

Family Support Services

Our Family Support Services department encompasses a large spectrum of services and programs. Respite care is a primary concern because the agency strongly feels that it is important to assist both the individual and family. Many different types of services are provided to the clients including various forms of respite. The program has expanded to include personal assistance, mentoring, community participation, and the Great Adventure Club, tailored for individuals who are more independent in their self-help skills.

The benefits of Respite include the following:

- Reducing stress
- Strengthening the family, by providing time for relaxation
- Improving long-term family stability

Forms of Respite Care

In-Home
Out-of-Home
Summer Camp
Weekend Retreats
Community Participation
Personal Assistance

In-home

Respite is temporary care for children or adults with developmental disabilities who live at home. Trained respite staff provides activities and personal care for service recipients.

Out of home

A respite provider will care for an individual in their home after an inspection has been done to make sure the home is safe and accessible for care.

Personal Assistance

Our providers are trained in areas of physical management and mealtime challenges as well as other basic provider skills to help individuals with disabilities through providing more personal services such as bathing and dressing. These individuals provide more than just "sitting" services and are often used on a daily or regular basis to help the family in specific caretaking.

Community Participation

This program offers individuals the opportunity to build relationships and natural supports within the community. It provides opportunities to experience and participate in community exploration, leisure activities, hobbies, and community events, etc.

Summer Camp

Summer Camp is divided into two weeks in the summer, usually in July and August. Both camps are residential, meaning campers do not go home during the week-long camps. Direct Care Counselors are present at a ratio of 3:1 in order to maintain safety and provide campers with individualized attention. Campers participate in a variety of recreational activities centered on a central theme, chosen each summer. Registration starts in May and is on a first come, first serve basis.

In order to participate in the camp program, clients must have a developmental disability or delay. The minimum requirement is 8 years of age. Siblings are welcome to attend both the summer camps and the weekend retreats.

Weekend Retreats

The Weekend Retreats are held 10 times a year and take place monthly, except in the months of our week-long summer camp programs. People with disabilities ages 8-adulthood are eligible for the recreational weekend camps. Formatted to be a "mini-camp", the weekend retreats are staffed with a ratio of 3:1 and are held at different locations around the Mid-South. Campers are dropped off Friday evenings at 7pm and picked up noon on Sunday.

Sometimes the weekends include community participation activities such as trips to the mall, zoo, and other public forums. Our staff and volunteers supervise all campers as they participate in arts and crafts, music, group games, sports, and community outings.

Fees & Supplements

The Arc Mid-South provides supplements and camperships for low-income families to receive services. Each case is reviewed individually. A family Services fee is requested to participants in all agency programs. For more information about programs, please contact The Arc Mid-South .

The Arc Mid-South
3485 Poplar Avenue,
Suite 210
Memphis, TN 38111
(901)-327-2473
(901)-327-2687 Fax

