The Gift of a Good Start

Sometimes the first steps are the most critical. At the edge of adulthood, choices about education, employment, relationships and health can be overwhelming. LifeSet™ is a proven method for helping new adults get it right. Begun by Youth Villages in 1999, LifeSet has given more than 11,000 young people the support they need to realize their own amazing potential.

We believe in the potential of every single young person to become an incredible adult.

For additional questions, please contact our Program Supervisor:

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When Jonathan was 3 years old, he and his father left their native Haiti. Placed into foster care at age 12 due to abuse, he quickly learned to be independent. After being placed in seven foster homes, he finally aged out when he turned 18. Although he had a job and an apartment, things began unraveling soon, and Jonathan lost his home and income. Homeless and with nowhere else to turn, he searched online for “helping foster youth” and found LifeSet.

He enrolled in the LifeSet program and was matched with a specialist who is helping him work on achieving his goals. Typically, young adults ask us to help them:

- Obtain a high school diploma or GED
- Find, apply and enroll in college or a job training program
- Learn parenting skills
- Obtain a Social Security card, driver’s license/permit or birth certificate
- Find and maintain employment
- Establish support network
- Find and maintain affordable and stable housing
- Access community resources
- Resolve family or relationship conflict; form healthy relationships or reconnect with family
- Write a resume and learn skills to get a job
- Obtain or continue health care coverage and medication
- Learn budgeting and responsible use of banking and credit services
- Learn time management and scheduling skills
- Attend court dates and assist with basic legal matters

Jonathan’s Story:
Ready for the future, thanks to LifeSet

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He enrolled in the LifeSet program and was matched with a specialist who is helping him work on achieving his goals. For a time, he lived in his grandmother’s tiny apartment in a complex for the elderly. She was suffering from Alzheimer’s, and Jonathan became her primary caretaker. When she died, he lost his beloved relative and was homeless again.

His LifeSet specialist met with Jonathan regularly, arranging for safe housing and helping him enroll in college. He is studying operations management at a local university, holds a job and is working hard on his academics. Jonathan is happy to be back to pursuing his life goals and makes time for volunteering, working out and doing outdoor activities whenever he can.

There are many challenges ahead, but LifeSet is giving Jonathan the support he needs to become a productive, independent adult.