

POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES, INC.

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Positive Alternatives, Inc. is a United Way Member Agency

RESIDENT'S FIRST DAY CHECKLIST

Think back to your first day of kindergarten or camp. Remembering our feelings of vulnerability and newness will help us in working with kids, especially their first day at Positive Alternatives. We become very familiar with the surroundings here, but remember this is the first day this youth is seeing our facility and meeting several new kids and staff at once. They are most likely wondering "what is Positive Alternatives?" and what is going to happen to me during my stay here?" On top of all of this, they are arriving shortly after some kind of crisis in their lives and are very scared and nervous. Their lives are being tossed upside down.

What can you do to help during this vital transition in their lives?

You want to balance giving the youth information about the program they're under and just being there for them- listening, talking, laughing- getting to know them and their feelings. This check list will help guide you through the process of informing the youth as much as possible about the shelter, what the average day looks like, what they will do while they are here, and what is expected of them. The more knowledge they have, the smoother their stay here will go.

Check off as completed. Keep on clipboard till complete, then file

- Check immediate needs
- Give Resident a tour of the house
- Show the exits and emergency evacuation diagram. Explain emergency procedures
- Explain Agency Mission- What the program is about- Staffing patterns and staff's role- What the rest of their day looks like.
- Show and explain the daily schedule
- Have resident read rulebook in quiet area
- Explain our expectations for behaviors and participation
- Explain Good Vibes, Good Prize incentive
- Explain closure and transition
- Assess hygiene needs
- Assign bedroom and distribute bedding

Resident Name: _____ Date: _____

