



APPLICATION

Transition programming for young adults ages 14-25

"Empowering Young Adults, Promoting Leadership, Inspiring Independence, Creating Change"

Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living

435 Allentown Drive

Allentown, PA 18109

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If you have any questions please contact:

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LVCIL Vision Statement:

The Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living, Inc. (LVCIL) envisions an environment where people with disabilities are an integral part of the entire community, as evidenced by full participation in all aspects of life and an absence of barriers.

LVCIL Mission Statement:

The Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living, Inc. believes every individual has the right to be self-determining and to live in dignity within an environment that is free from barriers of all types—physical, psychological, social and economic. LVCIL facilitates the empowerment of people with disabilities to reach their full potential, enhances the community’s awareness of the assets of citizens with disabilities, and serves as a forum for cross-disability advocacy and peer support throughout the Lehigh Valley

“Independent living is a state of mind. It has to do with exercising options, making choices, self-determination, and the right to control your own life.”

(Westside Center for Independent Living Los Angeles, California)

For all S2L programming participants must:

- Be between 14 and 25
- Have a disability of some kind
- Interview for and be accepted into program(s) you apply for
- Identify goals around Independent Living for their futures (Independent living, employment, college, etc...)
- Be willing to work with independent life coach, staff, volunteers and other young adults
- Take part in the program to the best of one's ability
- Have transportation to and from programs. Transportation during program time is provided by the program and covered under LVCIL insurance.
- Be willing to provide necessary information and documentation when and if needed, including IEP's, physician prescriptions, or other paperwork
- Pay for services to be billed on a schedule of your request. LVCIL is willing to work with any funding option and is searching for ways to reduce costs through: grants, sponsorships, and other funding sources.
- Sign a contract about services rendered and payment schedules. Review and sign that contract on a yearly basis. A family can stop their programming at any time.
- Acceptance will be based on the selection committee's ability to make non biased, non-discriminatory selections which are in accordance to the non-discrimination policy of LVCIL. The committee will look at: needs, wants, desires, supports, diversity, needs of the program, grant requirements and any other aspect that can help the committee make an educated choice about who will gain acceptance into the program. The committee will also reach out to references to help make an informed decision. The selection committee will look at each applicant on case by case basis.
- The selection committee's decision will be final. Candidates may reapply one year after the date on this application (as long as all requirements are still met). Regardless of the decision of the selection committee, all other LVCIL services are still available.
- Exemplary behavior will be expected at all times and in all places. There will be a zero tolerance policy when it comes to any type of abuse (verbal, physical, sexual, emotional, etc.) Inappropriate behavior will be dealt with on a case by case basis. Extreme or continual inappropriate behavior that interferes with others in the program or the program itself could result in expulsion from the program. Any decisions by LVCIL will be final.
- If a participant is expelled from the program, any uncollected fees are payable within 10 days of expulsion and all pre-paid fees will be non-refundable.
- The LVCIL reserves the right to review the state of any participant's program at any time and make educated and informed decisions about the appropriateness of the participant's involvement in the program at that time of that review. All decisions made are final.

- Any LVCIL staff working with any program participant will use positive approach techniques at all times and always take into consideration the participants wants, needs, ideas, interests, choices, feelings, and ideas and always follow the LVCIL's vision and mission statements
- There may be waiting lists for programming. You must apply and be accepted into a program to be put on a waiting list. If you wish to then be put on a waiting list, you will be informed when a spot becomes available
- Know that you can reach out to LVCIL Executive Director and the Director of S2L Transition services about any concerns you may have

The S2L Group

The S2L Group is a yearlong program for young adults with disabilities ages 14-25 who have independent living goals. The group will have leadership track with elected officials who help to lead, organize, and maintain the group: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Member at Large (See additional packet for more information.)

- The program will meet throughout the whole year (January through December)
- The group will meet at least 2 times a month either at LVCIL or within the community to work on independent living, social, employment, leadership, and advocacy skills.
- Opportunities for fun: Movie night, bowling, parties, etc. We are always open to ideas!
- The group will set yearly group goals, goals that the group will work on together to accomplish.
- The Leadership team will consist of members who are elected from the following; President, Vice President, Treasurer, Member at Large and Social Media Facilitator.
- Meeting topics to be determined by the group, the leadership team, and with some direction from the parents group.
- Meetings dates / times to be set by the leadership team. Dates/ times dependent on topic or activity.
- At least 2 LVCIL staff / volunteers will be at each meeting or activity.
- The group will have a portion of funds that they can choose to use how they see fit.
- Those members over 21 will be asked to take a Peer Leader type role (See additional packet for more information.)
- Parent meetings are on quarterly basis (guest speakers, information, support, and advocacy.)
- Participants must apply, interview and be accepted into the program.
- Membership dues apply (call for details)- Opportunities to reduce costs through fundraising.
- Options to be involved in fundraising committees for parents and young adults (Recommended)
- Young adults can be part of "The S2L group", "The Real World Lehigh Valley" or both programs.
- In the event weather, emergency or other extreme circumstance causes the cancelation of an event; LVCIL will make every effort to reschedule the event.

The S2L Group: Road to Graduation

The S2L Group: Road to Graduation (S2L:R2G) is a group for young adults who have independent living and graduation goals for their future. This program is a United Way grant funded program intended for young adults whose families have low income. S2L:R2G will follow all of the same unique offerings of The S2L Group along with the guidelines listed below:

- Participants must be between the ages of 16-21 and have not yet graduated high school.
- Participants must have a disability of some kind
- Participants must be from Lehigh or Northampton County
- This program is specifically income based. Income verification form must be completed.
- Participants must attend programming 80% of the offered times
- Develop a stakeholders team and take part in person centered planning.
- Must have graduation and independent living goals that will be tracked and monitored.
- Includes S2L group and Real World Lehigh Valley programming

The Real World Lehigh Valley

The Real World Lehigh Valley is a unique summer program for young adults ages 14-25. These young adults will participate in an intensive 6 week program that meets 3 days a week in July & August.

- Programming runs from 9:00am-3:00pm
- 2013 program will take an “employment theme”
- Highlights include:
 - Guest Speakers
 - Volunteer opportunities
 - Model a work day
 - Fun!
 - Independent Living activities
 - Staff ratio to young adult ratio of about 1:5
- Applications are currently being accepted with interviews starting in April.
- Programming fees apply – Limited to 20 open spots – discounts given to those who are part of “The S2L Group” and “The Real World Lehigh Valley” – We will work with any funders.
- Those who are involved in the “The S2L group” will be given first opportunity to be a part of the summer program.
- “What to expect meeting” at the end of June.

I am applying for: (Descriptions can be found on the previous pages) Please check all that apply

- The S2L Group
- The S2L Group : Road to Graduation
- The Real World Lehigh Valley: Summer Program

Young adults please fill in all sections completely and to the best of your ability. Please write N/A if not applicable

Name:		Date:
Date of Birth:	Age:	Participant Home#:
Participant Email:		Participant Cell #:
Current Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Parent/ Guardian 1 Name:		Relationship:
Address:		
Cell #:		Email:
Parent/Guardian 2 Name:		Relationship:
Address:		
Cell #:		Email:
Alternate Emergency Contact:		
Cell Phone #:		Relationship:

School:	Anticipated Graduation Date:
Are you working with any other agencies? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If Yes please provide contact information)	
Disability(ies)	
Medical Issues:	
Attendant Care Needs:	
Protocols, Dr. orders:	
Allergies:	
Restrictions (Physical, Dietary, etc...):	
Do you require any other accommodations to participate in LVCIL programming?	
In case of emergency: (Hospital preference, other instructions) :	
Do you have any negative behaviors that may interfere with being integrated in the S2L program? If so do you have a behavior plan?	
Tell us a little about yourself:	

What are your goals for the future?

Would you like to one day achieve Community or Supported Living? Yes No Why?

If you have not already, do you plan on graduating from high school? Yes No

Please describe some of your hopes, dreams and/or wishes.

Do you have an independent means of transportation to attend the program? Yes No
What types of transportation do you currently use?

Please list any activities, groups, clubs, work, volunteering, organizations, or experiences that you have been involved in that might help in your transition.

How did you hear about the S2L program you are applying for?					
References , not related to you (Name, relationship , phone #)					
1)					
2)					
3)					
I am interested in learning more about: (Please check all interests)					
	Housing		College / Post Ed.		Supported Living
	Social and Recreational Opportunities		Self-Advocacy		Dating / Relationship
	Government Programs		Skill Building		Transportation
	Work Skills / Job Readiness		Financial Responsibility		Health / Wellness
	Safety		Nutrition		Volunteering
	Peer Support		Other (Please Describe):		

Please review the following information. If you agree to the standards of the program, sign your name and date on the lines below.

- I acknowledge that all of the above information is correct.
- I have reviewed the program information attached and understand what the program(s) entail.
- I understand that this packet is only part of the intake process. Once this completed application is received, it will be reviewed by the selection committee. If granted, I will need to take part in an interview to gain possible acceptance into “The S2L group” or “The Real World Lehigh Valley”. I will be notified about my acceptance into the program.
- Our signatures below indicate that we understand that “S2L” has a limited number of participants and the “S2L” selection committee’s decision is final. Individuals may reapply one year after the date of this application. Regardless of the selection committee’s decision, all other LVCIL services are available to me
- I agree to all terms and conditions stated in this application.

Applicants Signature

Parents / Caregivers Signature

Date

<p><u>For office use only:</u></p> <p>Date application was received: _____</p> <p>Date of Interview: _____</p> <p>Date accepted into program: _____</p> <p>Other: _____</p>
