

# Overview

Walnut Street Center Inc. is a non-profit human services agency that provides comprehensive support to adults with intellectual disabilities. The center was founded in 1970 by a community of parents seeking services for their own children, and has grown to include the current services: 24 Hour Residential, Individual Support (less than 24-hour residential), Community Based Day, Day Habilitation and Employment Support Programs. WSC serves 150 people annually.

Walnut Street Center continues to provide a family approach to its services, ensuring that all individuals receive the highest quality services and are treated with dignity and respect. Walnut Street treats each person as an individual and recognizes this individuality through person centered planning.

In 2017, the center became part of a new service area, which includes Everett, Malden, Lynnfield, Medford, Melrose, Reading, North Reading, Saugus, Stoneham, and Wakefield, MA.



**Walnut Street Center**  
291 Mystic Avenue  
Medford, MA 02155  
wscinc.org

For more information contact  
**Carolyne Guffey**  
Chief Executive Officer  
617.629.3562  
guffeyc@wscinc.org

**WSC**  
Walnut Street Center

**WSC**  
Walnut Street Center

**Overview of Services**  
MAKING LIFE MORE MEANINGFUL

wscinc.org  
617.776.1448





## DAY HABILITATION

Walnut Street Center's Day Habilitation Program provides habilitative medical, therapeutic, and behavioral services to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Professional staff include a full-time nurse and full-time behaviorist, as well as weekly services from physical, occupational, and speech therapists. Goal development focuses on activities of daily living, assisting individuals to maximize their functional independence. Individuals spend time each day working on a variety of skills such as preparing a simple meal, tying one's shoes, or managing difficult emotions. Walnut Street Center's new facility has dedicated spaces for art, music, culinary, and horticulture activities. The goal of WSC's Day Habilitation Program is to support skill acquisition and development in a safe and caring environment.

## COMMUNITY BASED DAY PROGRAM

Walnut Street Center's Community-Based Day Program fosters opportunities for learning, volunteering, and participation in our area communities. Serving adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, activities run a wide gamut: from educational trips to area museums and historical sites, to volunteering with a local food bank, to advocacy events at the Massachusetts State House. Activities are developed with individuals served, so that their interests help drive the calendar of events. On-site activities support skill growth and development, with a focus on developing skills that are important to the individual. Community-Based Day programming can be utilized as an active, educational day program, or as a stepping stone on the path toward employment.

## EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

Walnut Street Center's Employment Support Program prepares adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to obtain and maintain employment in their local communities. This process starts with an interest inventory and job category assessment, and continues through soft skill acquisition, resume development, and interview preparation. This might involve soft skills workshops, volunteering, and/or group work opportunities, as steps on the path toward employment readiness. Recognizing that each professional journey is different, the Employment Support Program can accommodate those for whom community-based competitive employment is a longer-term goal. Once an individual obtains employment, the program flexibly supports their position via on-site job coaching and wraparound case management.

## INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

The Individual Support living arrangements provide support needed by adults with intellectual disabilities to live on their own in an independent living situation in a private home in the community. With the help of a case management staff, they are able to receive assistance as needed while also obtaining the highest level of independence. Each individual is viewed holistically and we empower each person to achieve their identified personal goals and desires.

## RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

With 17 physical sites, housing 22 programs in our Residential Program network, Walnut Street Center serves individuals with a range of needs and abilities. An array of leisure and social activities, nutrition and exercise consultation, and support groups are available to all individuals. All services are individualized and person centered.

## 24-HOUR SUPPORT

Walnut Street Center offers individuals residential options tailored to their specific needs. One of these living arrangements includes private residences that are integrated within the community but are staffed with 24/7 residential support. These homes house multiple adults, each with their own private bedroom, but with the ability to have the socialization and support of their peers and at least one staff member on site any time residents are present. Some homes are completely accessible.

## Individuals receive assistance with managing and carrying out:

- Day to day living
- Medical necessities
- Appointments + treatments
- Entitlements + benefits
- Additional support workers
- Recreational activities
- Skills development
- Financial management