



## LIFE SHARING THROUGH FAMILY LIVING

### HOST HOMES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

#### SERVICE DESCRIPTION

Private host families are matched with the mentally challenged child or adult and provide all living necessities such as food and shelter. This provides the individual with the opportunity to become part of a family.

The host family actively participates in teaching the individual life skills such as personal care, meal preparation, money management, socialization and community involvement, and recreation..

This service is similar to what is better known as -- foster care; however, Family Living does not have an age limitation. Placements are intended to be long-term until such time that the individual is able to live independently. This arrangement provides an opportunity for the individual to become an integral part of the family.

All homes are inspected and licensed annually by the Western Region Office of Developmental Programs.

#### HOURS OF OPERATION

Family Living is a residential service providing supports 24 hours a day. dFs office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Residential Program Supervisor (RPS) monitors the family living placement by conducting home visits to discuss current issues. Family participation is very important to the successful placement therefore, the RPS will work with the family to arrange the best possible time to conduct home visits and necessary meetings.



#### FEE SCHEDULE

Currently, all referrals for this service are received from the County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Agencies. Currently, there are no fees or co-pays involved. If you are interested in this service, please contact your County Supports Coordinator.

#### BENEFITS

Individuals receive instruction in developing daily living skills and receive the opportunity to be truly a part of a family and an active member of the community. They have the opportunity of developing a bond with a family that results in security, stability, and the feeling of being valued. Individuals enjoy "Everyday Lives".

#### SUCCESS RATE

Current satisfaction ratings are: 95% for Family Living & CLA Clients, 96% for Family Living Providers, and 89% for Family Members of Family Living &CLA Clients

#### CHOICE .... It is important to everyone.

That's why we provide a variety of residential options. If a family living situation isn't right for you, or your family member, we also provide:

- Residential Group Homes
- In-Home Services
- Home Habilitation

We would be pleased to talk to you and assist you in deciding which option may be best.



#### MORE INFORMATION

Additional information about this service can be obtained by contacting Nancy J. Tusinac, M.Ed. Program Director at 724-346-2123 ext. 5529.

## WHY CHOOSE dFs?

- ▶ We have been providing services to people with intellectual disabilities for 25 years.
- ▶ Family is our middle name. We welcome everyone as a member of our family.
- ▶ Clients and their families are well-satisfied with our services with a 5-year satisfaction average of 89%.
- ▶ We provide services close to home in Mercer, Crawford, Venango, and Lawrence Counties.



Services are provided and admissions and referrals made without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, handicap or and age. dFs is an EEO employer.

## Celebrating Our 25 Years of Service

### FAST FACTS ABOUT dFs

- We have been serving Mercer County for 25 years.
- We have a volunteer governing Board of Directors which is made-up of community members, clients & family members.
- We have helped over 250 children through our specialized foster program, 17 of whom have been adopted.
- We serve over 175 families each year through our services to people with intellectual disabilities & children & youth.
- We provide a variety of residential services in 10 group homes and a supervised apartment building.
- We provide pre-vocational services to people with intellectual disabilities at our adult training facility and also provide supported employment.
- We employ 145 people and put almost 2.6 million dollars back into our community through employee wages.
- Approximately 96% of the people we serve are in the low income bracket.
- Approximately 13% of the people we serve represent a minority group.
- Our clients gave us high marks for satisfaction with our services, with a 5 year average of 90%.
- Our annual budget is approximately \$5 million
- We are a regional provider, serving clients from several counties including: Crawford, Lawrence, Beaver, and Venango Counties.
- Donations to us are Tax Deductible – we are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization.
- Office hours are 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday



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