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ECLC Foundation

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We thank you for your consideration and support!



Education, Careers & Lifelong Community
for People with Special Needs

A trusted provider of services to individuals
with special needs since 1970.



ECLC of New Jersey offers parents peace of mind that their child with special needs will be served for as long as desired! Our schools and adult programs serve individuals with autism, Down syndrome and multiple disabilities. Services start from the day a child enrolls in one of our schools and continue through Transition Services, beginning at age 14, to graduation day and beyond into job opportunities, day programs, alumni enrichment classes and social gatherings.

ECLC supports our students, clients and parents every step of the way. Like a large, extended family, our students stay connected to their classmates and adult peers for many years to come!



An equal emphasis is placed on enhancing academic skills and developing the social and emotional well-being of students!

Our Schools

Our two private, nonprofit schools in Chatham and Ho-Ho-Kus offer an outstanding academic program aligned with the New Jersey Department of Education Common Core State Standards. Our schools are state approved by the New Jersey Department of Education.

Academics Our goal is to maximize the learning potential of each student, while nurturing their social skills, emotional growth and independent living skills. In a collaborative environment, our child study team, speech, occupational and physical therapists, classroom teachers and related service providers, all work together to meet the goals of each student's IEP (Individualized Education Program) and ensure their progress and success.

Community-Based Instruction The schools' surrounding community is an extension of the classroom. During outings to the library, post office, bank, shops and restaurants, our students build self-confidence and independence, as they learn practical life skills.



Activities & Fun! At ECLC, students aren't left on the sidelines. They are encouraged to play on sports teams, sign up for student government and service clubs, enjoy after-school activities, like bowling and yoga, and join their friends for respite-weekend sleepovers and more. They dance with their friends on prom night, perform in holiday shows and celebrate graduation day with their family and friends!

Community Personnel Services (CPS), an affiliate of ECLC, is a support coordinator provider and finds appropriate jobs for adult clients in their communities and advocates for them in the workplace.

Transition Planning & Adult Services



In the upper-school classes, our students prepare for life after graduation, whether it's to a job, a day program or an alternative setting. Our goal is to prepare students to live as independently as possible. Every ECLC student graduates with a clear road map to their future!

Transition Services At age 14, students start in the Seeking Knowledge for Independent Living (SKIL) program. In our dedicated transition-training rooms, they master basic job skills and learn about the important "soft" skills of expected behaviors and

attitudes in the workplace, such as respect, teamwork and responsibility. It's all part of learning independent living skills as they prepare to graduate.

Community Personnel Services In their final year before graduation, our employment specialists from Community Personnel Services (CPS) help students create a plan for life after graduation. They teach students how to write resumes, succeed in a job interview and match them with job opportunities in the community. Our CPS specialists help students and their families navigate through the maze of state and federal agencies to access services after graduation. CPS successfully places more than 90% of its clients in jobs. For students not ready for employment, we offer a spot in our adult program called P.R.I.D.E., as appropriate. All students graduate with a plan for their life after school!



P.R.I.D.E. Our adult day habilitation program, P.R.I.D.E. stands for "Promoting Responsibility, Independence, Decision-making and Employability." This full-time, part-time and evening program offers our graduates a nurturing environment to enhance their independent living skills with opportunities for paid work and volunteering in the community.

ECLC is a pioneer and leader in the field of special needs. Our programs and staff have been recognized for excellence and innovation!