



ANNUAL REPORT

2020

INTRODUCTION

Dear Supporters and Allies,



In March of 2020, I became the Executive Director of Life Transition Skills.

Within 2 days of my employment, we had to close due to COVID19. It was definitely not a conventional start to my employment, but 2020 was not a conventional year. We had to remain closed for 3 months and within 2 weeks of reopening we were forced to close again due to an outbreak of COVID19. The time that we were closed meant I was able to evaluate the program completely, and with the input from our staff, I was able to come up with a plan for us for the remainder of 2020. When we reopened in June, we went straight into our summer schedule, which meant we were open half days Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. We stayed in our summer schedule until the end of August. One of the things that became apparent during my evaluation of the program was that we desperately needed our own space. We had spent 4 wonderful years at the YMCA, but in order for us to achieve maximum growth, we needed a facility where we could have offices as well as a set classroom. With the help of one of our board members, we found a place and after some renovations we moved into our new space in October 2020. The students and staff have thrived in our new space. Each student has their own chair with an attached desk which has aided with social distancing. We have been adhering to strict CDC guidelines to help protect our students and staff.

We started a Community Garden Project where we plant butterfly gardens for businesses in our neighborhood. This project has enabled our students to visit and interact with area businesses and to give back to our community. So far, we have planted gardens in the complex where we rent and also at City Auto.

We are excited for what 2021 has in store for us. Please be on the lookout for opportunities to be part of our organization as we strive to continue to provide much needed services to adults with disabilities as well as students in our high schools.

Best Regards,

Denise Devonish

Who We Serve

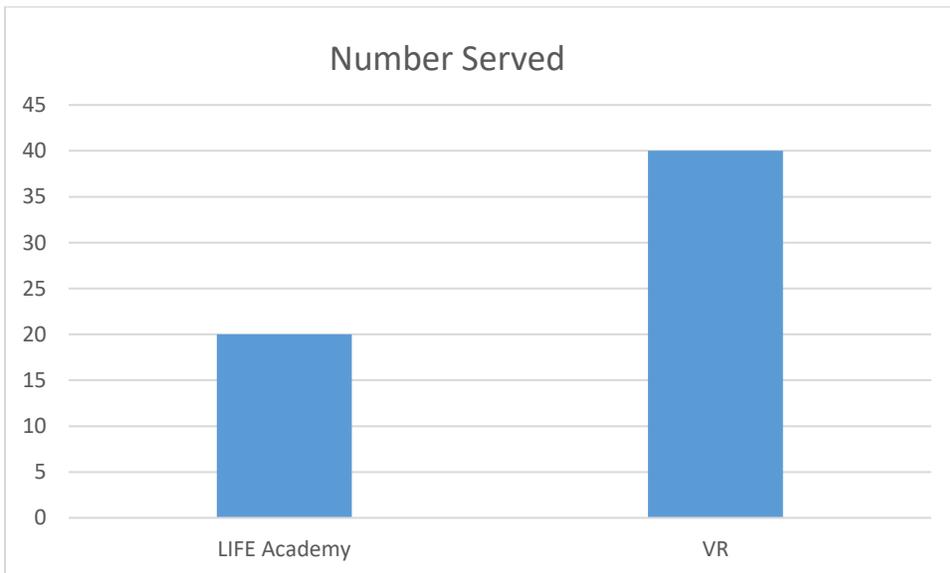
At the **LIFE** Academy, we provide skills trainings to adults in the community with intellectual disabilities. We teach and reinforce skills to help our students become more successfully integrated in our community.

Our vocational training program offers On-the-Job Training (OJT) and employment services to teenagers and individuals with disabilities. This is all done in partnership with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR).

LIFE Academy students

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

Programs	Number Served
LIFE Academy	20
VR	40



Financials

In 2020, we took a huge hit to our programs as we were closed for 4 months out of the year due to COVID19. We were also unable to have our Youth Summer Program for our OJT students. However, due to generous supporters we were able to continue our mission and Abijah’s dream of having our own space.

Total Income from Services Provided

\$222,275.46

2020 Donations Chart

Donations	Amount Donated
Businesses	\$4,250.00
Individuals	\$13,405.00

