



Vocational and Independence Program (VIP)

The Vocational and Independence Program (VIP) is a high school transition program with a focus on soft skills, independence, employment readiness, and integrated competitive employment. This holistic program provides hands-on work experiences at Cedarbrook Nursing Home and training in work essential skills, such as appearance, communication, job performance, and community-appropriate behaviors. In addition, the program provides lessons in Independent Community Travel (ICT) and Community Based Instruction (CBI) once a week, where interns go into the community to learn how to travel safely and efficiently, as well as practice taking public transportation and help develop age-appropriate skills for functioning outside the school environment.

1. Four Days Per Week

Cedarbrook Nursing Home

8:00 am - 11:30 am Work in Departments
11:30 am - 12:00 pm Lunch
12:00 pm - 2:30 pm Office Time

- Individualized for each person in the program. The amount of orientation will vary depending on interest and ability.

Classroom topics using curriculum from LCE, James Stanfield, presentations, and problem-solving discussions:

- Cedarbrook orientation
- Cell phones in the workplace
- Roles of the mentors, teachers, and job coaches
- Differences between high school and work
- Soft Skills Training focusing on appearance, communication, job performance, and work-appropriate behavior
- Public bus behavior
- Relationships in the workplace
- Keeping an agenda book

2. One Day Per Week

Independent Community Travel and Community Based Instruction

Independent Community Travel

How to travel safely and efficiently on public transportation, around Cedarbrook Nursing Home and in the community.

Community Based Instruction

Developing age-appropriate skills for functioning outside the school environment. Academic, communication, and social skills are incorporated into CBI and may include the following:

Domestic – self care and grooming, wellness, nutrition, cooking, laundry, housekeeping, balancing a checkbook

Vocational – career exploration, identifying potential employers through site visits, employability skills, OVR sponsored activities, etc.

Community – advocating for oneself, transportation, libraries, shopping, post office, ordering food in a restaurant

Recreation and Leisure – crafts, games, parks, YMCA/community centers, bowling, golfing, movies, etc.

3. Additional Components

- Creation of a Person-Centered Plan through the Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living (LVCIL)
- Support/education for the families to help them gain a better understanding of adult services
 - Entitlement versus Eligibility
 - SSI/SSD
 - Ticket to Work
 - Family Planning
 - Waivers
 - LANta Van
 - Job Development
- LVCIL, OVR, and Supports Coordinators are a part of the team

Contact Information

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