



CHOICES

Community • Hope • Opportunity • Independence • Careers • Empowerment • Success

As services and programs for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities evolved away from institutional care, the need emerged for services to support individuals with both an intellectual/developmental disability and a psychiatric or mental health diagnosis. Volunteers of America, Dakotas CHOICES program was established in 1994 to fill this growing need. As an important part of South Dakota’s community support system, the CHOICES program offers a continuum of care including residential, day, educational, therapeutic, and family support services in the Sioux Falls metro area.

Services

Residential

Residential services include a variety of supported independent living opportunities. Individuals supported may reside in homes or apartments and work with staff to gain daily living skills and achieve goals toward independence. Residential services include day, educational, and therapeutic services to empower individuals supported to be active and engaged in the community.

Day

Day services provide job training, education, creative, and recreational opportunities that meet the individualized needs and interests of people supported. In partnership with Vocational Rehabilitation Services, individuals may explore supported or independent employment opportunities and participate in individualized employment support.

Therapeutic

Therapeutic services are provided to program participants by a team of behavioral health professionals that includes psychology and psychiatry. Supports include individual, group, and family therapy.

Educational

Educational services provide the opportunity for youth ages 14-21 to complete their high school requirements while reaching their Individual Education Plan (IEP) goals. After high school, students receive a Certificate of Completion and continue with their transition to adulthood.

Family Support

Family Support provides service coordination and financial support to families caring for an individual with developmental disabilities. Family Support Coordinators assist families in developing individualized, self-directed services plans that include a broad range of supports, such as companion services, respite care, personal care, special medical adaptive equipment and supplies, and advocacy.

Volunteers of America, Dakotas CHOICES Program is licensed to accept Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid waiver and CHOICES Medicaid waiver funding to those who qualify.



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