

Representative Payee Services:

As part of residential services, The Arc requires that individuals and their families enroll in our representative payee services. As an appointed representative payee, The Arc of Essex County will not only ensure that funds for day-to-day needs are taken care of, but also assist beneficiaries and their families in navigating government reporting and accountability. As a representative payee, The Arc will:

- Assist with maintaining the beneficiary's Medicaid eligibility
- Manage all reporting to the Division of Developmental Disabilities, Social Security Administration, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Monitor the beneficiary's trust and community accounts regularly
- Review all of the beneficiary's financials on a monthly basis
- Provide quarterly, or upon request, bank statements to the beneficiary's family or guardian

Cost of Care:

Individuals living in Residential Services must contribute to their room and board costs using income derived from government benefits and/or employment.



Testimonials:

"Whatever our expectations were, the group home blew them away. People in our old neighborhood ask me all the time 'how's your brother doing.' I tell them, the best he's ever been. I don't know what more we could ask for. If nothing changed, I would be happy for the rest of my life."

- Larry M., A Brother and Guardian of an Adult with Down Syndrome who lives in a community residence of The Arc of Essex County

About The Arc of Essex County:

The Arc of Essex County is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to helping children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities participate in every level of our society and enjoy fuller, more independent lives. Founded in 1948, The Arc of Essex County provides a wide variety of programs and services that support nearly 1,500 people throughout Essex County from birth to their senior years. Our services include:

- Adult Day Services & Supported Employment
- Adult Residential Services
- Recreation & Respite Programs for Adults & Children
- Transition Resource Services
- Camp Hope Adult Camping Experience
- Children & Family Services
- Early Childhood Education
- Early Intervention

For more information or to make a donation, visit www.arcessex.org.



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Adult Residential Services

(973) 535-1181
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Introduction to Residential Services:

Adulthood is marked by many decisions, the most exciting of which is determining where to live. For individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), the desire to pursue greater independence is achievable with proper planning and open discussion. The Arc of Essex County's residential services offers individuals with I/DD housing options that provide an opportunity to live a fulfilling and independent life in a nurturing, supportive atmosphere.

The Arc's residential experience emphasizes the importance of maintaining family relationships, establishing friendships, pursuing personal interests, and becoming involved in the community. Properties vary from multi-bedroom homes to individual apartments located in communities throughout Essex County.

Residential Options:

There is not a one-size-fits-all approach to residential options for individuals with I/DD. The Arc of Essex County carefully takes into account accessibility and support needs in combination with personality and wishes to find a housing option that meets individual needs. All residents have access to 24-hour staff support, nursing and clinical supports, and a variety of local community inclusion activities. Residential service options include:

- **Community Residences**
- **Supervised Apartments**
- **Supportive Living**
- **Crisis/Respite Group Home**

All residents have access to Arc of Essex County transportation to ensure full involvement in the community.



Community Residences:

Community Residences are group homes that provide individuals with 24-hour on-site staff supervision, ensuring a lifetime of support and growth. Residents build lifelong friendships with their housemates and enjoy active social lives within their communities. Group home residents typically require daily support, assistance, and the opportunity to build upon and acquire skills including:

- Cooking
- Daily living tasks
- Nutrition, health, & wellness
- Household maintenance
- Money management
- Recreation
- Shopping

Supervised Apartments:

The Arc of Essex County's Supervised Apartments are designed for individuals who have mastered a number of daily living skills and are looking for the independence and privacy associated with apartment living. Supervised apartments are usually located within walking distance to downtown community areas where residents enjoy socializing with peers, pursuing employment or vocational training, and engaging as active citizens in the community.

Staff supervision is designed to maximize independence with the least amount of interference possible. Targeted staff support is available in the areas of training, guidance, and assistance. Local staff during the overnight hours is easily accessible for safety and support.

Supportive Living:

The Supportive Living Apartment Program is designed for individuals with minimal community living support needs. Residents in this program are typically employed, contribute to their rent, and receive limited staff assistance in areas such as health management, budgeting, and relationship skills. Staff assistance is available based on the individual's assessed needs and to organize optional group activities.

Consumers have access to an emergency on-call system for added safety 24 hours a day. All of the program's residents are able to access the community alone, whether on foot, using public transportation, or driving their own vehicle. As a result, they typically manage their own social and recreational activities, enjoying time with their families and community friends.

Crisis/Respite Group Home:

Life happens and sometimes individuals and their families need to seek short term housing due to a planned or unplanned event or emergency situation. Upon referral from the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) or planned through a support coordinator, Crisis Respite provides individuals with a welcoming group home setting on a temporary basis.

The home is designed to create a family-like setting in which residents can feel comfortable until they transition into permanent housing or return home. The Arc of Essex County's 24-hour staff is prepared to manage behavioral issues and additional supports based on the needs of the individual.

