

New Futures Initiative Program

A collaboration between Center for Independent Futures and
Collaborative Community Housing Initiative

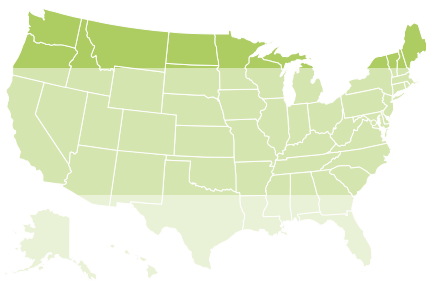
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Highland Park Community Foundation



Collaborative Community Housing Initiative

OUR INDEPENDENT THINKING LEADS TO INDEPENDENT LIVING

The New Futures Initiative™ helps families create successful community living options for individuals with disabilities in their own communities.

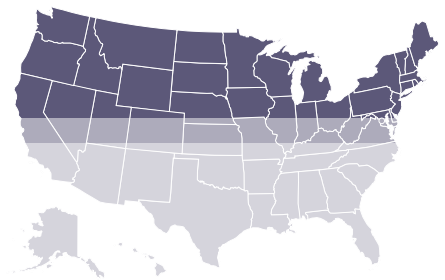


71%
of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the U.S. live with a family caregiver*

24%
of those caregivers are over the age of 60*

55%
of individuals with disabilities chose where they live**

46%
chose whom they live with**



*The State of the States in Developmental Disabilities

**National Core Indicators Adult Consumer Survey

CREATING NEW OPTIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE

At a time when government housing is at capacity and funding is scarce, it is difficult to find appropriate, affordable housing for your loved one with disabilities. It's even more difficult to find housing that fits your loved one's vision of a full life.

At Center for Independent Futures, we believe in that vision. We're committed to helping families open doors to futures where individuals can lead richer, more independent lives in homes of their own.

Our New Futures Initiative™ provides a road map to guide families on their paths toward the housing solutions their loved ones need and deserve. We created this step-by-step process through our first-hand experiences and in collaboration with leaders in the field of community development. The New Futures Initiative™ takes participants through a series of workshops designed to teach our process. Our approach guides the development of partnerships that are critical for sustainability and support physical and social integration into the community.

These workshops provide the tools, materials, and professional resources needed to move toward your vision. And the process is proven. Evidence of its success can be seen in our Community Living Option™ residences in Evanston, Ill., where we support individuals to live independently in a variety of settings. With the support of Center for Independent Futures, these individuals have a place to call home at the center of their full lives. Together, we can achieve the same dream for your loved one.



THE PATH TO COMMUNITY LIVING OPTIONS™

Step 1: Beginning the Journey

- Overview of the New Futures Initiative™ process
- Firsthand look at a successful Community Living Option™
- Building your community
- Creating a shared vision
- Establishing an organizational structure and group processes
- Assessing personal and community assets

Step 2: Taking Action

- Determining housing criteria and ownership model
- Developing a housing team
- Reviewing public and private resources
- Creating a housing budget
- Researching the options
- Drafting a housing plan

Step 3: Moving Ahead

- Identifying support criteria
- Determining support structure
- Identifying and assessing potential residents
- Creating partnerships and developing partnership agreements
- Finalizing a support plan

Step 4: Opening Your Doors

- Preparing families and residents for transition
- Developing personal networks
- Meeting the neighbors and participating in community activities
- Making the residence a home and planning for move-in day
- Handling the day-to-day and preparing for the road ahead

New Futures Initiative is a step-by-step approach that gives individuals and their families the ability to open doors to supported living options in their own neighborhoods. New Futures Initiative training takes participants through four online learning modules designed to teach our process. Training consists of work done independently combined with facilitated virtual group meetings.

What's included in New Futures Initiative Virtual Training?

- *Online access to 30 lessons containing webinars, videos, and readings on topics including:
 - *housing models across the nation
 - *legal, financial, and business considerations for various housing models
 - *networks of support for individuals
 - *technology tools to support independent living
 - *local, state and national resources to support your efforts
 - *information on public benefits
 - *community asset mapping tools
 - *plans for individuals and their families for the transition to independent living

*Four half-day (3 hour) facilitated workshops to highlight key lesson ideas, share new information through speakers, panels, and experts, and begin the work of creating new housing opportunities

*One year of access to all online training materials

What makes New Futures Initiative training different?

- *Discover a proven roadmap to supported, independent living
- *Develop strong and sustaining relationships with people in similar circumstances
- *Leverage group skills, talents, knowledge, and connections through collaboration
- *Hear the inspiring personal stories of individuals living independently and their families
- *Uncover opportunities for growth and gain independent living skills
- *Build full lives for individuals beyond the family home
- *Create more accessible and inclusive communities