



**We are interested in your professional work on this topic!**

**Please get in touch with us**

- if you / your agency / your youth welfare office has already developed services for shaping the transition of adolescents and young adults from care (residential and foster).
- if you / your agency / your youth welfare office is interested in the further development of your services relating to transition, taking into account the insights gained in other European countries.

We will get in touch with you concerning the possibility of a telephone interview.

In addition, you have the option of participating in one of the expert workshops in order to discuss models of good practice with practitioners and policy makers.

If you are interested, please contact the project team members *Ms. Britta Sievers* or *Ms. Severine Thomas*.

**Project Partners:**

***Internationale Gesellschaft für erzieherische Hilfen e.V. (German Section of FICE - Fédération Internationale des Communautés Éducatives)***

*Galvanistraße 30  
60486 Frankfurt am Main, Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0) 69 633986 -0  
www.igfh.de*

**Please contact:**

IGfH - Britta Sievers  
Tel.: +49 (0) 69 633986 -17  
E-Mail: [britta.sievers@igfh.de](mailto:britta.sievers@igfh.de)

***Stiftung Universität Hildesheim  
Institut für Sozial- und Organisationspädagogik  
(Institute for Social and Organizational Pedagogy)***

*Marienburger Platz 22, LN 313  
31141 Hildesheim, Germany*

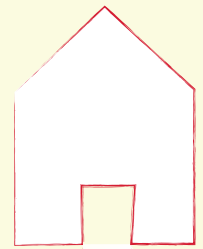
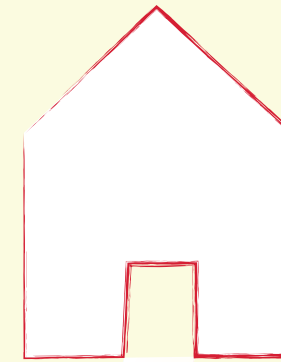
**Please contact:**

Uni-Hildesheim - Dr. Severine Thomas  
Tel: +49 (0) 5121 883 -895  
E-Mail: [severine.thomas@uni-hildesheim.de](mailto:severine.thomas@uni-hildesheim.de)

**Project Homepage:**

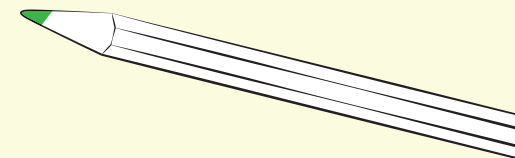
[www.uni-hildesheim.de/careleaver](http://www.uni-hildesheim.de/careleaver)

**The project runs** from January 2012 to December 2013.



**What happens after out-of-home care?**

Models of good practice for Care Leavers in Germany



STIFTUNG DEUTSCHE  
JUGENDMARKE e.V.



Internationale  
Gesellschaft für  
erzieherische Hilfen



## Background of the Project

In almost all countries young people who grow up in care (e.g. residential homes, foster families) are disproportionately disadvantaged in terms of educational outcomes. In their educational careers they can often only rely to a limited extent on family support and depend on public infrastructure and services as well as on informal assistance.

Almost all international studies show that these young people have to overcome many transitional barriers on their path to an independent adult life. This not only makes it difficult for them to enter working life; their attempts to achieve a financially independent lifestyle are also often precarious.

The youth policy of many European countries – and of Germany too – has so far barely acknowledged the difficulties this group of young people face with respect to their chances of making a successful transition to independence following life in a residential children's home or a foster family. Against this background, a look at the services and support structures that already exist in different countries would seem to be worthwhile in order to discuss the possibilities of transferring the insights gained there to the practice of youth welfare in Germany.

## The „Care Leaver“ Project

The German Section of FICE (IGfH-Internationale Gesellschaft für erzieherische Hilfen e.V.) and the University of Hildesheim are conducting the project 'What happens after out-of-home care? – Models of good practice for care leavers in Germany'. This project focuses on the question of how adolescents and young adults who are unable to live with their birth parents can be best supported in their transition to adulthood.

The main objective of the project is to gain an overview of the existing models of good practice in Germany as well as other countries in order to stimulate a transfer of key elements of these models into the German practice of child and youth welfare.

More precisely, the aim is to:

- describe models of good practice for supporting adolescents and young adults in Germany who are leaving care (residential or foster care) in their transition to adulthood.
- discuss these models in the light of experiences made in Germany and abroad.
- make the project findings available for use in pedagogical practice in the form of a workbook.

## Good Practice in Germany

In 2012 the intent is first of all to describe the situation in Germany using examples of good practice for enabling the transition from residential or foster care to an independent life. For this purpose, models of practice which have proved to be effective will be compiled and assessed in terms of their transferability. The aim is to identify key players in the transitioning process as well as to identify interesting projects and approaches.

It is the project's aim to deepen the knowledge on concepts of transition in residential and foster care. For this purpose we will interview professionals in Germany and other countries working in this field. By the end of 2013, the project findings will be compiled in a workbook.

## Expert Workshops

In the first half of 2013, national and international workshops will take place in which the perspectives for transferring models of good practice will be discussed. The target groups are practitioners and policy makers from youth welfare practice as well as researchers.

