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New Achievement Center Will Expand Services for Adults with Disabilities in NJ

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 ${\it NEW~CONCEPTS~FOR~LIVING}$

There's good news for families of adults with special needs who need to find a safe, fun and learning-filled environment after they age out of school-age-related programs.

New Concepts for Living (NCFL), which already offers community residences, day programs, and therapeutic and behavioral services for adults living with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), has added a new, state-of-the-art Achievement Center.

Located in the former Barnes & Noble on Route 17 in Paramus, the 81,423-square-foot Achievement Center has been completely renovated over the past two years. It features a 5,500-square-foot "town square," a spacious Main Street and walking paths, as well as life skills training rooms including a kitchen, supermarket, computer and technology lab, bedroom, and laundry room. The center also houses dedicated spaces for recreation, prevocational training,

sensory rooms, health and wellness screenings, and therapeutic services such as physical, occupational, behavioral, and speech therapy.



NEW CONCEPTS FOR LIVING

Disabilities include autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, brain injuries, fetal alcohol syndrome, and rarer conditions such as Williams, Prader-Willi or Rett syndrome.

NCFL currently has a waiting list of over 300 individuals for its programs while serving an area of the state with the highest number of individuals with I/DD, according to the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). Bergen County accounts for nearly 10 percent of all New Jerseyans receiving DDD-funded services.

The goal is to collaborate with the DDD so that NCFL can greatly increase the capacity of its day program over the next few years to help meet the growing demand for services for adults 21 and over with I/DD.

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