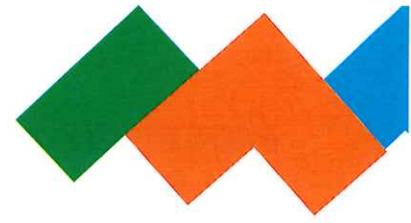




ASPIRE



What is ASPIRE?



A six state consortium implementing the Department of Education's PROMISE Initiative (Promoting Readiness of Minors in Supplemental Security Income), advancing the self-sufficiency of youth receiving SSI (Supplemental Security Income) and their families.

Arizona, Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Utah will partner to recruit and enroll 2,000 youth, ages 14 to 16, who receive SSI. 1,000 youth will be randomly assigned to Usual Services and 1,000 will be randomly assigned to ASPIRE Services.

Achieving Success by Promoting Readiness for Education and Employment

The goal of this experimental design is to compare youth and families who access current services, with youth who receive enhanced services. Everyone will receive information to improve their overall family income. The youth will be randomly assigned to either the ASPIRE Services group or the Usual Services group.

ASPIRE will develop a set of coordinated interventions, services, and supports to help empower youth and families to dream, imagine, and strive for a better life.

Usual Services

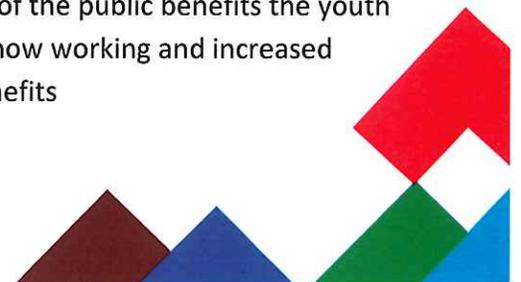
The youth and their families assigned to the Usual Services group will access current services in the typical manner existing in each state. They will be provided resources to explore and pursue further education and employment.

ASPIRE Services

The youth and families assigned to the ASPIRE Services group will receive interventions to improve their educational and employment outcomes.

ASPIRE interventions include:

-  Training and information for parents and families, including advocacy, community resources, educational opportunities, and more
-  An individualized explanation of the public benefits the youth and family are receiving, and how working and increased earnings will impact those benefits



ASPIRE Services, continued:

-  Financial management education and training to assist families in understanding their values and available resources to move from poverty to self-sufficiency
-  Case management services provided to the youth and family to assist them in navigating these complicated systems, and interacting with school personnel, vocational rehabilitation counselors, and all other community services
-  Paid employment opportunity for the youth
-  Self-determination training for the youth and families

Arizona is responsible to enroll 1050 youth and families by March 30, 2016. The ASPIRE Arizona team will:

- **Conduct outreach to allied agencies, community partners and stakeholders to explain ASPIRE and encourage enhanced communication with youth and families about the project**
- **Recruit youth and families with direct mailings, community meetings and one to one conversations**

Partners, agencies and organizations are encouraged to join the effort to reach out to youth and families who may be eligible for ASPIRE.

Examples of activities include:

- **Host informational meetings with ASPIRE staff for families, constituencies and staff**
- **Refer youth and families to *ASPIRE Arizona***
- **Distribute *ASPIRE Arizona* information to listserv and newsletter recipients**
- **Explore the ASPIRE website: www.aspirewest.org**
- **Like ASPIREWEST on Facebook**
- **Follow ASPIRE on Twitter**

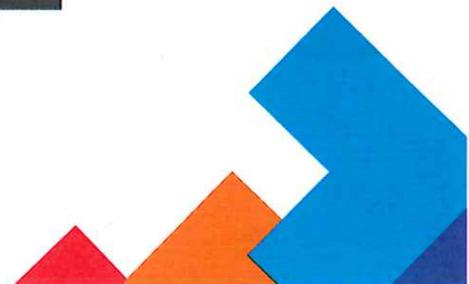
For further information, contact the *ASPIRE Arizona* team at (602) 542-4043. Visit www.aspirewest.org to learn more.

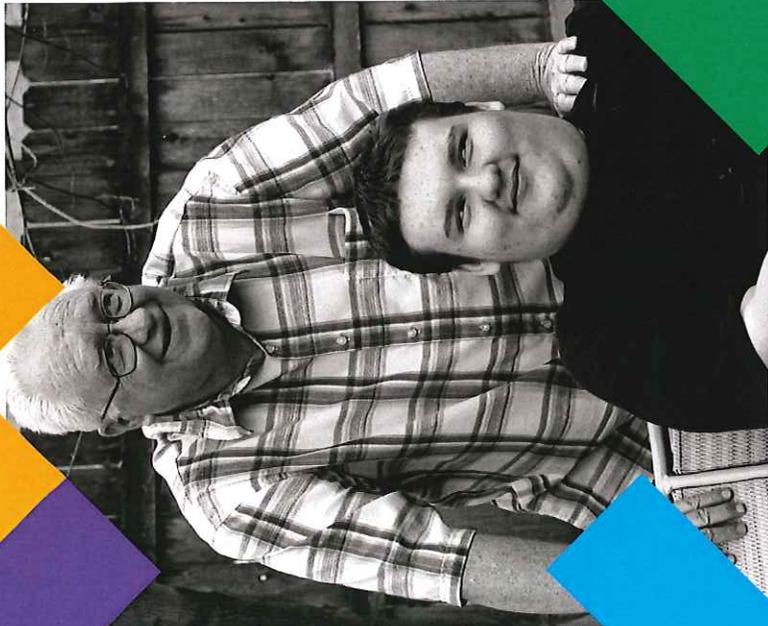
ASPIRE is a project of the U.S. Department of Education and is funded by the Office of Special Education Programs through the PROMISE initiative (Promoting Readiness of Minors in Supplemental Security Income, # H418P130009). ASPIRE includes the states of Arizona, Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Utah. The Utah State Office of Rehabilitation is the lead agency for ASPIRE. The Arizona Governor's Office of Children, Youth and Families is the lead agency in Arizona.



ASPIRE

www.aspirewest.org





BENEFITS OF ASPIRE

- Improve your education
- Explore work options, even find a job
- Explore ways to pay for college
- Learn about resources in your community
- Make decisions about your future
- An ASPIRE team member to work with you and your family

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ASPIRE will develop a set of coordinated interventions, services and supports to empower youth and families to dream, to imagine and to strive for a better life.



ASPIRE

To learn more, contact:

ASPIRE Arizona

Main Line: (602) 542-4043
Governor's Office for Children,
Youth and Families
1700 W. Washington, Suite 230
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

www.aspirewest.org



ASPIRE

Achieving Success by Promoting
Readiness for Education and Employment

www.aspirewest.org



WHAT ARE ASPIRE SERVICES?

- Help to navigate school options
- Information to improve education and career choices
- Paid work experience
- Understanding Social Security, Medicaid and more
- Money management coaching with the family
- Parent support and training

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

1. Call an ASPIRE team member
2. If you choose to join ASPIRE, you will be placed in one of two groups: ASPIRE Services or Usual Services
3. Each youth will have a 50-50 chance to be assigned to the ASPIRE Services group

WHAT IS ASPIRE?

ASPIRE is a study for youth ages 14 – 16 who receive SSI (Supplemental Security Income). When you enroll, you and your family will get information to further education and employment. Half of the youth and families who enroll will be given added services and supports. The ASPIRE team will assist youth and families to find and use services in their communities.

The purpose of the ASPIRE study is to compare the services and supports to find what works best for youth and families.



WHAT ARE USUAL SERVICES?

- Learn about supports in your community
- Explore resources to reach your goals
- Find out more about college and adult life
- Access services to find a job and more

WHAT WILL I DO?

- Enroll today
- Keep in touch with your ASPIRE team
- Answer questions about your ASPIRE experience