



Our mission is to empower individuals with developmental disabilities to live in the community through the consistent provision of instruction and support services based upon individual wants, needs and desires. Instruction and support services are provided in a manner that recognizes that individuals are people first, with unique abilities and personalities.

Community Living is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit agency that provides residential services to persons with developmental disabilities and their families.

What we do...

Community Living has been supporting individuals with developmental disabilities since 1969. During the past 45 years we have seen the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities increase dramatically. In 1969, people with developmental disabilities were mostly supported in Washington State's seven institutions with as many as 40 people per residence hall, with little recognition being given to them as human beings, having rights, abilities, and individual self-worth. The combined total population of the seven state institutions was over 8,000 people. Today most people with developmental disabilities reside in their own homes in their own communities. As has been our Board of Directors and Agency's belief, people with developmental disabilities have the right to live, learn, and work in the community just like everyone else.

Over the years Community Living has become known as a dynamic, ever evolving, creative, exciting, and cutting edge agency. We have been listed as one of the top supportive living programs for people with developmental disabilities in the nation by Syracuse University's Center for Human Policy. Community Living has been sought out for assistance and consultation by providers from Australia, Canada, England, Ireland, Mexico, and New Zealand, as well as providers from the states of Hawaii, New York, and Wisconsin.

In order to maintain our very high and reputable standards our focus is always on how we deliver services and decisions are based on what is in the best interest of the people to whom we provide services.

Through combined efforts of our staff, families and community, we are able to help develop skills and abilities to enhance individual's Health & Safety, Power & Choice, Status, Relationships, Integration Opportunities, and Competence.

45 Years of providing quality supports to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Community Living, formerly Spring Acres Group Homes, is a private non-profit agency which was started in 1969 by a handful of Yakima parents. These parents wanted a local alternative from having to place their developmentally disabled children outside of Yakima into large state operated institutions. Their

efforts resulted in the opening of the State of Washington's first group home, which was located in Naches, Washington, and was home to six young women.

In 1979, the board voted to sell all but one of its existing traditional group homes and implemented the state's first pilot program that served people with developmental disabilities in their own homes located throughout the City of Yakima. It was and continues to be the Board of Directors' belief that people with developmental disabilities have the right to live, learn and work in the community just like everyone else. Furthermore, it was felt that Community Living would be far more successful in teaching people to meet most of their own needs, if they could be taught on a one on one ratio and have the opportunity to use these skills on a regular basis in their own living environments.

In March 1981, Community Living was asked by King County's Division of Human Services to replicate its residential support system for people living in their own residences in Bellevue, Washington. The Bellevue program opened on April 6, 1981. Community Living has since received National and International recognition for this program model. The Kent program was opened in July 1990, the Sunnyside program was opened in September 1990 and Clarkston program in November 2014.

Supporting individuals with developmental disabilities to live in their own homes within their own communities.

Since 1969 Community Living has been providing quality support to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Community Living has received National and International recognition for its program model, and currently provides services to over 170 persons and their families in the communities of Auburn, Bellevue, Clarkston, Issaquah, Kent, Kirkland, Redmond, Selah, Sunnyside, Union Gap, and Yakima. Community living services are also available in other communities of Asotin, King and Yakima Counties.

Community Living prides itself on individualized teaching and training in all aspects of daily living, while supporting individuals with a wide range of support needs. Individualized teaching and training may include; personal hygiene, cooking, cleaning, laundry, grocery shopping and menu planning, paying bills, budgeting, assistance with medications, doctor appointments, following doctor orders, support with complex medical issues and complex diets, support with mobility issues, including the use of walkers, gait belts and wheelchairs, support with communication devices, transportation, and support with activities.

Community Living supports individuals to live in their own homes within their own communities, with support that ranges from just a few hours per week to twenty-four hours per day by dedicated and qualified staff.

Through teamwork, developing skills and abilities to enhance individual's Health & Safety, Power & Choice, Status, Relationships, Integration Opportunities, and Competence.

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