

# Initiative

Submitted by: Choice Living Community

501(c)3 Organization

EIN:84-3714909

Dr. Jennifer Scott

Choice Living Community CEO

Telephone: 817-751-0080

admin@choiceliving.org

December 9, 2019

## Table of Contents

About Our Organization	4
Our Vision and Mission	5
Our Approach	5
Needs of the Community	5
Choice Living Community Members	
Start-up Project	
Sub Objectives	7



## **About Our Organization**

Choice Living Community was registered with the Internal Revenue Service on December 9, 2019, the brainchild of Dr. Jennifer Scott, a previous special education transition teacher. Choice Living Community is a transition day habilitation program for adults with disabilities that have aged out of the traditional educational setting. Transition services are part of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) for a student and defines the move from public education to adult life. A day habilitation program for adults with disabilities is defined as a facility-based service provided in a group setting during the weekday.

At Choice Living Community, we believe that the individual education plan needs to be carried into adult life. We provide that individualized approach for adults with moderate to severe disabilities that need continued support in the area (s) of vocational, social, and life skills by developing an Individualized Care Plan (ICP) for each of our clients.

Choice Living Community was founded in order to provide continued support and education through innovative programs to advance the knowledge and achievement for adults with disabilities in the following areas:

## **Vocational Training**

Choice Living Community provides support and assistance through community planning for adults with disabilities that need job coaching.

We provide on-site job training, coaching for those adults that can maintain a part-time position, and in-house training for adults that are not able to retain part- or full-time employment.

## **Social Skills**

We provide an opportunity for our clients to socialize within the community and in a secured environment by means of community outings and in-house recreational events.

## **Life Skills**

For all of our clients, we offer continued life skills training in the area (s) of personal hygiene, cooking, laundry, money skills, and socialization in a secured environment.

We work with the individual and their guardians to develop a personalized plan called the Individual Care Plan (ICP), that will assist the client in maintaining individualized skills, a consistent schedule, and a sense of adult responsibilities.

#### **Our Vision and Mission**

Our **mission** is to provide a day habilitation facility that continues to provide innovative and individualized programs to advance the achievement and knowledge for adults with disabilities in the areas of vocational, life, and social skills.

Our **vision** includes a full-time residential facility that will provide an opportunity for adults with disabilities to live as independently as possible. This residential facility will be able to house 16 adults full-time.

## **Our Approach**

Choice Living Community helps adults with disabilities maintain a critical and consistent schedule by providing an individualized approach to working on transition skills once they have left public education. We implement projects that respond directly to the needs of the individual as well as implementing projects that community stakeholders can participate in their creation and development.

"Promoting an individualized development and inclusion"

We believe in facilitation; allowing the individual adults to take ownership of the projects themselves, empowering them to face the challenges affecting them, and also ensuring that they are sustainable and inclusive.

## **Needs of the Community**

Many families, over 155,000 in Texas alone, are on at least a 10-year waiting list for facilities, placements or services. According to the Texas Education Agency, one school district alone in the Corpus Christi, TX area has 1,173 special education students on seven different campuses alone. Sixty-eight of those students are in a transition program and will soon be entering adult life. In Nueces County, there are over 800 students within special education that will leave public education within the next year. Choice Living Community is looking to fill that gap in facility placement by providing a secure place for adults with disabilities to attend as soon as they leave public education and not have to wait for services.

It is imperative that once a student with disabilities leaves public education as an adult, that they continue to adhere to a consistent schedule they have been used to throughout high school.

## **Choice Living Community Members**

3 active board members3 active community liaisons7 advisors

#### **Board Members**

Dr. Jennifer Scott CEO Choice Living Community

Gary Scott Mooring USA VP National Accounts

Lawanna Cooper Special Education Teacher

#### **Community Liaisons**

Ken Bung Retired Assistant Police Chief

Denise Brooks Chairperson/Transition Teacher - Mary Grett Transition Center

Susan T Fields Driscoll Director of Rehabilitations Services Driscoll Children's Hospital

## Advisors

Oscar Martinez Budget Advisor

Bishop Carmody Retired Bishop of Disc of Corpus Christi

Richard Harris Driscoll Children's Hospital

Robin Perrone CPA

Candy Trask Financial Advisor

Gene Seaman Advisor

Henry Garrett Former Chief of Police and Mayor of Corpus Christi - Advisor

## **Start-up Project**

### Problems and Need

Choice Living Community is looking to open their first facility in the Corpus Christi, TX area. After researching the need in several locations throughout Texas, the board members felt Corpus Christi had the least amount of available day habilitation facilities and an increasing need of adults with disabilities that need a place to attend during the day.

## Overall Project Objective

- To improve the lives of adults with disabilities
- To increase the access to day habilitation facilities without a Medicare wait list

## Sub Objectives

- To secure a facility
- To purchase supplies needed to open and run the facility
- To hire and train one additional staff member
- To secure volunteers to assist with the program
- To provide a facility for 45 adults with disabilities

## <u>Cost – Renting a Facility</u>

Monthly Rent - \$2,000

Maintenance - \$500

Insurance - \$1500

Food - \$2000

Staff Salaries (8 Full-time staff) - \$27,000

**Utilities - \$2,000** 

Total monthly expense: \$35,000

Cost per Client (45 clients) - \$778 per month