

## 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.



## Modern Technology With Professional Services



## About Us

Good Shepherd Center was founded in 1963, as a school for children with disabilities and their families. The Center was 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 families. Good Shepherd Center is a 501(C)3 organization.

## Get In Touch With Us



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## IN-HOME CARE



**CALL US**  
**708-985-3722**



## IN- HOME RESPITE CARE

Serving Children and Families  
with Disabilities Since 1963

# Respite Services

Through our Respite Services our agency provides short-term, intermittent care for persons with a diagnosis of Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy or Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities in their natural, guardian, or foster family home.

Our staff are sent into the family home to provide care for the individual with special needs, as well as any siblings under the age of 18. This allows the primary caregivers the opportunity to attend community events with the comforting knowledge that their children are being well cared for in their absence.

We also assist families in accessing other available services for their child by providing referral services and to assure that the families' needs are best met, even providing CPR/First Aid training for families at no charge.



## Free to Families

Respite services are provided for families in southwest suburban Cook and northern Will Counties as well as the Chicago neighborhoods of Beverly, Mt. Greenwood and Morgan Park.



"Being a caregiver to my disabled son is very rewarding, but I would be lying if I didn't say the demands of daily care has not impacted my physical and emotional health. Families like mine often face unique challenges: lots of stress, grief, frustration, and profound isolation. Caring for my son who has a chronic illness is a full time job and it is easy to be overwhelmed.

For a few hours, my son can remain in the comfort of our home while a highly trained respite worker cares for him. I use my time wisely to run errands, attend to his siblings needs, or just to take a night off and catch dinner with friends. I come back home recharged; because there are so many times that families like mine are burned out from all the daily tasks that go with caring for a child with a complex medical history. As you can see, respite care is vital to our family."

Marcie F.

## Temporary Relief For Primary Caregivers

Trained professional respite staff offer care for individuals of any age with qualifying diagnosis. Siblings under the age of 18 are included in services. 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, rather than a more restrictive long-term out of home placement.



"We have been a part of the Respite Family for the past 19 years. Whether I need to run errands, go to appointments, or just get out of the house; I have peace of mind that my son is getting the best of care. My son has formed relationships with some of the staff and looks forward to them coming and spending time with him. The Office staff and caregivers are so kind and caring, we are blessed to have this program in our lives."

Yvonne K.