

FIRST PLACE FUND FOR YOUTH

The First Place Fund for Youth is an organization founded in 1998 in Oakland, California, that offers services to youth who are emerging out of the foster care system into independent living. The First Place Fund offers significantly discounted housing and assistance in life skills, employment assistance, financial assistance in the form of micro-credit, and education. Having served hundreds of individuals who have "timed out" out of the foster system, The First Place Fund offers a housing subsidy, which gradually phases out over two years. At that time, tenancy is legally transferred fully to the inhabitant, who can live there as long as that person can meet the rent. The First Place Fund boasts a record of participants being six times less likely to be arrested or incarcerated, four times less likely to be homeless, three times less likely to be on welfare, and 50 percent more likely to be employed.²¹

The First Place Fund's mission statement is as follows:

It is the mission of First Place to promote long-term self-sufficiency among emancipated foster youth by providing them with the skills, resources, and support to make a successful transition to adulthood.

1. Define the First Place Fund's objectives.
2. Define the organization's capabilities.
3. Who will meet these capabilities?
4. What resources will be needed? How will they be spent?
5. Where will the resources come from?
6. Devise both a sales and nonsales earned revenue strategy for the First Place Fund.