



ABOUT US

Good Shepherd Center was founded in 1963 as a school for children with disabilities and their families. We were a pioneer in serving children at that time, as educational/therapy programs were rare for young children in their first critical five years of life.

Since that time the agency has evolved into a multi-service agency now serving children and adults with and without disabilities as well as their families.



EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES PROVIDED

- Early Intervention Services include -
 - Physical Therapy
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Speech Therapy
 - Sign Language for families
 - Developmental Therapy
 - Parent Support

*Early Intervention Services -
Please call 708-335-0020 x 16.*

OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED

- FREE infant and toddler developmental screenings
- In-Home Respite Care for children and adults with disabilities
- Resource Lending Library, including disabilities & Autism
- Community advocates & local voice on legislation that affects families and children in Illinois
- Resource center for parents, educators & physicians on disability issues
- Childcare training and support
- Annual Bilingual Parent Institute Day Conference

Please call 708-335-0020 x 10

SERVICE AREA

Good Shepherd Center serves a large geographic area ranging from Joliet to the Indiana border, and parts of Chicago.



MISSION STATEMENT

Good Shepherd Center, a community advocate for children and adults, with and without disabilities, provides support, service, and education that empower individuals and families to lead exceptional lives.

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAM

Good Shepherd Center's Community Partner Program works in collaboration with Illinois Action for Children to provide training and support for Child Care Providers throughout all of south suburban Cook County. The service area encompasses 52 zip codes and touches the lives of thousands of children through their Child Care Providers. Trainings include everything from CPR/First Aid to working with children with medical and disability issues.

We can help Child Care Providers with specific technical assistance issues or offer support in navigating through the state based resources available. The Community Partner program is also available to offer assistance to individuals planning to open a Child Care program in either a center or home based setting. Each year, this office implements more than 200 trainings in English and Spanish. It serves 450 Day Care Centers and 900 Home Providers in the service area of south suburban Cook County.

Good Shepherd Center can provide support for Spanish speaking Child Care Workers through an on-staff, Bilingual Specialist.

*Community Partner Program -
Please call 708-957-2600.*

IN-HOME RESPITE CARE

Good Shepherd Center's In-Home Respite Care program provides short-term, intermittent care for persons with developmental disabilities in their natural, guardian, or foster family home.

Our trained professional respite staff offers care for individuals of any age with special needs and their siblings under the age of 18. The objective of the program is to provide temporary relief for the primary caregiver, while maintaining the needs of the child in the family home. Since the majority of the Respite Care program is funded from the Department of Human Services, there is no charge to qualified individuals and their families. To be eligible, individuals must reside in Southern Cook County or far northern Will County; and have a diagnosis of Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, or Mental Retardation.

For more information or to register for services:
*Please call the Respite Care Office at
708-335-0020 x 22.*

Speakers Available - Interested in a speaker for your next meeting? We are a wealth of information in your community.
Call 708-335-0020 x 26.

Resources Help Hope



Providing services to individuals with disabilities and their families since 1963



Business Office

9 AM to 3 PM
17314 S. Kedzie Ave.
Hazel Crest, IL 60429
708-335-0020

Community Partner

9 AM to 5 PM
17512 Carriageway
Hazel Crest, IL 60429
708-957-2600