



Home Away From Home

Advanced Social and Professional Programming (ASAP)

For adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities

Purpose:

The purpose of the ASAP program is to provide daily programming for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who are aging out of services and are not yet ready to enter the workforce, and who may require additional resources such as medical support or assistance with activities of daily living.

Goals:

The ASAP program will:

1. Foster and encourage independence by providing programming focused on vocational training and developing comfort performing activities of daily living.
2. Provide a safe space for participants' personal growth, development of social skills, and increased understanding of their own emotions as well as comfort responding to the emotions of others.
3. Combat social isolation by providing programming that encourages participants to establish friendships and meaningful relationships with each other, and to see themselves as contributing and meaningful members of their community.
4. Ensure the health and safety of each participant by utilizing a trained nursing staff to administer medication, address participants' ongoing medical needs, and provide skilled medical services as needed.

Overview:

The ASAP program will meet Mondays through Fridays, from 8:30am through 1:30pm, during which time breakfast and lunch will be served. The program will address four areas of knowledge—cognitive development, activities of daily living, vocational training, and community integration—while ensuring the safety of participants by providing nursing services to individuals to address their ongoing medical needs.

Facilitator:

Michelle Markowitz holds a Master's Degree in social work (MSW) and has experience working in a variety of social service settings, with a variety of populations, including at-risk, low-income, and developmentally or cognitively disabled children, adolescents, and adults. Michelle has facilitated social skills and vocational skills training courses, and has helped develop and implement these courses in some settings. With 10 years of camp experience and six years of tutoring experience, she has a knack for creative and educational programming.

Why join? As the first cohort of the ASAP program, you will have the unique opportunity to work directly with Michelle to help shape and mold the future of the program to address your interests and needs. Unlike other programs, ASAP will take an individualized approach to its program, working with each participant to develop programming that addresses your personal goals.