



## **About ADAPT Community Network**

ADAPT Community Network (formerly United Cerebral Palsy of New York City) is the leading non-profit organization and a pioneer in providing cutting-edge programs and services that improve the quality of life for people with disabilities. For over 74 years ADAPT Community Network (ADAPT) has created a more inclusive world for children and adults with a variety of disabilities. Accessible public education for all, community living for children and adults, advancement in assistive technology, and creating opportunities for employment, mark just some of our achievements in serving New Yorkers with disabilities.



## **ADAPT Program Options**

ADAPT's 100 comprehensive programs include education, health, technology, residential and recreational services for over 20,000 individuals and families annually who are liviing with challenges such as autism, cerebral palsy, down syndrome, and neuromuscular disorders, among others.

## Preschool and School-age Programs

ADAPT is the leading preschool provider for children with and without disabilities in New York State with 11 preschools and 1 school-age program that operate throughout the five boroughs of New York City. We also offer a program for school-age children in Brooklyn. Our preschool, school age, and after school programs are designed to engage and educate children with special needs. Our universal pre-kindergarten (UPK) and integrated programs offer families a high-quality, family freindly learning environment for children of all developmental levels. All classes are led by licensed and certified teachers and are staffed with certified teaching assistants. We also offer after-school programs, a summer day camp, and educational resource libraries.

# **Adult Programming**

ADAPT Adult Programs are tailored for each person's interests and desired outcomes. Our programming includes classroom learning, creative expression, community exploration, volunteer opportunities, and partnerships with other community based organizations. Individuals are able to take part in adaptive sports, attend museum tours, visit art galleries, and shop for their needs, escorted by highly trained, dedicated staff. Individuals actively take part in the planning of the activities with their families, staff members, and peers. Transportation to and from home can be provided.

## **Family Support Services**

ADAPT provides Family Reimbursement and Housing Assistance, helping eligible individuals gain financial support or navigate the public housing process. Our Doorways to Independence program assists with home alterations, including widened doors and ramps, handrails, etc., so that individuals can move more freely in their homes and access equipment. We offer the only wheelchair accessible Respite home in NYC with 24-hour supervision and nursing services. ADAPT also offers free bi-lingual training workshops and community resources for families. The Early Childhood Direction Center provides referral services to families with young children who reside in Brooklyn and have suspected or diagnosed developmental delays or disabilities and are five years or younger.

## **Recreation and Community Engagement**

Enjoyment is at the heart of **ADAPT's** many recreational offerings that encourage friendships, fun, and community engagement. We offer **Summer Camps** with a variety of recreational activities such as swimming in our heated indoor pools, the use of our adaptive gyms, and other exploratory outings. Adults and teens can participate in weekend activities, such as **Club Disco**, with dinner and a live DJ, and **SPIRIT**, which includes Saturday trips to zoos and museums, dining out, cooking, adaptive sports, music and theater. Our robust **Arts Program** includes poetry, painting, media arts, and other opportunities for self-expression. Children and adults can also take elective classes and work on independent projects. Our Art in the Park Program has provided opportunities for people supported to make important connections in our communities by offering media arts classes to other community organizations within the neighborhood. Individuals' artwork is showcased in galleries, art shows, and through New York businesses and non-profits.

### Technology and Techworks for Adults and Children

ADAPT is the leading provider of Assistive Technology in New York City and the regional center for technology, chosen by the New York State Assistive Technology Act Program (TRAID). Our TechWorks Centers specialize in Assistive Technology devices and services to to help people maintain and increase their independence. We provide FREE assistance to ALL NYC children and adults; educating and acquiring Assistive Technology for them, allowing more independence at home, school, workplace, and community. Visitors can test and borrow products designed to support individuals with disabilities at our centers. TechWorks offers hands-on use of adapted toys, computers, wheelchairs, augmentative communication systems, daily living devices, home/workplace modifications, environmental control units, and more. Our TechWorks to Go! van brings Assistive Technology to the community through health fairs, nursing homes, schools and workplaces.

#### Healthcare

**ADAPT's** wellness philosophy supports the active participation of our individuals with disabilities and their families in every phase of the healthcare process through our expertise in Care Coordination. Our Health Care services include primary care, women's health, dental, podiatry, physiatry, neurology, audiology, psychiatry and neurology. Our habilitation services include physical, occupational and speech therapy, and mental health counseling.



### Living

ADAPT offers a variety of living options for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities designed to meet the needs of each person. These include supervised living in residences with 24-hour staffing for supports; supported living for individuals to live on their own or with a roommate; and independent living where individuals are empowered to pay their own rent and travel independently to their workplace.

# COVID-19 Response

As our community continues to be affected by the COVID-19 outbreak, many of our programs and services had been modified to create a virtual learning environment to bridge communication and ensure services continue uninterrupted. ADAPT created a virtual course catalog of diverse programming available to individuals which includes providing cooking, meditation, music, arts and crafts, political and economic panels, sports, virtual games, health and wellness, and job training classes. Our Education programs continue to offer coursework remotely and have in-person offerings. We've utilized Telehealth services to minimize risk for those we support and continue to provide medical support through our clinics. We work closely with participants and family members to provide resources and supports in obtaining the COVID-19 vaccinations to ensure our community stays are protected throughout the pandemic.

DISABILITY IS SIMPLY AN OUTDATED NOTION. THAT BEING TRUE, SO IS IDENTIFYING BY ONE OF THEM. IF WE ARE ASKING THE WORLD TO ADAPT TO US, WE MUST ADAPT TO IT.

EDWARD R. MATTHEWS
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