Everyone has questions when making the transition to life after high school...

Am I ready for life after school?

Am I ready for the responsibilities of adulthood?

Am I ready for a job?

Do I have the right skills?

What does 'independence' mean to me?



VIP provides hands-on work experiences at Cedarbrook Nursing and training that covers:

- Work-essential skills
- Independent living skills
- Employment Readiness





## For more information on VIP, contact :

Melissa Johnson Special Education Supervisor johnsonmelissa@cliu.org (610) 769-4111 ext. 1058

Santiago Delgado III Vocational Coach santiagodelgado@lvcil.org (610) 770-9781 ext. 156



# Vocational and Independence Program



Empowering young adults to achieve independence as they transition out of high school

#### What is VIP?

VIP is a high-school transition program focused on developing work -essential skills, independent living skills development, employment readiness, in preparation for integrated, competitive employment.

#### What are the requirements?

- Minimum of 16 years of age
- Two years or less of high school
- IEP/Disability
- Eligible for OVR services
- Willingness to use independent transportation options
- Strong desire to become competitively employed



### **VIP Components**

#### Skills Development

- Work-essential skills training
- Group activities and social interaction
- Attend seminars and conferences on selfdevelopment
- Develop age-appropriate skills for the workplace, community living
- Community-based instruction

#### **Independent Community Travel (ICT)**

- Learn self-awareness in the community
- Learn how to ride public transportation
- Plan fixed-route trips to training site
- Plan visits in the community using public transportation

#### **Work Experiences**

- Training opportunities in areas such as: housekeeping, laundry, janitorial, food services, maintenance, and more
- Eight weeks on-the-job training, with up to four rotations during the school year
- Work assessments

#### Person-Centered Plan (LVCIL)

- Participants outline a plan to achieve their goals
- Identify parents, teachers, family and friends to serve as a support system
- Discover resources available in the community to achieve goals

### Independence!!!!

### Vocational and Independence Program—VIP

VIP is a high school transition program held in partnership with the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21, LVCIL, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, and Lehigh County.

This holistic program provides hands-on work experiences at Cedarbrook Nursing Home. Participants learn work-essential skills regarding standards for appearance, communication, job performance, appropriate work behaviors, and more. Participants also take part in lessons on Independent Community Travel (ICT) and Community-Based Instruction (CBI), where participants learn how to navigate safely within their communities. These experiences support development of age-appropriate skills for the workplace and independent living.

Staff provide on-site support for young adults who are making the transition to life after high school. The program focuses on soft skills and independent living skills development, employment readiness and integrated competitive employment.