Life Skills

Curriculum Outline

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Cabinet for Health & Family Services
Department for Community Based Services
Out of Home Care Branch
Chafee Independence Program

This client-based outcomes living skills curriculum was developed by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services in consultation with Eastern Kentucky University Independent Living Coordinators. It may be freely used and distributed within the Commonwealth of Kentucky so long as prior permission is granted by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, no charge is made for its distribution or use, and acknowledgement is given to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

Developed entirely with Federal Independent Living Program funds received under grant # G9801KY1420 from the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department for Health and Human Services.

Community Resources

Goals: Youth will acquire skills necessary to access and utilize community resources

- Is able to use available resources to obtain community resources (CR1)
- Can gain information from community resources by asking effective questions (CR2)
- Knows how to develop and enhance a personal support system (CR3)
- Can apply problem solving skills and community resources to solve problems (CR4)
- Knows how to obtain a copy of personal documents (CR5, CR5-1, CR5-2, CR5-3, CR5-4, CR5-5, CR5-6, CR5-7)
- Understands civic responsibilities with voter registration (CR6)
- Knows and understands how to organize and maintain important documents (CR7)
- Has knowledge of personal strengths and needs when planning for self-sufficiency and can identify resources for transition to the community (CR8, CR8-1, CR8-2, CR8-3, CR8-4, CR8-5)

Education

Goals: Youth will develop a career plan, acquire study skills and the skills necessary to access and utilize educational/vocational resources

- Understands the difference between a job and a career (ED1)
- Understands the importance of technology in the workplace (ED2)
- Understands the importance of education (ED3)
- Knows how to utilize educational resources (ED4, ED4-1)
- Knows how to develop a career plan (ED5, ED5-1)
- Understands the process of extended commitment (ED6, ED6-1)
- Knows how to identify personal learning styles and can utilize study skills that relate to those styles (ED7, ED7-1)
- Knows how to utilize educational/vocational resources and how to fill out the applications (ED8, ED8-1, ED8-2, ED8-3, ED8-4 ED8-5)
- Knows how to utilize the College Admissions checklists (ED9, ED9-1, ED9-2)

Employment

Goals: Youth will acquire skills necessary to obtain and maintain employment

- Understands the importance of employment (EP1)
- Can search for employment in a variety of ways (EP2, EP2-1, EP2-2)
- Understands the employee/applicant selection process and can ask effective questions about the employment ads (EP3)
- Can complete a resume (EP4)
- Understands the importance of a cover letter (EP5)
- Can complete a job application and how to follow up (EP6, EP6-1, EP6-2)
- Can complete a job interview (EP7, EP7-1, EP7-2)
- Knows and understands payments, benefits, how to read a paycheck / paystub and tax obligations with regards to employment (EP8,EP8-1)
- Knows how to apply rules of the workplace to maintain employment (EP9, EP9-1)
- Knows and understands the importance of listening and effective communication skills (EP10)
- Knows how to cooperate with others in a work environment (EP11)
- Knows how to resolve conflicts with others (EP12)
- Knows and understands the importance of quitting a job properly (EP13)

Housing

Goal: Youth will acquire skills necessary to locate housing.

- Knows and understands what to look for in an living situation (HS1, HS1-1, HS1-2)
- Knows and understands how to look for housing (HS2, HS2-1)
- Understands what information is needed for a basic rental application (HS3)
- Understands what is needed to obtain housing (HS4)
- Understands the pros and cons of having a roommate (HS5, HS5-1)
- Knows how to design a written agreement between roommates (HS5-1)
- Can complete an apartment lease (HS6)
- Understands how to read a lease agreement and what the different terms mean (HS6-1)
- Knows and understands the rights and responsibilities of Landlords (HS7)
- Knows and understands the rights and responsibilities of Tenants (HS7)
- Knows how to estimate the cost of housing set up (HS8)
- Knows how to develop realistic housing expectations (HS9)
- Understands renter's insurance (HS9)
- Knows how to ensure personal safety while living on their own (HS10)
- Can determine a realistic plan for readiness to move into the community (HS10, HS11)

Money Management

Goals: Youth will acquire skills necessary to manage their income and make informed decisions about purchases.

- Understands the differences between "luxuries" and "necessities" (MM1)
- Can make a realistic monthly budget using a thoughtful decision-making process (MM2)
- Can maintain a monthly budget using a thoughtful decision-making process (MM3, MM3-1)
- Knows and understands the advantages and disadvantages of advertising (MM4)
- Knows and understands comparison shopping (MM5, MM5-1)
- Can recognize the relationship between a short-term budgeting decision and a long-term financial goal (MM6)
- Can use money orders to pay bills (MM7)
- Knows how to open a checking and savings account at a local bank (MM8)
- Knows how to maintain a checking and savings account, use a debit card and is aware of internet/electronic banking (MM9, MM9-1, MM9-2, MM9-3, MM9-4, MM9-5, MM9-6)
- Understands the concept of credit (MM10, MM10-1, MM10-2, MM10-3, MM10-4)
- Knows how to apply for a loan (MM11, MM11-1, MM11-2)
- Understands the rights of a consumer (MM12, MM12-1)
- Knows and understands tax forms W-4,W-2, 1040EZ, and 740EZ (MM13, MM13-1, MM13-2, MM13-3)
- Knows and understands forms of identity theft such as "phishing" scams and how to protect against it. (MM14, MM14-1,MM14-2, MM14-3)

Healthy Relationships

Goals: Youth will acquire skills necessary to be in a healthy relationship and prepare for parenthood.

- Knows and understands sexuality and how love and sex differ (HR1, HR1-1)
- Understands the meaning of abstinence (HR2)
- Knows and understands STDs and how to prevent them (HR3, HR4,)
- Can complete the "Sexuality, STD and Pregnancy Prevention" worksheet (HR5, HR5-1)
- Understands the different types of STDs and the risks of not treating them (HR6, HR6-1)
- Understands the basic facts about HIV/AIDS and how to protect against it (HR7, HR7-1)
- Knows and understands what values are (HR8)
- Knows and understands the responsibilities of being sexually active (HR9)
- Knows and can recognize dating violence (HR10)
- Knows how to obtain help for dating violence (HR10-1)
- Knows what to expect in pre-natal doctor visits (HR11, HR11-1)
- Understands what items are necessary to bring home a newborn (HR11-1, HR11-2)
- Knows and understands positive parenting skills (HR11-3)
- Knows and understands how to keep an infant safe (HR11-3)
- Understands the techniques to comfort a newborn (HR11-4)

Health

Goals: Youth will acquire skills to locate and access health needs across the community.

- Knows and understands how to select a doctor (HE1, HE1-1)
- Knows and understands where to go to obtain medical insurance (HE1, HE1-1)
- Knows and understands how to obtain personal records from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (HE1-2, HE1-3)
- Knows and understands the importance of having a living will and health surrogate in case one is unable to make decisions for oneself (HE2, HE2-1, HE2-2, HE2-3, HE2-4, HE2-5, HE2-6, HE2-7