

PROJECT INDEPENDENCE

COMMUNITY-BASED DAY PROGRAM

OUR PHILOSOPHY

At Project Independence, we provide person-centered meaningful support for adults with developmental disabilities, and autism, focusing on community integration and employment. We are committed to empowering individuals and fostering collaboration among policymakers, service providers, advocates, individuals, and their families. Our services are person centered, promote inclusion, productivity, and personal growth in respectful, non-segregated settings.

Behavioral Day Supports

This program serves adults 22 and older with developmental disabilities who need close supervision due to challenging behaviors. Support is tailored with staff-to-participant ratios of 1 :3, 1 :2, or 1: 1 based on individual needs. New participants undergo a 30-day person centered assessment, including behavior, learning, and quality of life evaluations. Using this data, we create Positive Behavior Support Plans to teach new skills and promote independence.

Key focus areas include:

- Behavioral Support: Replacing challenging behaviors with positive alternatives.
- Skills Development: Self-help, vocational skills, and community integration.
- Employment and Activities: Paid and volunteer jobs in a variety of industries; person centered community support and training in use of public transportation, purchasing, social behavior, and safety; and options for attending integrated college classes.

Participants receive support in 1: 1, 1 :2 and 1 :3 staff ratio, ensuring personalized positive behavioral support while promoting skills development, personal growth, and integration.

Adult Development Program (ADP)

The ADP provides person centered support for individuals 18 and older in their local communities, focusing on integrated employment and personal growth. Participants have opportunities for paid employment in a variety of businesses. Volunteer work is available at community organizations such as Meals on Wheels, libraries, and other nonprofits.

Key focus areas include:

- Employment and Volunteer Work: Jobs and volunteer opportunities tailored to individual skills and interests.
- Education and Activities: Community college and adult education classes based on personal goals.
- Community Training and Support: Use of public transportation, social skills, safety, money management, recreation, and leisure activities.

Participants receive support in a 1 :4 and 1 :3 staff ratio, ensuring personalized attention while promoting independence and integration.



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Harmony Program

The Harmony Program is designed for seniors aged 50 and older with developmental disabilities and autism. Participants can attend one to five days per week, based on their preferences and needs.

Key focus areas include:

- **Community Integration:** Participation in senior centers, selecting from activities such as exercise classes, live music, dancing, and storytelling.
- **Social Connections:** Building friendships and support systems to enhance quality of life.
- **Engaging Activities:** Options include bingo, bowling, movies, shopping, and recreation.

Participants are supported in a 1:3 staff ratio, fostering meaningful engagement while respecting individual choices.

Transportation Services

We provide safe and reliable transportation to meet the diverse needs of our participants. Transportation options include company-owned vans, personal vehicles, and public transit.

Key focus areas include:

- **Safety:** Regular vehicle inspections, adherence to safety standards, and insured, screened staff drivers.
- **Accessibility:** Public transportation (OCTA) is used for program activities, integration, and training opportunities..

Our transportation services ensure participants can access programs, work, and community activities with ease and confidence.

Tailored Day Services (TDS)

Tailored Day Services are customized for individuals 18 and older, offering personalized support with a 1:1 staff ratio to maximize individual choices and meet unique needs.

Key focus areas include:

- **Customized Support:** Person-centered service plans designed to align with personal goals and interests.
- **Employment and Volunteer Opportunities:** Support in developing skills for employment, volunteering, or self-employment, including micro-enterprise ventures.
- **Postsecondary Education:** Assistance with accessing and succeeding in college or other education programs.
- **Community Integration:** Flexible schedules and activities that promote inclusion, independence, and personal growth. This program focuses on helping individuals build skills, achieve their goals, and thrive in their communities.

