



ST. JOSEPH'S VILLA FOR CHILDREN

Career and Transition Services *Preparing Students for Adult Careers*

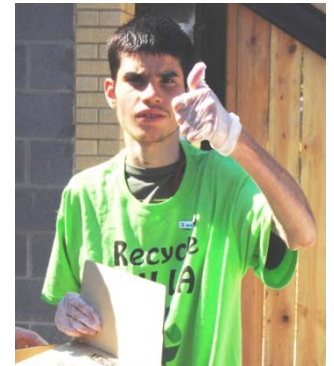


Overview

St. Joseph's Villa provides Career and Transition Services to teach students the skills necessary to navigate transitions in their life such as the transition from the educational system to the workforce or to post secondary training or school. It is the Villa's goal to help students learn to envision a future that is productive, achievable, and stimulating. This goal will be achieved through a combination of classroom training and actual worksite training, allowing students the opportunity to acquire the skills, aptitudes, and attitudes needed to successfully transition from high school to post-secondary training, the workforce, and to adulthood.

Population Overview:

St. Joseph's Villa provides services to meet the individual needs of students with a variety of diagnoses, including but not limited to ADHD, ED/LD, OHI, Asperger's Syndrome, and Developmental Disabilities (including autism). Student ages range from 16 to 22 years old.



Description of Program and Curriculum

Students participate in a variety of activities to develop their career and transition skills. These activities include: career counseling, internet exploration activities using the computer labs at Dooley School, resume preparation, mock interviews, and other career development activities which help increase their opportunity for employment. In addition, students have the chance to experience one of six training locations on the campus of St. Joseph's Villa associated with the Career and Transition Services program, either through a campus internship or through Work Adjustment Training opportunities.

The Career and Transition Services program encompasses the following activities:

- **Assessment** – Individual students are evaluated through computer software, including MECA (Microcomputer Evaluation of Careers and Academics) and RTIS (Response to Intervention Series), as well as through personal discussions and observations, to determine current skill levels, aptitudes, interests and learning styles.
- **Plan formation** – Working with the student, Villa counselors develop a systematic plan to help the student visualize program completion and develop steps to acquire the skills which will make that vision a reality.
- **Classroom instruction** – Villa staff work with each student in a controlled classroom setting, which provides greater focus for skill acquisition.
- **Work Adjustment Training** – Students work on-site at one of the Villa's specialized work centers to use the skills and behaviors they have learned in the classroom setting. Work centers include:
 - **Culinary Services** – Assist with preparation and delivery of meals and snacks for the Villa's 500 clients and staff. Receive on-site instruction at the Villa Culinary Arts Center.
 - **Donation Center** – Receive donated goods and prepare and maintain display shelves.
 - **Environmental Services** – Custodial and maintenance tasks in Villa buildings.



- Recycling Program – Gather and process recyclable materials.
- Inventory Management – Inventory, deliver and reorder textbooks and office supplies using barcode scanners and software tracking system.
- Office Skills – Assist with office tasks including printing, mailing services and mail delivery.
- Other – Work site programs (for instance, vehicle detailing) also can be developed to meet the interests of individual students.
- Off-site instruction – Working with community partners including Positive Vibe Café and Old Navy Stores, students develop a stronger skill set in an actual work environment.

St. Joseph's Villa's CATS program addresses the needs of students with a variety of diagnoses. The Career and Transition Services classroom experience is conducted throughout the academic year (and during Extended School Year, if appropriate). The Work Adjustment Training Programs are each standalone programs specifically geared to meeting the needs of individual students. Work Adjustment program descriptions are available on request.

Licensing & Accreditation

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St. Joseph's Villa's Dooley School and Sarah Dooley Center for Autism are fully licensed by the Virginia Department of Education and accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Specialized Educational Facilities and the national Council on Accreditation. Instructional staff meets licensing and endorsement standards of the Virginia Department of Education.

Admissions/For More Information

For admission and tuition information or to learn more about Career and Transition Services, please contact Matthew Kreydatus, Director, Career and Transition Services at St. Joseph's Villa, at 804 553-3224. We welcome visits and will provide a campus tour to all interested parties.

St. Joseph's Villa

Established in Richmond in 1834, St. Joseph's Villa is metro-Richmond, Virginia's oldest and largest continuously-operating children's nonprofit organization. The Villa is located on a spacious 82-acre campus in Richmond/Henrico County and serves more than 500 children and families daily, through the delivery of day, after-school and residential programs that include: special and nontraditional education programs for at-risk youth; education and housing services for homeless children and their families; education and respite, summer and after-school care for children with autism and developmental disabilities; behavioral treatment programs for children and families; and housing for adults with disabilities. The Villa is accredited by the national Council on Accreditation and is an approved Medicaid provider for many of its services.

St. Joseph's Villa admits clients of any race, color, gender, age, religion, disability or national origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accepted or made available to clients at St. Joseph's Villa. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, St. Joseph's Villa is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability and retaliation in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other agency-administered programs. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any U.S.D.A. related activity should write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.