

VDSS - Youth Services (Independent Living)

Highlights – April 2023

Youth Services Program Training Tools

Youth Services Training tools are being added to [FUSION – Services For Older Youth](#) page.

Currently posted:

[How to Document IL Services in Oasis](#)

[How to Complete Chafee and ETV Quarterly Reports](#)

Use these tools as an individual learning opportunity or as a team during foster care unit meetings.

More trainings tools to come.

VDSS - CWS3061W: Permanency Planning with Teens

Refresh your knowledge on how to effectively work with youth and young adults in foster care.

CWS3061W is a live webinar course, consisting of three sessions for three consecutive days.

In this course, participants will learn how to help teenagers identify and establish emotional connections and build the family support necessary for navigating the difficult transition into adulthood. Participants will learn about adolescent development and the need of permanency for teens. Participants will learn youth engagement models and the recommended strategies for sustaining well-being. Youth-specific recruitment methods will teach learners ways to involve teens in identifying their own permanency resources.

Next available training session [The Virginia Learning Center \(virginia.gov\)](#) - 4/26/23 -4/28/23 9:00am – 12:30am

Foster Youth to Independence Initiative – Next Steps

VDSS-Youth Service has plans to meet with Ruth White with the National Center for Housing and Child Welfare along with members from Virginia Supportive Housing, Richmond Development Housing Authority and Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The hope is to begin a conversation of the housing needs of youth with foster care experiences in Virginia and the current challenges of accessing FYI Housing Vouchers. Following this conversation VDSS in connection with Project LIFE hopes to be able to bring another FYI Housing training to be able to move forward with the FYI Voucher process throughout the State.



JOIN US! Youth Services Team CHECK-INS

Come participate in a 30-minute open discussion with the Youth Services team about independent Living Services updates. *Bring your questions.* Click on link to join the meeting [VDSS Statewide Youth Services Check-ins w/ Project Life](#). Registration not required.

Tuesday, April 4, 2022 @ 3:30pm – NYTD, Housing Support HB 349, ETV, Driving Program updates

Tuesday, May 2, 2022 @ 3:30pm – Speakout Recruitment, iFoster, Driving Program updates

Life Skills Assessments and Transition Plans

SafeMeasures reports a decline in Life Skills Assessment and Transition Plan compliance. Timely completion of these tools helps to building youth adult partnerships and establishes engagement around the Youth's needs and priorities.

Does your LDSS need training on to increase your localities life skills assessments and transition plan completion rates? Connect with your **Project LIFE** regional consultant to schedule a training for your area. gmack@umfs.org



Capacity Building – Center For States

Voices of Lived Experience in Child Welfare – Kyle’s Story



<https://youtu.be/km0GILVLOB8>