Empowering Youth and Young Adults who have developmental differences to lead a meaningful and inclusive life by providing innovative and customized skills development, pre-employment and employment training services.

VISION

That all persons, regardless of their ability level, are active participants in their community including having access to safe and supportive housing, inclusive social and recreational participation, and competitive and integrated employment.

PERSONS SERVED

2019: 25
2020: 52
2021: 111
As Summit Future Foundation brings our third year of supporting teens and young adults to a close, we are humbled as we reflect on the support we have received, and the progress we have made. As we look ahead to the future of our organization’s work, we are invigorated by the growth our organization has seen as a result of the needs we are fulfilling, and compelled to press forward in order to ensure that every teen and young adult in our community has the opportunity to lead a meaningful and inclusive life. Our organization would not have the ability to have positively impacted so many lives in such a short period of time if it had not been for the many supporters who have attended our special events, made private donations, or other contributions to further our cause. For that we are so incredibly grateful.

We also want to send our gratitude to the families who have trusted us to join them along their journey of empowering their child to reach their fullest potential. While we look ahead to 2022 and beyond, we remain committed to find new and innovative ways to ensure those we support have the ability to lead a full and admiral life as an active member of their community.
OUR SERVICES

SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Every person has the potential to achieve great things. Our skill development services are designed to provide personalized supports that help teens and young adults to reach their maximum potential in self-care and daily routines. Increasing personal autonomy and independence is a key component of ensuring that those we support have the opportunity to lead a self-directed life.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Having friendships and meaningful relationships is the number one concern that we hear from parents and caregivers. The desire to feel like you belong in your community, and are accepted for who you are is innate to each of us. Having a developmental disability does not change that. Our community participation programs are centered around ensuring every teen and young adult who we encounter feels included, valued and connected in their broader community.

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

Creating more inclusive and equitable employment opportunities for those with developmental differences is a cornerstone of our organization’s core vision. We believe that all persons, regardless of their ability should have the opportunity to pursue their career goals, obtain and maintain inclusive employment, and be paid equitable wages. These efforts not only support the person, they also support the local businesses who are taking a pledge to create more inclusive opportunities. Our innovative two pronged approach is resulting in more teens coming out of high school prepared for employment, more young adults who are retaining paid positions in their community, and more employers who are seeing the value in having a truly diverse workforce.

BY THE NUMBERS

- 63 INDIVIDUALS have increased their personal independence; coincides with our skill development service.
- 45 YOUNG ADULTS have achieved their professional goals; coincides with our supported employment programs.
- 108 PEOPLE who feel they have valuable personal relationships and are included in their community; coincides with our community participation programs.
Summit Future Foundation has made a big impact in our lives this year.

Our son Brett has gone from never wanting to leave the house and having no friends to looking forward to going out with groups and it has helped him tremendously - he can say he has friends now and he looks forward to the groups. He is learning to budget money and he has told us he’s happy, which having your autistic young adult tell a parent for the first time in their life when they’re in their 20s is a big thing. It brought tears to my eyes.

I know he’s safe when with the group staff and he is having a great time. In home sessions, he has come a long way on learning to clean his areas of the home and do laundry, etc. Lots of encouragement has helped him to come a long way to realizing when his room needs sweeping or windows need cleaning or when he needs to shower and put away his clothes.

I just want you all to know how happy we are to have you as part of our family and I can trust that Brett is in good hands and so loved by all the Summit staff. We are looking forward to another amazing year.

The Espelands
Any donation, big or small has the ability to positively impact the lives of teens and young adults who have developmental disabilities. Private donations are utilized to ensure all have access to our innovative programs and our program staff is equipped with the resources they need to provide person centered and quality supports.

To make a program specific donation or volunteer, please email info@summitfuturefoundation.org or visit summitfuturefoundation.org

Summit Future Foundation is contracted by Medicaid through the state of Missouri to provide services to individuals and families.
FUTURE PLANS

2022 is a year that will be centered around increasing our capacity to serve more individuals in our core programs, and support more families in their journey. In order to reach this goal, we will need the help of those that champion our work and value our efforts of building a more inclusive community for all. You can become part of this movement by attending one of our special events, making a private donation, or contributing other resources such as volunteering your time.

CAPTURE THE FUTURE GALA
4th Annual Charity Gala
June 24, 2022

BOURBON & BELLS
Merrymaking Bourbon Tasting
November 10, 2022
**WATCH ME THRIVE**

Watch Me Thrive is our signature youth development program that is changing the way that families plan for their child’s transition from school-based programs to adulthood. This customized transition planning program supports teens in developing their work readiness skills through a volunteer and internship model while simultaneously assisting their family in developing an actionable transition plan through our transition planning parent mentoring program. The results of this program are teens who are better prepared to enter the workforce upon their graduation from high school and families who have higher expectations for their child’s future and are better equipped to assist their child in achieving their goals.

**31 TEENS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

have benefited from these transitional supports in 2021.

To date, $21,000 in scholarships have been awarded through the Watch Me Thrive scholarship fund to provide youth and their families access to this life changing program who would not have access by other means.
I have really enjoyed working & growing with Summit's help. My case coordinator had worked with Summit for a short time & felt that they would be a great fit for me. I started working with Summit in the summer of 2020.

I have loved that all the staff I've worked with have been really consistent with being a true part of my life. From the beginning, my staff helped me set goals for things that I wanted to do in my life & for myself.

**The thing I wanted most was to be able to live on my own.**

With Summit's help and guidance to help me set goals: I was able to reach the goal I set to live on my own in June 2021. All the staff worked with me on setting & keeping goals like planning and cooking healthy meals, cleaning my bedroom, keeping things organized, and exercising more. The staff has been very helpful in helping me create a calendar that has my daily chores or activities listed. They have helped me look for recipes & plan my grocery shopping. Summit has different group activities that I go to, which has helped me meet new people & have new friends.

With Summit's help, I am doing very well living on my own, following my calendar & doing my chores, planning healthy meals, and participating in different group activities.

I am so happy to work with Summit. All the staff I have worked with has helped me be more independent and learn so much.

Thank you to Summit Future Foundation for having such a wonderful program & staff to help me be successful.

*Morgan*
I would like to give a shout out to Summit Future Foundation and all they have done over the past year for my son and my family. The past year has been tough on everyone, and everyone’s mental health, with the pandemic and city mandates.

I just want to say THANK YOU to all of the staff for making the necessary accommodations to allow the programs to continue, while adding joy and meaning to my child’s life.

Dalton has participated in several groups/programs offered through Summit Future Foundation. Adult group and life skills are couple of the groups that Dalton has specifically participated in throughout the past year. Dalton was also given the opportunity to work on individual skills development at home with individual staff members.

Over the course of the past year, Dalton has gained many new skills that are helping him on his journey to independence, and also become a participating member of the family. Dalton is able to do many household chores with prompts, such as vacuuming, making his bed, cleaning his bathroom, doing his own laundry, loading & unloading the dishwasher, and feeding the pets to list a few. Dalton is also becoming more independent with his daily hygiene and simple cooking.

Although, Dalton loves praise from doing chores and helping out around the house, His greatest love is adult group, aka “friends” group. Dalton is mostly non-verbal, but his smile on those days says in confirmation. Dalton loves being around people and being able to hang out with peers has been a fantastic, wonderful, and amazing opportunity for him. Again, His smile says it all!!

Thank You Summit Future Foundation and Staff for being a part of Dalton’s life, and making his life worth living. Dalton truly loves you guys!