

Inclusive Housing at ClemsonLIFE

Postsecondary Education
Conference
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What is ClemsonLIFE?

- A Postsecondary transition program at Clemson University for students with an intellectual disability who are between the ages of 18 and 23
- Provides employment training, independent living skills training, basic academic training, and social exposure
- The goal? Competitive employment and independent living to the greatest extent possible.



Independent Living Component

- Resident Supervisors
 - Provide supervision at housing area
 - Coordinate evening and weekend activities



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Housing

Each apartment houses:

3 ClemsonLIFE students and
1 Resident Supervisor

- **On Campus – first two semesters**

- Two 4-bedroom apartments on campus for the first two semesters

- **Off Campus – after that**

- Two 4-bedroom apartments on the bus route close to campus
- Introduces paying bills, tenant issues, integration into the community, etc.



Getting Started

- Our story
- Set your goal
 - On campus?
 - For how long?
 - For how many students?
- Find your friends
 - The Dean
 - The Provost
 - The Housing Director



Barriers

- Attitudes
- Misconceptions
- Housing shortages
- Procedural issues
- Supervision



Problems

- Using undergraduates for supervision
- Housing students together with limited social skills
 - Not used to peer group
 - Not used to high expectations
- Coordination of schedules
- Transportation
- Parent support



To Better Prepare Students for Living Independently

- Address behaviors that might prohibit them from being employed – or promoted – successfully
- Foster independence – not passivity. Expect them to do for themselves.
- Keep the bar high
- Treat them as adults – they are!
- Stress money management skills in real life applications
- Encourage time management skills



Skills to Address

- Personal hygiene, including apartment upkeep
- Roommate issues
- Time management
- Money management
- Laundry
- Meal planning and cooking
 - Cooking classes
 - Recipe book for later
- Personal safety



Contact information

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