JONESBORO HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CENTER JHDC DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES AND PROGRAMS, 2014 UPDATE

Introduction

The Jonesboro Human Development Center (JHDC), opened in 1974, is located on a 200 acre tract on the southern edge of the city. The center's budget for State Fiscal Year 2014 is \$12,602,867.00. The JHDC currently provides services to 108 individuals who have diagnoses of a developmental disability. The population is 71% male and residents range in age from 18 to 69. 78% of the population also has a mental health diagnosis and 65% have aggressive behaviors. 58% have a diagnosis of seizure disorder. The center currently has 257 employees.

Criteria for Admission

Admission to JHDC begins with a request to the Department of Human Services Division of Developmental Disabilities Services. Admission criteria are: (1) age eighteen or above, (2) have a developmental disability as confirmed by qualified professional assessments, and (3) have needs that can be met by a current vacancy in one of the Center's residences. Priority consideration is given to persons whose families live in Northeast Arkansas. Admission decisions are based on whether a current vacancy can meet a person's needs for peers of age, gender and similar interests and based on who has been on the waiting list longer. The Superintendent or designee makes final admission decisions based on input from the Admissions Advisory Committee and an Interdisciplinary Team composed of persons representing the residence in which a vacancy occurs. Respite services are also offered at the Center. Respite admission criteria are the same as for regular admissions although emergency needs are a factor in admission decisions.

Comprehensive Services

The Jonesboro Human Development Center provides residential services twenty four hours a day seven days a week. Individuals live in eight large four to six-bedroom residences, five of which house men and three of which house women. Additional apartment type housing with private bedrooms is available to seven persons. The Center offers the following supports: medical, nursing, dietary, behavioral health, educational, vocational and recreational services. In addition, occupational, physical, and speech therapies are available. Continuity of daily support involving program management, training, and nursing staff are ensured within the framework of small teams. Persons receiving services design their own programs with the support of their individual planning teams in order to achieve their desired outcomes. The opportunity to live in the most appropriate setting to meet each person's needs is addressed for persons of every age at JHDC. The Center is proactive in supporting and maintaining placement in the community through transition planning. Training, crisis intervention, and family support are available to individuals as needed to support successful transition to community based services. The Center supports persons and families with disabilities whether or not they are residents. Some examples of resources that are shared with persons with disabilities and their community based service providers are staff training, use of the Center's recreation facilities, employment services, group activities, professional evaluations and referrals. The Center emphasizes quality individualized services and as a result has successfully maintained accreditation from CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) since 1998 which is reestablished every three years. CARF is the preeminent accrediting body for programs providing services to persons with Submitted by Debbie Eddington, JHDC Superintendent, 1-1-2014 disabilities.