



EIGHT WAYS TO USE
ON THEIR OWN
IN YOUR COMMUNITY



1. Give copies to prospective donors, providers of Door Openers, and community leaders to help them understand the challenges youth face when they leave care.
2. Organize reading and discussion groups for youth. Reading about other young adults' struggles and successes can spur a free exchange about their personal concerns.
3. Use a chapter from *On Their Own* as an example and suggest that young people write their own life stories.
4. Suggest that your local foster care and Independent Living agencies, courts, and CASA chapters make the book available to their staff members and volunteers.
5. Encourage your local Independent Living providers to use *On Their Own* as a tool to help open youths' eyes to the challenges they may face.
6. Ask your local library to suggest *On Their Own* as a choice for book groups.
7. Suggest that your local or state foster parent organization convene a subgroup of parents who are fostering older teens to read *On Their Own* and discuss how foster parents can help prepare youth for adulthood.
8. Host a signing party and talk by Gary Stangler or Martha Shirk as a way of getting more people in your community interested in providing support to your young people.

For more information, please contact Carla Owens at cowens@jimcaseyyouth.org or Martha Shirk at mrs8468@aol.com

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