



The disAbility Resource Center, Inc., located in Fredericksburg, VA

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Youth Services Program

The Youth Services Program strives to promote and facilitate acceptance and community inclusion for all children and youth ages 0-21. Our goal is to support youth in becoming adults who are active, included members of their community.

Our Youth Services and Transition Specialist is available to provide information and resources on school issues, transition, community services, trainings, events and opportunities for children, youth, family, caregivers, and community service providers. Our Youth Specialist stays current on information and resources by participating in community groups, attending trainings throughout the state, and maintaining memberships in national, professional organizations. In addition, our Youth Specialist also coordinates and sponsors various workshops for students, families, caregivers and community members.

A large part of the Youth Services Program is helping parents and students understand their rights and learn self-advocacy skills in an effort to promote independence and community inclusion. Our Youth Services Specialist is available to consult with parents and students about IEPs and transition plans with the goal of promoting self-advocacy and collaborative individual education and transition plans that reflect a student's interests and abilities.

The Youth Services Program is proud to sponsor the **Youth Leadership Team** through a grant from the Catholic Campaign on Human Development. Members of the team:

- Learn how to facilitate their IEP/ITP meetings
- Explore the beliefs, principals and meaning of self-advocacy
- Learn the history of the disability movement.
- Learn the connection between personal issues, community concerns, and large social forces.
- Participate in local and state legislative advocacy

For more information on the Youth Leadership Team and the Youth Services program, contact Kim Lett

It's Your Life, You Lead