

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. Walnut Street Center 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 Walnut Street 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

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 Walnut Street Center'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 service model provides supports to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities who live independently in their own home or apartment. The service is provided either through case management or recurrent support from Walnut Street Center staff. As with all of our services, Walnut Street Center works with the individual and their support network to develop a customized model that allows them to obtain the highest level of independence. Services include but are not limited to: assistance with money management, meal preparation, transportation, healthy lifestyle support, access to the community, and relationship building.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Walnut Street Center has a residential network that includes 17 physical sites, housing 22 programs. Our homes are located in urban areas; some are multi-family buildings and others are fully

accessible units. Homes can house anywhere from 2 to 8 individuals, but a majority of homes house 4 individuals or fewer. Our residential sites reflect the personalities of the individuals who live there, and are secure and comfortable. As with all of our services, Walnut Street Center works with the individual and their support network to develop a customized model. Staffing ratios vary and are determined by the need of the individual. Our goal is to support the individual to become as independent as possible. Our caring, highly trained staff provide assistance with day to day living including financial management, medical appointments, and meal preparation. All of our residential sites are community-based and focus on integration through building relationships and connections.

24 HOUR SUPPORT

Walnut Street Center offers residential options tailored to individuals' specific needs. One of these living arrangements includes private residences that are integrated within the community and 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
- Recreational activities
- Skill development
- Financial management

wscinc.org
617.776.1448

