

What will your next step be?

Both of Assisted Shared Apartment Program (ASAP) and Families for Independent Living (FFIL) are working in partnership to be proactive in planning and ensuring that there are safe, affordable, community based housing for adults with developmental disabilities.

The majority of the participants hold jobs in the community, have volunteer activities, participate in sports events, social events, and other family and community activities. They are capable individuals who desire to live with increased self-sufficiency in their own community.

Whether you see your family member taking that next step to independence in the near future or within the next 2 to 5 years, the time to plan is now.

This should be a natural transition and they should be given choices just as their contemporaries.

Join us at our meetings and see how you can take the next step to help make this a reality for your family.

We would like to invite you to attend one or both of the following meetings.

Assisted Shared Apartment Program (ASAP)

4th Monday of each month

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Elsie Stuhr Center

5550 SW Hall Blvd, Beaverton

These meeting coincide with events (dance, movie, etc.)

for adults with developmental disabilities

Please check with

the Elsie Stuhr Center, 503-643-9434

for a list of events

and see if you need to RSVP or pay for pizza or other items ahead, otherwise, the cost is \$1 per person to attend.

For more information, contact Will Calhoun, 503-880-9455, WillCalhounPDX@aol.com, or Ginny Stromer, 503-380-1520, ginny@stromer.us

OR

Families for Independent Living (FFIL)

2nd Monday each month, 7 pm
at The Bridge, SW 141st & Allen
Beaverton

For more information, contact Gordon Teifel, 503-642-1251 mainlight@mac.com

Assisted Shared Apartment Program ASAP



Where do they go from here?

Have you thought about the next steps to independence for yourself or your adult family member with developmental disabilities?

We all want to keep them on the road to independence but what is the best way to help them learn the skills to accomplish this goal?

The answer is different for each of us. Fortunately, there are groups formed by parents who are working on these options.

Two of these groups who are working together are:

Assisted Shared Apartment Program
and
Families for Independent Living

Assisted Shared Apartment Program (ASAP)

This is the next step in the journey to independent living alternatives for adults with developmental disabilities (DD). Allowing residents to have **a roommate in a 2 bedroom apartment in a secure supported atmosphere.**

A resident assistant (RA) will be retained to live on-site to support the residents. Some of the RA's duties would include:

- Ensuring safe returns from jobs or social events.
- Assisting with meal planning and grocery shopping.
- Helping with budgeting and bill paying.
- Ensuring residents are maintaining clean apartments
- Consultation with neighbor-to-neighbor issues.
- Consultation regarding transportation and community safety as needed.
- Checking that the residents are cooking safely and eating properly
- Help with planning group activities
- Attend monthly ASAP meetings and have ongoing communications with parents and/or liaison.

Under the charter of this program, residents are responsible for the rent and parent's are the support network for the RA. Parents provide a small stipend for the RA's salary, cell phone, rent, etc.

Our first project, Merlo Station will be ready for move in in the Spring of 2008.



Until then we have a lot to do. We hold meetings the 2nd Monday of each month for interested family members. We are also scheduling social events for potential roommates to meet, get to know each other, find common interests and build community.

We are also working in partnership with Tualatin Valley Housing Partners, Families for Independent Living, Beaverton School District and many other groups to set up a transitional apartment and training program for both the potential resident and family members to access the skills and readiness of the families and potential residents and provide the necessary training to ensure that their move to independence is a safe and successful one.

For more information about the Merlo Station Apartment models described above contact Will Calhoun, 503-880-9455, WillCalhounPDX@aol.com. To be added to a participation list, or for information about the Merlo Apartment Transition Program, contact Phil Palmer, 503-644-1650, phil.palmer@email.com



Families for Independent Living (FFIL)

This non-profit group has successfully opened a resident facility called The Bridge in Beaverton, OR.



We encourage you to check it out, it is a model for low-income independent living for developmentally disabled adults. The Bridge offers single bedroom apartments but maintains a dorm-type atmosphere where residents can socialize in a quad setting.

Residents of The Bridge live more independently without a live-in or full-time Resident Assistant. This could be a starting point for some DD adults and the next step after ASAP for others.

FFIL will also have one-bedroom and studio apartments at Merlo station when it opens in Spring 2008

For more information, contact Gordon Teifel, 503-642-1251, mainlight@mac.com.