

THRIVE Prince George's

GUARANTEED BASIC INCOME PROGRAM Former Foster Youth

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Human Services Policy Committee • July 10, 2026

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Our History

1992

Founded in collaboration with the Juvenile Court, Department of Social Services, and Legal Aid.

2000

Reorganized by community, civic, and business leaders, and partnered with the child welfare court to advocate for the best interest of every child.

2020

Launched Thrive Prince George's, the county's first guaranteed income pilot for former foster care youth.

2026

Celebrating 25 years of protecting and advocating for Prince George's County's children.

Who We Are

Mission: Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) / Prince George's County, Inc. is a volunteer-based organization that partners with the juvenile court to improve the lives of children living in foster care who have suffered from abuse and neglect.

168

young people received advocacy support in FY25 — 40% of youth in care countywide

140

volunteers contributed over 8,500 hours advocating for youth in FY25

25

years serving Prince George's County — celebrating our anniversary in 2026



CASA Team



What is Thrive GBI?



Body

- Guaranteed Basic Income pilot
- Path to economic mobility
- First pilot in Prince George's County
- 50 former foster care youth – 2020-2022
- Approach to increase financial stability
- Empower participants to utilize resources where they are needed most
- Reduce the racial wealth gap

Collaborative Partnerships



THRIVE PRINCE GEORGE'S

The First-Ever Guaranteed Income Program in Prince George's County

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



\$4 million investment of public and private philanthropic resources



\$800 monthly cash payments over a **24-month** period



Empowers participants to **deploy resources** where they are needed most



THE THRIVE PARTICIPANTS

After the November 2023 announcement, UCAP & CASA received 5,500 applications for the program. Through a carefully designed, impartial review process, they selected 175 participants (125 seniors and 50 youth) from a pool of 1,239 eligible seniors and 71 eligible youth.

Participants represent the wide range of challenges faced across Prince George's County. Before *Thrive Prince George's*, many earned less than \$15,000 annually, well below the Federal Poverty line. More than 75% were housing cost burdened, spending over 30% of income on housing. Over two-thirds (68.3%) reported food insecurity, with 41% of youth having cut meal sizes or skipped meals due to lack of money.

Key Demographics:

CAREGIVERS



Of the 125 senior participants enrolled by UCAP, 37 are caregivers



Of the 50 youth participants enrolled by CASA, 27 are caregivers.

AVERAGE AGE



The average age of senior participants was 69 years old



The youth participants averaged 23 years old at time of enrollment.



EDUCATION

Among the population 5% of youth and 23% of Seniors have obtained a college degree or trade school certification.



INCOME

48% of participants overall, reported total individual annual incomes of less than \$15,000 per year—including 68% of Youth

Thrive GBI Timeline

First Gift
Disbursement

Target Date:
April 15th

Monthly Gift
Payment

Target Date:
15th Of Every
Month

Meet with
CASA
Target Date:

By May 31st
virtual/call

In-Person
Social
Target Date:

End of August

Meet with
CASA
Target Date:

By December
6th

Meet with
CASA every 6
months
in
2025



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

8-Month Participant Outcomes

Independent evaluation by the Urban Institute, July 2025 • 21 of 50 former foster youth surveyed at 8 months (42% response rate)

- Respondents reported spending most of the pilot cash on housing, food, transportation, and children's needs.
- Respondents reported being less housing cost burdened and less food insecure.
- Employment held relatively steady; interviews suggest young people are using the added stability to pursue education and pathways to better-paying jobs.

How Participants Used the Funds

Former foster youth • share of respondents reporting “a lot” or “all or almost all” of their Thrive payment went toward each need

54% Children’s / grandchildren’s needs

42% Transportation

41% Housing

35% Utilities

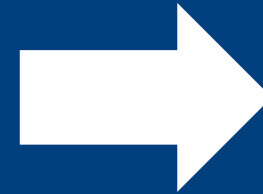
32% Food

Housing Cost Burden: Baseline vs. 8 Months

Former foster youth spending more than 30% of personal income on rent or mortgage

54.5%

Baseline



10.2%

8 Months

↓ Down 44.3 percentage points

Based on a small, low-response sample (N=19-21) and should be interpreted with caution. Severe housing cost burden (>50% of income) saw a smaller, mixed change over the same period.

Employment, Food Security & Health



Former foster youth • change from baseline to the 8-month survey

Employment

57% → 51%

employed. Interviews suggest young people are using the stability to pursue education and pathways to better-paying jobs.

Food Security

75% → 64%

reported food didn't last and there was no money to buy more

Mental Health

33% → 29%

felt unable to stop worrying — improved
Feeling anxious rose (28% → 35%); results are mixed and based on a small sample (N=19-21).

Participant Spotlight: Danaeyah Lived Experience Expert

“I feel like I’m more in a position to achieve. Before I doubted myself a lot, but now I’m proving myself wrong.”

- Connected to CASA since 8th grade, Danaeyah used Thrive support to complete her CNA certification while working and raising her son.
- Put a down payment on a car, secured her own housing, and moved into a sterilization technician role at Southern Maryland Hospital.
- Now budgeting, saving, and investing for her children’s future — and mentoring other young mothers along the way.



Thrive in Action



BIG Conference, Washington, DC

Thrive youth and CASA staff joined national leaders to inform the guaranteed income conversation.



April Thrive Roundtable

The pilot's culminating discussion with CASA leadership, participants, and resource partners.

Q&A

Connect With Us



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advocating for Prince George's County's children
and youth in foster care.*

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