

VDSS - Youth Services (Independent Living)

Highlights

Life Skills Assessments and Transition Plans [Broadcast-IL Skills Assessment and Transition Plan](#)

[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.

Northern Region - gmack@umfs.org

Central Region – tmurphy@umfs.org

Eastern Region – mlee@umfs.org

Piedmont Region – cemory-clegg@umfs.org

Western Region – asteffey@umfs.org

Housing Support [Broadcast-HB 349 Housing Support](#)

House Bill 349 – directs LDSS to provide housing support to youth who turn 18 in foster care on or after July 1, 2022, and are not participating in Fostering Futures. LDSS should notify all youth that would have been eligible to receive assistance as of July 1, 2022, of this eligible support. LDSS will need to submit completed Housing Support Communication Forms, found on FUSION [Foster Care Forms](#), to va.ilp@dss.virginia.gov to receive approval for each individual youth requesting housing support. Funding assistance will be transferred to Budget Line 869 via LASER after each individual housing support request.

Please send any questions and or requests for funding to the Housing Support Specialist Solange Francis – va.ilp@dss.virginia.gov.

SELFLESS LOVE FOUNDATION

STEPS TO FOSTER INTERDEPENDENCE

BUILD
Trust & Connection

CREATE
Support Networks

TEACH
Collaboration & Communication

ENCOURAGE
Independence with Support

PROMOTE
Life Skills

Welcome! New Youth Services Team Member – SOLANGE FRANCIS – Housing Support Program Specialist

Meet

Solange Francis

HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAM SPECIALIST

Currently, Solange (Soul-Lawn-Jay) is attending Northern Virginia Community College. She will graduate May 2024 and plans to continue her education at a 4 year university. Solange speaks Spanish fluently. Her work experience includes a Breast Feeding Peer Counselor at Virginia Department of Health (WIC); a Medical Records Processor at a health agency; and a Detention Teacher at Manassas City Public Schools. She is the mother of two girls and a boy. In her free time, she enjoys listening to music, watching Netflix, and sleeping in (when she can). She is very happy to be a part of the Foster Care Youth Services Team!

Solange will be working part-time, managing Housing Support Program requests from the LDSS, verifying youth eligibility, approving funding assistance and maintaining number of eligibility months remaining. Please welcome Solange to the team!

JOIN US! Youth Services Team CHECK-INS

We'll be back in September!

NYTD PART B

April 1, 2023, began **Period B** of the NYTD 2023-Cohort 5 reporting. LDSS workers will need to select the appropriate time frame in SafeMeasures to be able to view their **Period B** list.

EVIDENT CHANGE NYTD Baseline 17 Year-Old Survey Completion
Includes: Youth who turned 17 during the selected survey period(04/01/2023 to 09/30/2023) and were in care at some point from their birthday to 45 da... More...

Back				Timeframe
Graph View	Timeframe: Cohort 5, Period B (Apr '23 - Sep '23)			Cohort 5, Period A (Oct '22 - Mar '23)
Comparison				Cohort 5, Period B (Apr '23 - Sep '23)
Full List	Survey Completion	Count	%	
Date	Completed	0	0.0%	

Remember youth entering foster care within 45 days of turning 17 years old will still require a NYTD survey to be completed within the 45.

As always if you have any questions please reach out to monica.cabell@dss.virginia.gov or any Youth Services team member.

Project LIFE



Exciting events are happening this month. Get your youth involved. View and SHARE the Project Life June Newsletter. [PLIFE latest Newsletter](#)

Contact your **Project LIFE** Regional Consultant for any Independent Living training and/or group ideas or needs! - [Project LIFE - Our People](#)

Check out Spring Statewide Youth Conference Highlight photos [2023 Spring Conference – Project LIFE](#)

Don't miss out! Follow Project LIFE to keep up to date for the FALL conference date and location [Conferences – Project LIFE](#)

TRAINING AND EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

Be on the lookout for **Youth Services (IL)** virtual regional trainings. Providing an overview of Youth Services topics to include:

- Chafee and ETV funding, ETV Eligibility, IL Services Documentation, Fostering Futures, Housing Support Program and more!

Dates coming soon!

Project Life will be hosting additional virtual trainings on:

- Life Skills Assessment
- Transition Planning

Tentative dates: Tuesday, July 18 and Tuesday August 8th

Self-Care Tool!

[CREATING A HEALTHIER LIFE, A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO WELLNESS](#)

