

# HOMEFINDING SERVICES

## SERVICE DESCRIPTION

### Homemaker/ Chore Service

Homemaker services are provided to an individual or the family with whom the individual lives to maintain their private residence. This service is only provided when a household member is temporarily absent or unable to manage a home that is not operated by a provider agency or where there is no responsibility on the part of the landlord to perform the homemaker activities. This service is provided by a qualified homemaker and may include cleaning and laundry, meal preparation and other general household care.

Chore services consist of heavy household activities such as washing floor, windows, and walls; tacking down loose rugs and tiles; moving heavy items of furniture in order to provide safe access and egress; ice, snow and/or leaf removal; and yard maintenance. When property is rented or leased landlord responsibility (per lease or rental agreement) is reviewed prior to providing any of the above services. Routine maintenance or upkeep is excluded from this service.

### Companion

Companion Services are provided to individuals living in private residences for the limited purpose of providing supervision and minimal assistance that is forced solely on the health and safety of the adult individual (18 years and older) with intellectual disabilities.

This service can be used for providing for the non-medical or non-habilitative supervision during sleep hours to maintain health and safety. It is also used to supervise an individual and assure their health and safety during socialization or non-habilitative activities in the community.

### Family Aide

Family Aide services offer care, supervision, supports and assistance to families that may include members who do not have intellectual disabilities. This service is only available to the individuals who receive Base funding.

The family aide may provide these supports to enable other family members to assist the individual in the family who has disabilities.

### Home Finding

Home finding services assist individuals in locating housing and establishing house holds in accordance with their individual needs and desires.

Home finding staff are familiar with all local resources for the community in which the individual wishes to become established. The home finding staff provides this information to the individual, assisting the individual in identifying possible living sites, visiting those sites and assisting the individual to determine if their budget will support the cost of the site if a rental.



## HOURS OF OPERATION

All services take place in the home, therefore the schedule is arranged to best accommodate the needs of the individual and family. The dFs office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## FEE SCHEDULE

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



**CHOICE ....** It is important to everyone.

That's why we provide a variety of services. If you are interested in these or any of our services services we would be pleased to speak with you about them.

## 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



**SUPPLEMENTAL  
SERVICES**  
HOMEMAKER/CHORE  
COMPANION  
FAMILY AIDE  
HOME FINDING  
FOR  
INDIVIDUALS WITH  
INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES



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