

# Independent Living Arrangement



## It's my choice.

**Welcome to our Independent Living Arrangement** located in the west end of Richmond in Henrico County on the 30 plus acre campus that is also home to Virginia Home for Boys and Girls.

- We serve youth aging out of the foster care system and we are welcoming of LGBTQ+ young adults and those with multi-cultural backgrounds who speak different languages.
- We have 4 town homes and 2 brick homes on campus that are fully furnished and set up so you can share your home with a housemate.
- Each home is also stocked with kitchen, bedding, and household supplies, but what's really cool is being able to access VHBG's amenities like the pool, tennis court, picnic shelter, and the free clothes and food pantry.
- Finding a job or going to school is made easier by being able to bike, walk, or take a bus to where you need to go.
- You'll take life skill classes and learn how to do things like obtain a car, find free education, manage your money, make doctor's appointments, and open a bank account.
- You'll enjoy social gatherings in our ILA Commons where you'll have dinners and celebrations that are fun.
- You'll get all the coaching and counseling you need to get on your way to a life that's successful and independent.



## CONTACT

Karen Swansey  
ILA Executive Director  
[KSwansey@vhbg.org](mailto:KSwansey@vhbg.org)

I need help getting started on my own.

# More information . . .

## Population Served

Young adults ages 17-21

- who are in the custody of Virginia Department of Social Services
- who have a desire to reach successful independence through support and services
- have a history of being actively engaged in services
- are willing to enter into and abide by an agreement with VHBG regarding rules and responsibilities
- are able to maintain enrollment in an educational program OR participating in a program or activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment OR working at least 80 hours a month (or medically incapable of engaging in these activities)

## Funding & Resources

- most youth access Fostering Futures funding
- scholarships are available through grants
- we connect youth with Project Life, Great Expectations, ETV funds, Side by Side, Nationz, FASFA, Commonwealth Catholic Charities and employers in the community

## Outcome Measures

- Youth success is measured by evaluating individualized service plan goal progress or attainment
- Assessment of independent living skills is done using the CASEY assessment and necessary training/coaching with the CASEY Curriculum, youth satisfaction with services, and discharge data
- In the fiscal year 2019/20, average length of stay was 182 days. 92.5% of all goals were attained and or showed progress towards attainment. 98% of skills were mastered or showing progress towards mastery

VHBG's ILA is a nonprofit licensed by the Virginia Department of Social Services to currently serve up to 12 youth. ILA is one of VHBG's core program areas that serve youth who need hope for their future.