

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES



When you hear about their need for individualized attention and the loneliness of some people with disabilities who live in congregate settings, stop saying, "I'm sorry about that." Instead, be a true friend and respond with, "How can I help?"

One of our goals at Tri-Development Center is to assist in the provision of supports necessary to prevent the need for more costly residential services outside of the home of an individual's natural family. There are, however, inevitably, instances in which the need for residential supports is necessary. In such cases, every effort is made to find the individual a place to call home where he will be comfortable, safe, and happy. The supports offered through our Residential Services Program are provided by highly skilled employees dedicated to assisting individuals in gaining the skills necessary to become as independent as possible.

Our Residential Services Program has continued to grow although the pace has decreased significantly in recent years. Today, 179 individuals in Aiken County benefit from the residential supports provided by Tri-Development Center. As with vocational services, we employ varying models of support to enable people to live as independently as possible. Residences range from one-bedroom apartments to group homes of various sizes. (See "*Residential Service Models*" below for descriptions of these support models.) Many opportunities exist for volunteers to help improve the quality of life of the people receiving residential supports through Tri-Development Center.

People with disabilities who receive residential supports want and need to be included in the activities of their communities. They want to have their own circles of support but, unfortunately and too frequently, many of the people we serve have little or no contact with members of their families and few individuals without disabilities other than our staff members. This has a negative impact on the quality of their lives and our goal is to assist them in developing meaningful relationships to enhance their lives.

In today's economic climate, it is unrealistic for the community to think that one agency can adequately meet all of the social and transportation needs of the people we serve. Concerned citizens need to be open to developing friendships with individuals living in congregate settings. Through participating in one another's lives, together those with and without disabilities can reap the benefits of rich the relationships which develop.

Residential Service Models:

Intermediate Care Facilities/for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities/Developmental Disabilities (ICFs/MR-DD)

These four group residences each serve as the home to eight individuals. They are all located within the City of Aiken. Staff members are on duty 24 hours per day to provide needed supports and training. Individualized programs are developed to help each person develop skills and, if possible, move to a less restrictive environment. Staffing does include nursing personnel. Assistance in bathing, toileting, feeding, communicating, and other accomplishing other basic tasks is available. Most individuals attend a day services program also operated by Tri-Development Center. Family and community involvement is encouraged. These homes are licensed and certified by the S.C. Department and Health and Environmental Control.

Community Residential Care Facilities (CRCFs)

Two Community Residential Care Facilities are operated by Tri-Development Center. Both are located in the City of Aiken and combined serve as the homes of 16 individuals. Those living in a Community Residential Care Facility cannot require nursing, unless it is on a very short time period. They do, however, have many similar needs as those living in

the ICFs/MR-DD. Days services/vocational programs are offered through other Tri-Development Center locations. These homes are licensed and reviewed annually by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. The S.C. Department of Disabilities and Special Needs contracts with an independent agency to provide quality assurance and enhancement activities.

Community Training Home II (CTH II)

Each of the 23 Community Training Home II residences in Aiken County provides a home for 3 or four people. It gives these individuals a home-like environment and provides training in areas each person needs in order to become more independent. The program strives to integrate these individuals into community activities which are the norm for any citizen. Staffing patterns vary from shift staff to live-in caregivers with weekend substitutes. The homes are located in Aiken, North Augusta, Jackson, New Ellenton, and Midland Valley areas. The individuals usually receive one or two of the agency's day services during the day. Licensing inspections are conducted by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. The S.C. Department of Disabilities and Special Needs contracts with an independent agency to provide quality assurance and enhancement activities.

Enhanced Community Training Home I (ECTH I)

The Enhanced Community Training Home I model is similar to an enhanced foster care program for adults. In Aiken County, this model actually falls under the responsibility of the Aiken County Board of Disabilities which contracts with Tri-Development Center for the provision of caregiver training and home management. Eight such homes presently exist in Aiken County and serve a total of 10 individuals. Under this model, contracted caregivers live in a private home with one or two individuals with disabilities. Generally these homes are owned by the caregivers. These homes receive licensing inspections annually which are conducted by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Supervised Living Program II (SLP II)

The 20 single bedroom apartments making up Aiken Apartments are the homes for 20 individuals served by Tri-Development Center. Staff members are on site or very close by throughout the day to help with training in areas

such as cooking, doing laundry, taking medications, scheduling appointments, maintaining sanitary living environments, and interpreting medical information, assisting with development of interpersonal skills, etc. Many of these individuals work at various jobs throughout the community. A staff member is also on site overnight to assist with any issues that may need to be addressed. The individuals with disabilities renting these apartments pay rent based on their incomes with the remainder being subsidized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Licensing inspections are conducted by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Supervised Living Program I (SLP I)

Some individuals with lifelong disabilities can, of course, live successfully in their own apartments located throughout the community and only need limited supervision and supports. Staff members are available to assist these 13 individuals as needed in areas such as money management, transportation, shopping, understanding medical information, reading mail, etc. Emergency response is also available.