



Welcome to Project LIFE

Project LIFE — Living Independently, Focusing on Empowerment — is operated by UMFS in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS). The goal of the project is to coordinate and enhance the provision of independent living services to youth in foster care who are about to transition into adulthood.

Points of focus for Project LIFE include, among others:

- **Continued development of the Virginia Youth Advisory Council (V-YAC)**
- **Provision of technical assistance to the regional Independent Living Program coordinators' committees**
- **Initiation of a new regionally based “Educate, Advocate, and Elevate” (EAE) effort**

Project LIFE will serve a greater number of youth ages 14-21 through five regionally based Independent Living Consultants. The partnership will also carry out the goals of the Chafee Foster Care Independence Act and the principles of the Children's Services System Transformation emphasizing children's rights to permanency.

Project LIFE will ensure that local departments of social services receive the support, training, and technical assistance needed to prepare youth for their future.

Project LIFE

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