



The Spectrum Story

In 1978 a small group of concerned parents gathered together to discuss a common challenge: each had a child with a developmental disability who had now grown to adulthood. These same parents also shared a common fear: who would care for their children when they were no longer able?

From this spirit of love, responsibility and devotion, Spectrum for Living was born, determined to build around one guiding principal: people with developmental disabilities have the same right as anyone else to experience a meaningful and fulfilling life.

In 1983 the first Spectrum residential facility was established in Closter, New Jersey, housing 48 beds. From those modest beginnings, Spectrum has emerged as one of New Jersey's premier not-for-profit organizations serving the developmentally disabled adult community.

Yet much still needs to be done.

Although Spectrum has now grown to serve more than 200 residents and hundreds of community clients in New Jersey, thousands of adults with disabilities continue to receive little or no services. The numbers are staggering; there are *over 8,000 people* on the waiting list to get into an appropriate housing facility for persons with developmental disabilities.

In order to grow and continue to provide the unique services Spectrum offers, Spectrum continually relies on funding from individuals, community organizations, corporations and foundations as well as government funding.

For more information on Spectrum for Living visit us on the web at www.spectrumforliving.org or find us on Facebook® under "Spectrum for Living."