

# Noah's Ark of Central Florida

*"Committed to empowering individuals who have developmental disabilities."*



## Parents are afraid to die...

Hopeless, best describes how many parents with children with developmental disabilities feel once their child leaves the public school system and face the horrifying reality of "life". These former students find themselves "disconnected" from the only real friends they know...their classmates.

A majority of these individuals live in single-parent households (90% divorce rate) and their parents work outside the home. Quickly, these individuals find themselves "graduated" to becoming a couch potato, while playing video games and watching television.

Today in Florida, there are almost 20,000 people with developmental disabilities on a "waiting list" for critically needed support services and no funding available. Parents are afraid to die...who will take care of their child?

Noah's Ark is a grassroots, not-for-profit organization that has created new and innovative ways to address the day-to-day needs of many of those needing assistance and have found a way to reconnect individuals with their friends through their weekly activities.

The Noah's Ark affordable housing initiative helps individuals to begin to live independently. And, most importantly, they have found a way for families to know that their child will have a decent quality of life when the parents are no longer alive.

**...it takes a village.**

## SUPPORTS AVAILABLE

### Social and Recreational Activities

Noah's Ark hosts a weekly array of social and recreational activities for individuals to choose from, many are "free" to the participants.

### Affordable and Accessible Homes

Noah's Ark has five supported-living homes that fourteen residents call "home" and live independently from their parents. The Villages at Noah's Landing is an emerging inclusive community that will provide 200 residents with a safe place to live, work, learn, and play while offering its residents the opportunity for maximum community integration.

### Family Education and Support

Noah's Ark assists families of individuals with developmental disabilities by educating them on important issues of guardianship, special-needs trusts, and available services.

### Advocacy

Noah's Ark helps individuals and families identify available resources and then navigate the "red tape" of applying for those critical services.

2225 East Edgewood Drive, Suite 6  
Lakeland, Florida 33803-3634

863.687.0804 phone

1.863.808.5787 fax

NoahsArkFlorida.Org web

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