What is Specialized Independent Living?

Specialized Independent Living is a program for youth who have been released from group home placement and are in need of independent living skills while receiving minimal supervision. Youth participate in the program an average of 4–6 months.

Benefits

- Four-tiered program allows residents to demonstrate more responsibility and accountability, while earning more independent time in the community.
- Youth have the opportunity to develop and practice responsible social skills through weekly group activities and structured free time.
- Independent living classes include instruction in cooking, cleaning, and obtaining employment. Youth are required to have bank accounts to learn the importance of earning money through their employment in the community.
- Adelphoi embraces a model of trauma-informed care that helps create therapeutic communities that provide safety for both youth and the staff who work with them.

Admission/Requirements

- Youth must be 16 to 20 years of age, released from alternative-to secure, secure treatment, or sex offender treatment and in need of continued care.
- Placing agency must provide a copy of all pertinent records and a court order.
- Youth will be interviewed prior to admission to determine appropriateness of placement.
Education

- Educational programming for youth in each group home will be determined pursuant to Section 1306 of the Public School Code (24 P.S. §13-1306) which states that . . . children who are residents of such homes, but not legal residents in such district (shall be permitted) to attend the public schools in said district. An educational team will include membership from the host school district, Dr. Robert Ketterer Charter School or Adelphoi Education, parents or guardians, and teachers from the host school district and the charter school.
- Those who have completed their high school education can choose to attend college and/or seek employment.
- Youth are eligible to participate in Adelphoi’s PRIDE Career Readiness Program to obtain vocational skills.

Discharge/Aftercare Planning

Upon successful completion of the Specialized Independent Living Program, youth will receive a discharge plan specific to their needs. Discharge planning for youth will include one of the following scenarios:

- Youth will return to their county of origin and will receive assistance in finding employment and an appropriate place to live
- Youth will remain in the general area of the program to live and work
- Youth will attend college and will live on-campus
- Youth will return home to their parent or guardian
About Adelphoi

Adelphoi is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a continuum of quality services to children, youth, and families. Headquartered in Latrobe, PA, Adelphoi has programs in 30 counties, serving nearly 1,000 youth and families on a daily basis and over 2,500 children annually. Adelphoi’s vast continuum of care includes group homes, a Charter School, foster and adoption services, education programs, mental health services, after-school programs, in-home services, shelter care, multisystemic therapy, and secure care.

Adelphoi has over 700 employees and assists persons and communities in need from over 60 counties throughout the Commonwealth, as well as from Ohio and Delaware. Adelphoi’s mission: Offering outcome-based solutions for abused, neglected, delinquent and other at-risk children and their families through a continuum of treatment and education services that provide a foundation of hope for the future.

For more information, please contact:

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