

What is it?

The Youth Independence Program (YIP) is classroom- based curriculum intended to teach life-skills to at-risk youth, in order to reduce youth entering into homelessness.

Why do we do it?

In June of 2018, parts of Windsor-Essex were identified as having the 15th highest poverty rate in Ontario. The consequences to a youth living in poverty are well documented and include increased rates of risk for addiction, suicide, physical health issues, and homelessness.

At Windsor Residence for Young Men, we are fighting back with knowledge and community support! By teaching youth the skills they need to "stand on their own two feet", we believe they will use this knowledge to "walk" towards a better future.

In partnership with the Public Alternative Secondary School, this alternative education program also provides youth a unique pathway to earn a secondary school credit, while receiving education related guidance from qualified teaching professionals.

Who is this for?

⇒ All youth, <u>regardless of gender</u>, between the ages 16 – 24 who are interested in learning life-skills



How does it work?

- ⇒ Classroom based curriculum
- ⇒ 3 months in length
- → Monday to Friday Lessons
- ⇒ Optional lunch between 12:00PM to 1:00PM
- ⇒ Lesson is from 1:00PM to 3:00PM

What will you get?

- ⇒ The life-skills you need to be Independent
- ⇒ One Secondary School Credit (from PASS)
- ⇒ Continuing education guidance
- ⇒ Optional entry into the "Kid Next Door" program (a paid employment training program operated through WRYM)
- → Miscellaneous referrals for community support (as required by the individual)

What will you learn?

1. MONDAY (Self)

Example Lessons:

- Motivation
- Self-esteem
- Self-reliance

2. TUESDAY (Social Responsibility)

Example Lessons:

- Online Reputation
- Conflict Resolution
- ◆ Trust

3. WEDNESDAYS (Life Skills)

Example Lessons:

- Windsor Transit System
- Getting a Job
- Goal Setting

4. THURSDAY (Independent Living)

Example Lessons:

- Tenant Rights
- Budgeting
- Finding a Place to Live

5. FRIDAYS (Rec and Leisure)

Example Lessons:

- Exercise
- ♦ Journaling
- Media Literacy