

ABOUT RRAF:

RRAF is licensed by the Illinois Department of Human Services in Developmental Training and Community Integrated Living Arrangements.

RRAF is accredited by CARF, The Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission, in the areas of Community Services; Personal and Social Services, through 2006.

RRAF is a 501 (c) (3) non – profit organization. All donations not exchanged for goods or services are tax deductible to the extent allowed by IRS regulations. Please request a copy of our financial audit in writing.

RRAF receives support from several community organizations, including the St. Matthew's Knights of Columbus, Council #9893 in Glendale Heights, the American Legion T.H.B. Post 187 in Elmhurst, the Lombard and Roselle Lions Clubs, the Wheaton Rotary AM, and the DuPage Community Foundation. Our future is dependent on our community friends and we thank them for their support.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Roger Davis Thomas Flanagan
Dennis Lake Jill Mueller

OFFICERS/MANAGEMENT:

Marilyn Flanagan, Executive Director and President
Dennis Lake, Treasurer
Thomas Flanagan, Vice President – Government
Affairs, General Counsel, and Secretary
Kathleen Scheuing, Program Director, Asst. Treasurer
and Asst. Secretary

PHILOSOPHY

We are committed to creating an atmosphere of mutual respect that allows individuals to fulfill their own expectations of personal well-being, contentment and self-direction. We promote independence while maintaining a safe, positive learning environment.

VALUES

We value individuality, choice-making, self-expression and natural social interactions at home, on site, and within the surrounding community.

We are successful because of the open communication and cooperation among the individuals we serve, their families, the staff, and the board members.

RRAF
613 S. Main St.
Lombard, IL 60148



Where **R**eality Is
Respect, **A**ppreciation
and **F**ulfillment

RRAF is a not-for-profit agency, located in the western suburbs of Chicago.

Our mission is to support adults with developmental disabilities and their families by providing on-site and community based day programming, in-home support, and overnight respite care.



2001 – A Dream Realized

RRAF
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Web Site: RRAF.ORG

“Without RRAF, Andy has nowhere to be but home and would have lost or forgotten skills that he learned at school since childhood.”
Andre and Conchita Santos

A DREAM REALIZED

RRAF is a not-for-profit agency that provides services to developmentally disabled adults, especially those with autism. It provides the needed support services, both in and out of the home, so institutionalization can be prevented and these individuals can remain in their own home settings, surrounded by their families and other loved ones for as long as possible.

RRAF was, and is, in large measure, the creation of Sam and Rosemary Lapertosa. Their dream was to form an agency that their own son with autism, Sam, Jr., could attend when he finished high school. Through their tireless efforts they lobbied successfully for the funds necessary to begin providing day services in the fall of 1987. However, just as RRAF began the direction they had planned for, Sam and Rosemary passed away suddenly within one year of each other. But thanks to the solid foundation laid by the Lapertosas and everyone at RRAF we were able to continue the quest they had begun. Another dream was realized in 2001, when we were able to purchase a permanent site of our own in Lombard, IL.

Today, RRAF provides programming to individuals living in Dupage and Western Cook counties. Individual training focuses on the needs of the whole person. Training areas include vocational skills, shopping, cooking, laundry, safety, social abilities and communication. Future goals include residential and community based vocational opportunities.



SERVICES PROVIDED

Developmental Training services are available to individuals with developmental disabilities who are at least 18 years of age. Training is provided in such areas as motor development, dressing, grooming, toileting, eating, language, reading, writing, productive vocational activities and the reduction of maladaptive behavior. Community based activities are stressed.

Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) services are also available to individuals with developmental disabilities who are at least 18 years of age and who require a service array with a supervised living arrangement. Services will provide supervised support to promote residential stability for those who reside in their own home or in the natural family home.

Home Based Support is a program tailored to help adults with developmental disabilities live in their home. RRAF can help families choose and monitor the services they need and make the most effective use of this program by providing Service Facilitation.

RRAF's Developmental Training program has received a 100% compliance rating from the Department of Human Services in seven of the past eight years - the most recent included! Our CILA program received two successive 100% ratings and a recent 90% plus three year compliance rating!

“It is hard to describe just how important RRAF is to our children and to our entire families. The RRAF van is a magic carpet that takes our young people to a land where they have friends, where they learn with their peers, where they test their wings without the constant pressure of having an anxious mom or dad there.”

Roger Davis, Parent

WE BELIEVE ...

... that all individuals must be allowed to make choices in their daily routine and that goals developed for them must include this option.

... that all individuals should be given a communication system that includes the ability to say “I’m mad at you” and “Leave me alone” along with other emotion statements.

... that it is OK for individuals served to be mad at/frustrated with/disappointed in staff members and that respecting these emotions strengthens these relationships and encourages social growth.

... that functional training means using real money, at real restaurants, at actual meal times, etc.

... that the role of staff members is to support an individual to do things for themselves and not to do things for them.

... that behavior is communication and that the communicative intent behind behaviors should be interpreted and addressed.

... that individuals must, at all times, be treated their ‘chronological’ and not their ‘functional’ age and that this means we must ‘respect our elders’ even as we serve them.

