



## **Glossary of Adult Service Terms**

### **Advocacy Services**

Organizations provide protection and advocacy for the rights of individuals with disabilities. Information and referrals are available to identify services and supports for individuals with disabilities.

### **Day Programs**

Day programs are attended by individuals with disabilities five days a week during work hours and provide opportunities to work, socialize, and participate in skills training. Day programs may include work services for a portion of the day, sheltered workshops, medical assistance, and supported employment services.

### **Employment Services**

Vocational and employment services are designed to advance knowledge and job skills for gainful and competitive employment. Vocational and employment services can vary from intensive support to as-needed support.

### **General Assistance**

General assistance refers to financial aid managed by a county or state to support individuals with disabilities. Resources include a state's Health Insurance and other services regardless of the person's income.

### **Habilitation**

Habilitation Services are provided to maintain an individual at their highest level of vocational functioning, services are work related, includes paid work and other supports. Services are non-time limited.

### **Legal Services**

Legal services refer to assistance in retaining an attorney and/or legal advice for individuals with disabilities. Services, counseling, or information are available at low-cost or free to people with disabilities.

### **Medical and Dental Care**

Medical services relate to all aspects of healthcare. Supports include hospitals, medical day programs, medical assistance, intense psychiatric care, home care and rehabilitative services. Dental services provide dental care to the disability community for free or low-cost dental care.

### **Post Secondary Education**

Post secondary education refers to study beyond the level of secondary education (e.g., high school). This includes colleges and universities, professional schools, adult vocational and GED programs, community colleges, and institutes of technology.

### **Recreation Programs**

Recreational activities are designed for relaxation and leisure goals. They may include sports, hobbies, and provide opportunities to socialize.

### **Residential Services**

Residential options are designed to provide living opportunities that support the individual's goals. Residences can vary from maximum independence to individuals who need assistance in everyday tasks.

### **Respite Care**

Respite care refers to a qualified individual providing a time limited break to the primary caretakers. Respite care can be provided in or out of the individual's home.

### **Family Support**

Family support services can provide assistance to caregivers and/or the individual with a disability. Services can focus on maximizing independence in the family unit.

### **Transportation**

Transportation is offered to individuals with disabilities who travel to and from work, recreation, and other community destinations. Transportation options can be public or private.

\* Information for this article was gathered by reviewing websites, agencies and providers for adults with autism. We encourage you to contact your state agencies to locate specific programs in your area.