

Park Lawn Transition Program

Transition Program Bio

Park Lawn is a non-profit social service agency. For over fifty years Park Lawn has evolved from its grass roots beginnings to provide exceptional opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities. Park Lawn is pleased to collaborate with any local school district on a School Transition Program. Our transition program offers vocational training along with a glimpse into what the future holds for these young adults. We began our program in 2006. Since that time we have been expanding our program to fit the needs of these young adults. Please contact us to find out how this program can work with your school district.

Transition Program Philosophy

Park Lawn seeks to provide services for young adults (ages 18-22) to successfully make the transition into the adult workforce. Our goal is to promote independence and achievement through supportive vocational training.

Community Opportunities

Park Lawn has relationships with other not for profits throughout the community. Share Your Soles, Toy Box Connection, the Oak Lawn Children's Museum and Palos Library are a few of these businesses which Park Lawn participants volunteer. This experience provides students with the opportunity to develop and build upon various vocational skills. Generally the positions for volunteering are offered to the older students as they near graduation. Once a week, students leave for a volunteer site along with their job trainer for an hour and a half. Transportation is provided by Park Lawn. Students perform several tasks depending on the site. Sweeping, dusting, washing tables, vacuuming, mopping, and following directions are just some of the skills that are practiced. All this experience helps facilitate success for students to transition to working in the community in the future.

30 Day Summer Evaluation

During our summer session, Park Lawn's vocational training department staff provide a thirty day vocational enrichment program for eligible students. Park Lawn works with the students on a variety of skills including academic, functional living and vocational training.

School Year Program

Most students participating in the summer session continue with Park Lawn throughout the school year, attending vocational training services for half of their academic day. The students are fully integrated into the vocational training department and interact with the staff and participants here at Park Lawn. During the school year, students are paid for all work performed following the guidelines of the Illinois Department of Labor and United States Department of Labor guidelines. Upon graduation from high school, students have the option to apply for full time services through the many vocational options here at Park Lawn.



For more information, please contact: Kelly Ewing of Park Lawn
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Transition Into Independence

