

Toward Maximum Independence

An estimated 1 in 6 people are born with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Just like you, they are also born with hopes, dreams and the drive to contribute to society. Toward Maximum Independence (TMI) is a nonprofit organization that has been dedicated to transforming the lives of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1981 and the deaf and hard of hearing since 2000. The individuals we are privileged to serve deserve nothing less than love, acceptance and the opportunity to reach their full potential in life.

It is our mission to provide personalized services to those who require support, enabling them to make informed choices regarding how they live, work and function productively and independently in the community.

What We Believe

The three cornerstones of a strong foundation are: living as independently as possible, having the opportunity for real work for real pay, and a safe, caring home. We are honored to be able to help lay that foundation for our hundreds of clients throughout San Diego, Riverside and Imperial Counties.



*Toward Maximum Independence, Inc.
is a 501(c)3 nonprofit public benefit corporation.*

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Please call **(800) 877-5452** to find out what services are offered in your area, as well as how you can help to transform the lives of our clients.

Office Hours: M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm

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TOWARD MAXIMUM
INDEPENDENCE
TRANSFORMING LIVES

Family Support Services



RESOURCE FAMILIES

All Children Belong in Families

As a Licensed Resource Family Agency (RFA License #370603102), TMI helps parents manage difficult challenges and obtain the relief and support they need. Resource families are available for youth with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities who are unable to remain with their family of origin temporarily or permanently.

Our new parent orientations are offered to identify and train prospective resource parents. We offer intensive social work support, youth behavioral support, development and implementation of individualized family support plans, ongoing support for families, and activities for our youth. Children thrive when they feel safe, secure and loved. This is the drive behind our belief that “all children belong in families!” Our Resource Families program provides services that include, but are not limited to:

- Comprehensive orientation to new resource families followed by extensive ongoing training to fulfill annual requirements
- In-house Autism Spectrum Disorder training and certification
- Pro-Act certification
- Resource parent support group meetings
- Ongoing certification of resource family homes per Community Care Licensing and Regional Center requirements
- Placement of youth with resource families chosen to best meet the youth's needs
- Respite (out-of-home) provided by our resource families to Regional Center clients
- Facilitation of shared parenting relationships and communication between parents of origin and resource parents
- Social work support to resource families and families of origin
- Assistance to resource parents at medical and psychiatric appointments
- Intensive supports by master level social workers
- Behavioral support provided by a licensed clinician (when appropriate)

FAMILY FOCUSED SUPPORTS

A Focus on Family

Family Focused Supports is designed to keep families together by offering training for parents, extended family members and respite providers.

Intensive social work and behavioral support is also offered, along with 24-hour emergency backup support, training and our ever-evolving cultivation of community resources. Further services also include, but are not limited to:

- Intensive supports to families of origin provided by social workers and licensed clinicians
- Development and implementation of Individualized Family Support and Transition Plans
- Educating families to be advocates at Individual Education Plan (IEP) and Individual Program Plan (IPP) meetings
- Behavioral supports in the home, school and community by a licensed clinician
- 24-hour phone support from a master level social worker
- Out-of-home respite care by a well-trained, certified resource family per Regional Center referral
- Assistance to families in developing ongoing natural and professional supports and increased use of other community resources
- Support to families of origin in efforts to keep their children at home and prevent out-of-home placement when it is in the best interest of the youth and family



ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION SERVICES

Designed to provide person-centered services and supports to individuals within the context of family homes, group homes and independent living arrangements. Assessment and Intervention (AIS) staff, with input from the Interdisciplinary Planning Team, will provide provide participants, families, support staff and/or caregivers the tools necessary to help manage, reduce, and/or extinguish targeted behaviors.

It is TMI's policy that staff or consultants will not utilize restrictive procedures. We believe that all behavior has communicative intent and it is our responsibility to discover its' meaning and act on it in a way that preserves dignity, safety and the well being of others.

The goal of AIS, with the support from members of the Interdisciplinary Planning Team, is to provide the supports and services necessary to ensure that individuals receive services which promote full inclusion in the “least restrictive environment.” Further services also include, but are not limited to:

- Comprehensive 30-day behavioral assessment and development of an Individualized Assessment Plan with functional analysis of target behaviors by a licensed clinician
- Intensive behavioral consultation services in the home, school and the community by a licensed clinician
- Development and implementation of Individualized Support Plans and Transition Plans
- Ongoing social work support to families of origin and/or care providers
- 24-hour phone support from a social worker
- Person-centered services and supports to participants living in family homes, group homes and independent living arrangements
- Ongoing training and support to families of origin and/or care providers to include behavioral interventions, acquisition of resources and assistance to implement the participant's behavioral plan
- Intensive support to families of origin and/or care providers in an effort to keep the participant in the least restrictive environment possible