Are You Ready for the Adventure
That is

**LIFE 2016!**
(Learning Independence, Feeling Empowered)

**What is LIFE?**
- 5 week residential training program for high school-aged blind and vision impaired youth
- Provides basic training in the skills of blindness
- Helps students become responsible for their lives
- Provides students with opportunities to explore employment and college goals
- Provides an opportunity to gain real world work experience or additional skills of blindness training
- Affords opportunities to participate in physical fitness and confidence building activities
- Helps students develop positive attitudes about blindness
- Have LOTS of fun!

**Dates to remember for LIFE**
- Application Deadline: June 6, 2016, or until program is full
- Program Begins: 1:00 p.m., July 10, 2016
- Program Ends: 12:00 p.m., August 12, 2016
- Student/parent meeting with staff: 8:15 - 10:00 a.m., August 12, 2016
- Student and parent wrap-up meetings: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., August 12, 2016
- Graduation Ceremony: 11:00 a.m., August 12, 2016
Daily LIFE:

Classes
• Travel
• Braille
• Cooking
• Keyboarding
• Physical Fitness
• Access Technology
• College 101
• Job Readiness
• Work Experience
• Conversations about Blindness

Confidence Building Activities
• High Adventure course
• Formal Dinner/Dance
• Rock Climbing
• You “Auto” Know
• Movies
• Grilling
• Hiking
• Richmond Flying Squirrels Baseball Game
• Whitewater Rafting
• Swimming
• And much more!

Work Experience
• Students work part-time in a community-based setting during the last two weeks of LIFE.
** In some instances staff will recommend that a student continue to focus on blindness skills (Travel, Braille, Access Technology, and Cooking) during the last two weeks of the program.

Requirements for LIFE:
- Be at least 14 years old and
- Be returning to a high school academic program in the fall of 2016
- Be blind or vision impaired
- Ability to actively participate in all five weeks of the program
- Ability to participate in a program that is group structured
- Ability to take care of personal care needs
- Have a valid State of Virginia ID card

What is the application process for LIFE?
- Contact Amy Phelps, (804) 371-3052 or amy.phelps@dbvi.virginia.gov, who will assist you with information regarding the application process and connecting with a Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Counselor if the applicant does not already have one.
- Applicant and parents or applicant’s Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Counselor will submit a complete application packet, which will include an application form, agency health checklist/general medical form and up-to-date (within one year) eye report, to VRCBVI by June 6, 2016, or until the program is full. Student and parent(s) participate in a phone interview with VRCBVI staff.
- After the completed application packet has been reviewed, the VR Counselor and parents are notified within one week whether the applicant is accepted. Hurry! Only twenty-two participants will be accepted into the program.

For additional information about the LIFE Program or to schedule a tour of VRCBVI, contact:
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