LIFE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

Glendale, Arizona
Robert Crawford – Owner
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www.life-development-inst.org

Visit by Kristie Henley, December 13, 2005
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Life Development Institute is a college-based program for young adults, typically between 18 and 26, with an IQ from the low 80's to the 140's. These young adults typically have a history of learning, attention, mood, anxiety, OCD, PDD (specifically Asperger's and High Functioning Autism), cognitive and neurological issues in areas that affect generalized learning and functioning in general. Life Development is a non-profit 501(c)(3), private organization that offers both a high school diploma program and post-secondary programs.

The high school, Academy of Lifelong Learning, is an approved private special education school through the Arizona Department of Education and Exceptional Student Services with diploma granting authority. LDI offers three post-secondary program tracks of two years or longer for students who are high school graduates. All college courses are approved and accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

The directions to get to Life Development Institute were clear and concise, and we pulled up to the office without any trouble. There were two doors, one labeled Student Entrance and one labeled Life Development Institute which led into the office.

A friendly receptionist greeted us at the door, and then promptly stepped through another door to find Rob Crawford, director of the program. As we waited, we observed the awards and certificates lining the walls, showing a lot of community involvement. A student came in while we waited and I had the chance to see a student/ instructor interaction first hand. I was impressed by the student's ability to clearly identify what he needed, determine the steps it would take to accomplish his goal and ask for help when needed. He politely engaged us in a conversation with good eye contact before returning to class to continue his studies.

After a short wait, Rob met with us and ushered us into the back office to begin our tour of the facility.

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