

Project LIFE

Project LIFE (Living Independently, Focusing on Empowerment) is a partnership of UMFS with and funded by the Virginia Department of Social Services.

Overview

We enhance the successful transition of older youth in foster care to adulthood by:

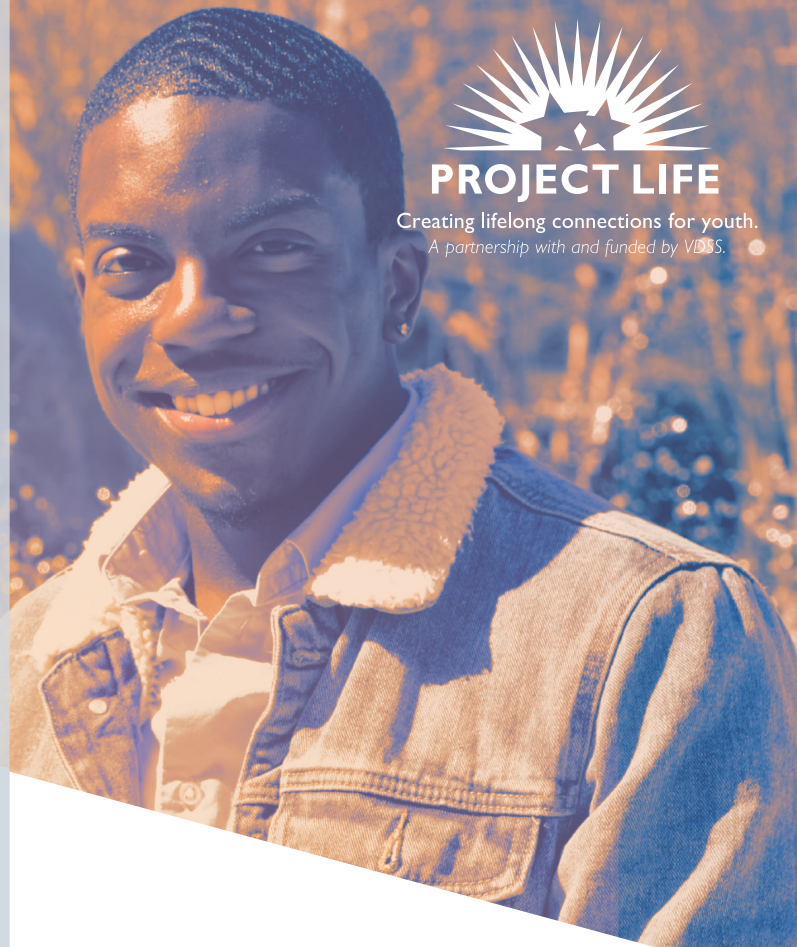
- Increasing the capacity of professionals working with youth to engage in sound, evidence-based practices.
- Providing opportunities for your youth that:
 1. Promote permanent connections.
 2. Effectively prepare them for transition to adulthood.
 3. Facilitate meaningful youth input into state and local policies and practices.

Who We Serve

- Youth ages 14-23 in and transitioning out of foster care in Virginia.
- Youth who have been adopted at age 16 or older.



Creating lifelong connections for youth.
A partnership with and funded by VDSS.



Our Work in Action

“Project LIFE has supported me in reaching my goals by giving me a voice and providing opportunities to express who I am as a person. Without Project LIFE, I would not be the strong young man I am today. **”**

- Melvin, Project LIFE participant

Over 2,500 youth have participated in activities focused on life-skills development, permanency, leadership, or advocacy since 2009.

To learn more about
Project LIFE, visit
vaprojectlife.org or
contact us:

Phone:
1.800.292.0305
Email:
infoprojectlife@umfs.org



How We Support You

It is our goal to provide our partners with the tools and resources needed to help youth transition to adulthood. Project LIFE provides learning opportunities for local and private agency staff so you can feel fully equipped and empowered to help youth reach success.

Free informational sessions, coaching, and support on:

- Independent Living Services, including the Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program
- Casey Life Skills Assessment (CLSA) and Transition Planning
- National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)
- Permanency Planning
- Youth-Adult Partnerships

Funding

Funded through a grant provided by the Virginia Department of Social Services. All events and activities are free of charge.



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How We Support Youth

Project LIFE helps youth build permanent connections and effectively prepares them for adulthood by providing:

- Permanency and relationship support
- Learning opportunities and events focused on life skill development, advocacy, leadership, and relationship building
- Information sessions on Independent Living Services/ETV and NYTD
- CLSA and Transition Plan support
- Statewide youth conferences
- College tours and service-learning events
- Advocacy and leadership opportunities at the local, regional, and statewide levels
- Connections to resources throughout the state