suicide or know someone who is. The service is available in up to 140 languages.

CONTACT

Phone [1-800-784-2433](tel:1-800-784-2433)

Website www.crisiscentre.bc.ca



Here2Talk

ABOUT

Here2Talk is a free, confidential program that provides all students currently registered with a BC post-secondary institution access to single-session 24/7 mental health support and community referrals via app, phone and web. The clinical counsellors at Here2Talk can provide crisis and non-crisis support.

CONTACT

Phone [1-877-857-3397](tel:1-877-857-3397)

Website www.here2talk.ca



Kids Help Phone

ABOUT

Kids Help Phone offers professional counselling, information and referrals and volunteer-led, text-based support to young people. There is no age limit to access the Kids Help Phone.

CONTACT

Phone [1-800-668-6868](tel:1-800-668-6868)

Chat via website www.kidshelpphone.ca



KUU-US Crisis Line Society

ABOUT

The KUU-US 24 Hour Crisis Line is available 24/7 to provide support to Indigenous people in BC who are in crisis or difficult situations.

CONTACT

Phone [1-800-588-8717](tel:1-800-588-8717)

Website www.kuu-uscrisisline.com



SUPPORT & CRISIS LINES

Organizations in this section can provide you with support when you're in crisis or when you just need someone to talk to.



Mental Health Support Line



ABOUT

The Mental Health Support Line can connect you to your local crisis line. Crisis line workers will listen, provide support and connect you to community resources. Available 24/7.

CONTACT

Phone [310-6789](tel:310-6789) (no area code needed)

Vancouver Island Crisis Line

ABOUT

The Vancouver Island Crisis Line provides short-term non-judgemental emotional support, crisis intervention, information and resources. The phone line is available 24/7 and the text option is open 7 days a week from 6-10 PM. Both are open to folks in the Island Health region.

CONTACT

Phone [1 888-494-3888](tel:18884943888)

Text [250-800-3806](tel:2508003806) (6-10 PM)

Website www.vicrisis.ca



Youth in BC

ABOUT

Youth in BC is an online crisis chat where youth can chat with a support person between the hours of noon and 1 AM.

CONTACT

Website www.youthinbc.com

Women Against Violence Against Women (WAVAW) 24-Hour Crisis & Information Line



ABOUT

WAVAW's 24/7 national crisis line provides empathetic, non-judgemental crisis support to survivors of sexualized violence. WAVAW's services are open to cis and trans women and people of all marginalized genders, including Two-Spirit, trans and non-binary people.

CONTACT

Phone [1-877-392-7583](tel:18773927583)

Website www.wavaw.ca

Facebook [@WAVAWRCC](https://www.facebook.com/WAVAWRCC)



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The resources in this section can provide you with money to help you reach your goals.

There are a lot of post-secondary education financial supports in BC for former youth in care. Below are just a few of financial supports that are out there. See what might be available to you!

A number of post-secondary institutions, including the University of British Columbia and Vancouver Island University, have their own tuition waiver or other financial support programs for youth from care. Contact your school's financial aid office for info.

You can also check out [AgedOut.com](https://agedout.com) for a list of scholarships, bursaries, grants and waivers available to youth with care experience.

Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks' Dream Fund Bursary Program



WHAT IS IT?

Our Dream Fund supports young people in and from care to pursue their careers and achieve their goals through education and skill building. The Dream Fund includes two different bursaries that are distributed three times a year: in October, February and July.

The Education Achievement Bursary can provide you with up to \$1,500 for tuition at a post-secondary school. The Reach for Success Bursary can provide you with up to \$500 to overcome barriers you might face in achieving your goals.

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the Dream Fund:

- You are currently in care or a former youth in care either under a continuing custody order (CCO) or temporary custody order (TCO, Voluntary Care Agreement or Special Care Agreement) or Youth Agreement in BC under the Child, Family and Community Services Act.
- You are between the ages of 14 to 24 years old.
- You must have a cumulative total of 1 year in government care.
- (Education Achievement only) You are currently enrolled or planning to enroll in a secondary, post-secondary academic, technical or vocational program, a recognized public post-secondary institution, or a registered private post-secondary institution

HOW DO I APPLY?

Visit <https://fbcyicn.ca/what-we-offer/programs/dream-fund> to download the application forms. Questions? Email info@fbcyicn.ca



FINANCIAL SUPPORT
The resources in this section can provide you with money to help you reach your goals.

Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)



WHAT IS IT?

AYA is an agreement between you and the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) where you agree to work toward goals, and MCFD helps support you financially. AYA funding can cover things like housing, childcare, tuition and health care while you are attending school, rehabilitation, skills-training, cultural or approved life-skills programs.

AYA provides up to \$1250 per month, but not everyone will qualify for that much. You get payments every month of the year, up to a maximum of 4 years (48 months total).

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for an AYA you must be between 19 and 26 (cannot be past the day of your 27th birthday). On your 19th birthday you had to have been in one of the following care arrangements:

- Continuing Custody Order (CCO)
- In the process of adoption
- A Youth Agreement

If you're not sure, you can contact MCFD toll-free at 1-877-387-7027 to see if you're eligible.

HOW DO I APPLY?

You can find the application form, a list of AYA-approved programs by searching 'Agreements with Young Adults' on the BC Government website.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/home>



FINANCIAL SUPPORT
The resources in this section can provide you with money to help you reach your goals.

Provincial Tuition Waiver Program



WHAT IS IT?

The Provincial Tuition Waiver program covers tuition and some fees for BC students who are former youth in care aged 19 up to their 27th birthdays. Tuition Waiver can be used at BC public post-secondary institutions and some trades schools.

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for Provincial Tuition Waiver:

- You have to be 19-26 years old or 17-18 years old if you've graduated from high school and you're not in care anymore
- You can be going to school full time or part time
- You have to have been in care in BC under one or any combination of care statuses for a minimum of 24 months (2 years). You don't need to have been in care for 2 years in a row. For example, you can have been on a VCA for a year, gone back to live with your parents for 5 years, and then been on a Youth Agreement for a year. You don't need to have been in care when you turned 19.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Download the application form from <https://studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/provincial-tuition-waiver-program> and bring it to your school's financial aid office, who will submit the application for you.

FIND OUT MORE!

Find out what schools you can go to on a Tuition Waiver at <https://studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/provincial-tuition-waiver-program>

If you have any questions about the program, have trouble applying through your school's Financial Aid office, or believe your application for Tuition Waiver was unfairly rejected, email tuitionwaiver@gov.bc.ca.





FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The resources in this section can provide you with money to help you reach your goals.

Youth Futures Education Fund (YFEF)



WHAT IS IT?

The Youth Futures Education Fund provides funds to support living expenses to former youth in care who are attending a post-secondary school on a Provincial Tuition Waiver. YFEF is meant to help cover expenses like books, housing or utilities.

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the Youth Futures Education Fund, you must meet all of these criteria:

- Be a student attending a public post-secondary institution on a Provincial Tuition Waiver
- Be enrolled full-time or part-time in a program
- Demonstrate financial need
- Be in good standing, attending class on a regular basis and passing assignments and exams. Exceptional circumstances that prevent students from being in good standing or attending will be considered on a case by case basis

HOW DO I APPLY?

You can get the application form at your school's Financial Aid office.

FIND OUT MORE!

Visit <https://studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/youth-futures-education-fund> or <https://youthfutures.ca/>

If you have questions, contact info@youthfutures.ca.





FINANCIAL SUPPORT
The resources in this section can provide you with money to help you reach your goals.

Youth Educational Assistance Fund (YEOF)



WHAT IS IT?

YEOF provides grants of up to \$5,500 per program year to former youth in care in BC. The fund helps to cover education-related expenses. Students can receive a maximum of four grants.

AM I ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for YEOF, you have to be:

- Between 19-24 years old
- You had to have been on a Continuing Custody Order (CCO) or a Guardianship Agreement when you turned 19, or for at least five years before you were adopted.
- A full-time student or a student with a permanent disability studying at a 40% course load
- Registered in certificate, diploma, or degree program that's at least 12 weeks long at a designated post-secondary institution.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Apply at <https://studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/youth-educational-assistance-fund-former-youth-care>

If you have been denied YEOF and would like to appeal the decision, you can find the appeal form at https://studentaidbc.ca/sites/all/files/form-library/yeaf_appeal.pdf



Key Support Contacts

If you go to one of the schools below and you need help and aren't sure where to start, you can reach out to the contact person listed. These contacts were provided to us by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training.

BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Stephanie Williams
Coordinator, Program Eligibility
604-456-8136
stephanie_williams@bcit.ca

CAMOSUN COLLEGE

Stephanie Pedneault
Student Support Manager
oss@camosun.ca

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

Lesley Nelson
Manager, Student Financial Accounts
604-990-7977 | Leslynn@capilanou.ca

COAST MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

Allison Conway
Financial Aid Officer
250-635-6511 ext. 5204
aconway@coastmountaincollege.ca

COLLEGE OF THE ROCKIES

Lois Murray
Financial Aid and Awards Officer
MURRAY@cotr.bc.ca

DOUGLAS COLLEGE

Emma Horsley
Associate Registrar
horsleye@douglascollege.ca

EMILY CARR UNIVERSITY OF ART AND DESIGN

Charise Bryan
Associate Registrar
cbryan@ecuad.ca

JUSTICE INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Scott Ostertag
Financial Aid Office
financialaid@jibc.ca

KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

Naomi Stuart-Chiu
Manager, Student Awards & Financial Assistance
604-599-3180
naomi.stuart-chiu@kpu.ca

LANGARA COLLEGE

Jordan Berger
Assistant Registrar, Records, Registration & Financial Aid
604-323-5321
jberger@langara.ca

Anna Beck

Supervisor of the Financial Aid Department at Langara
abeck@langara.ca

NATIVE EDUCATION COLLEGE

Wendy Simon
Dean of Student Services
wsimon@necvancoouver.org

NICOLA VALLEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Amanda Street
Associate Registrar – Learner to Graduation
250-819-6260 | astreet@nvit.bc.ca

Tessa Quewezance

Associate Registrar – Recruitment to Learner
778-952-5482
tquewezance@nvit.bc.ca

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE

Doris Funk
250-334-5022 | Doris.Funk@nic.bc.ca

NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLEGE

Tanya Jones
Financial Services Manager
250-784-7515 | tjones@nlc.bc.ca

OKANAGAN COLLEGE

Shelley Dos Santos
Manager, Financial Services
sdossantos@okanagan.bc.ca

ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY

Gwen Campden
Financial Aid & Awards Team
250-391-2600 ext. 4222
rrufinancialaid@royalroads.ca

SELKIRK COLLEGE

Teresa Dolan
Financial Aid Officer
1-866-301-6601 ext. 21290
tdolan@selkirk.ca

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Pat Graca
Director, Enrollment and Student Services
pgraca@safu.ca

Karen McKittrick-Twaites

Manager, Student Aid
778-782-5863 | fassist@sfu.ca

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Carly Crosson
Manager, Accounting – Revenue
250-371-5649 | ccrosson@tru.ca

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA (VANCOUVER)

Chris Ramabran
Enrolment Service Advisor
chris.ramabran@ubc.ca

UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

Lorraine Bingert
Manager, Financial Aid & Awards – Student Services
604-557-7677
Lorraine.bingert@ufv.ca

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Linda Fehr
Coordinator, Awards and Financial Aid
awards@unbc.ca

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Jessica Gelowsky
Project Manager, Division of Student Affairs
250-721-7556 | avpsasec@uvic.ca

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Murray MacGregor
Supervisor, Financial Aid and Awards
604-871-7000 ext. 7048
mmacgregor@vcc.ca

VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY

Angela Meneghetti
Financial Aid Access Specialist
250-740-6423
angela.meneghetti@viu.ca

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BY COMING TOGETHER, WE'RE NOT ALONE

Contact Us!

Phone [1-800-565-8055](tel:1-800-565-8055)

Email info@fbcyicn.ca

Website www.fbcyicn.ca

Facebook [@YouthInCareBC](https://www.facebook.com/YouthInCareBC)

Instagram [@fbcyicn](https://www.instagram.com/fbcyicn)

Twitter [@FBCYICN](https://twitter.com/FBCYICN)

Please note that any information agencies and organizations provided about themselves has not been fact-checked by the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks. Inclusion or exclusion in this guide was based on responses received from agencies and does not imply an endorsement or a disapproval.

The Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks is not familiar with all the agencies and organizations listed in the guide and is not responsible for anything you experience if you access their services. We are not liable for any damages which may result in any way from using the information from this guide.

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