



A Place to Belong
Capital Campaign
Case Statement





A Place to Belong
Capital Campaign Case Statement



The Dream

Early adulthood is an exciting time full of hope, wonder, and dreams. Your whole life seems to be in front of you with endless possibilities and countless opportunities to learn, explore, and achieve personal goals. It is your time to become fully independent and begin to assert yourself as a valued and contributing member of society.

Young adults with a developmental disability are no different. They have the same hopes and dreams. They want to live a happy, healthy, and fulfilling life and be considered respected members of their community. However, due to lack of community resources and available post-high school programs, their hopes and dreams often go unrealized. What should be an exciting time of life is often - for many young adults with a developmental disability - a very challenging and anxious time.



Mission & Vision

The mission of F.R.I.E.N.D.S. of Broomfield, Inc. (FRIENDS) is to assist adults with a developmental disability to fulfill their goals and dreams. FRIENDS is there to provide the support a person chooses - independent living skills, career development training, financial management, socialization, and health and safety awareness - and guides them to fully integrate into their communities and achieve personal outcomes.

FRIENDS' unique approach to providing support to individuals with a developmental disability is influenced by a simple vision, which is based on person-centered values that respects the dignity of each person and recognizes the unique talents and contributions of every human being. Through its FRIENDS Unlimited Day Program, Independent Living Programs, and Social Programs, FRIENDS strives to create opportunities for individuals with a developmental disability to maximize their talents, gain independence, and become valued friends, family members, neighbors, co-workers, church members, and citizens.

“It was when my son Jesse was in the second grade that I met Gina Coufal and her son Josh. How far toward independence would they be able to go? It is a big and frightening question for all parents who know their children won’t be able to achieve complete independence. Although Jesse and Josh grew and flourished, there was the reality that school was going to end and the opportunities for them in Broomfield would end as well. That’s when Gina got busy and founded FRIENDS of Broomfield.”

~ Shari Gunter



Our Journey

FRIENDS began in 1998 as a grass-roots parent advocacy network, intended to better the lives of their children with a developmental disability. The early years were focused on providing advocacy, support, information sharing, and referrals. Parents trusted FRIENDS to help them find respite and recreation resources for their children and to navigate Medicaid and school-based assistance programs. As these children entered their teenage years it was clear that there was a need in the Broomfield community for programs to help them transition into adult life.

In response to this need, FRIENDS opened its day training program in September of 2005. By simply listening to its members and responding to the needs of the community, FRIENDS continues to grow as an organization and now supports over 75 women and men with a developmental disability in all of its programs combined. Today FRIENDS is the only Broomfield based, state certified, non-profit organization supporting teens and adults with developmental disabilities.



Challenge

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the percentage of individuals diagnosed with a developmental disability has been increasing since 1997. Conservative estimates used to indicate that, in any community, 3% of the population is composed of individuals who have been diagnosed with a developmental disability. However, recent CDC research indicates that the percentage of individuals diagnosed with a developmental disability is over 7% of the general population. That is a stunning number!

As a result, we at FRIENDS believe that it is imperative for local communities to have resources and equal opportunities for its citizens with a developmental disability, so that they become full members of the community in which they live, work, and recreate. Many people believe, however, that there are plenty of state and federal resources (e.g., Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, food stamps, etc.) available to assist individuals with a developmental disability. The truth is that it has historically been challenging for state, federal, and local governments to adequately support individuals with developmental disabilities.

Ideally, young adults with a developmental disability who exit high school would automatically receive state and federal resources to assist them to continue making steps toward fully integrating into their communities. These individuals would have access to programs that continue to develop life and work skills, assist with acquiring employment or meaningful work activities, and living as independently as possible. Unfortunately, this is often not the case.

Current projections indicate that the gap between available state and federal resources and those eligible for these resources is widening at an alarming rate. It is estimated that the number of individuals with a developmental disability, living in Broomfield and Boulder, who are eligible for adult services but remain on a wait list, will increase by almost 200% within the next 5 - 8 years. FRIENDS is committed to closing this gap by dedicating a portion of our program operations toward the support of young adults who come into our programs without financial assistance.

(Estimates from Imagine! of Colorado)

“When our son was young we were suburban shut-ins, feeling like outcasts in society. It wasn’t until a positive high school experience, followed by the last three years of day programming at FRIENDS that we felt our goal of surrounding Robby with community, had been realized”

~ Kevin & JuNelle Fitzgerald



A Place to Belong

FRIENDS recently received a land use grant in Broomfield to develop and use for the purpose of expanding its services and supports. The generosity of this gift became the inspiration for initiating a Capital Campaign - A Place to Belong - intended to increase the organization's capacity to impact the lives of young adults with a developmental disability and to become a permanent fixture in Broomfield and the surrounding counties of Boulder, Denver, Jefferson, and Adams.

Young adults with a developmental disability, and their families, often remark that many people - case managers, social workers, social service providers, and other agency representatives - come and go in their lives at a constant rate. This kind of frequent transitioning promotes an environment of instability and vulnerability. The individuals and families we work with and support tell FRIENDS "you are different."

The difference is that FRIENDS is a unique service organization dedicated to not only creating a sense of community, but establishing a place where people feel like they belong and are making progress toward their goals. A place where women and men with a developmental disability can share their stories and dreams, develop their talents and abilities and be supported to live healthy, happy, and meaningful lives.



A Place to Belong

Campaign Dollar Goal \$3.6 Million

Raised to Date (in grants, gifts, and pledges) \$1.7 Million

Remaining Balance Needed \$1.9 Million

- Adaptive kitchen counters, sink and inductive cooktops to ensure an accessible and safe teaching environment.
- Personal care room with a barrier-free track lift system to accommodate those with greater physical support needs.
- Academic/Computer Lab including touch screens and hands-free technology to support a variety of training and educational activities.
- Drive thru Garage that will also serve as a large multi-use program and gathering area.
- Landscaped outdoor area to include accessible paths, gazebos, raised planting beds and area for a community garden.



A Place to Belong

FRIENDS Place will allow the organization to potentially double its day program numbers and broaden the capacity of its independent living, and social programs. Construction of the new building will utilize state of the art green technologies, fixtures, and appliances, and it will be fully accessible according to ADA requirements. The new building will not only improve program efficiency and minimize ongoing maintenance costs, but also better meet the needs of the women and men who depend on FRIENDS to achieve their personal goals.

Individuals with a developmental disability have historically been excluded from participation in various aspects of mainstream society. Over the years, great strides have been made in improving access to needed services and avenues of participation; however, women and men with a developmental disability continue to be marginalized.

FRIENDS has historically been challenged - amidst zoning restrictions and community biases - to develop our programs, grow as an organization, and find suitable space to manage our operations. Our current building is located in an aging industrial strip mall that not only limits our ability to provide adequate services but also unjustly segregates the individuals we support. FRIENDS' Place will allow us to modernize our services and create an integrated, accessible, and community based environment that truly supports young adults with a developmental disability as valued members of society. FRIENDS Place will serve as a symbol of stability, hope, and enduring support for years to come.



FRIENDS FAQs

Who is FRIENDS of Broomfield?

Over 14 years ago, a few families came together to initiate a movement aimed towards creating community awareness about the needs of their children with developmental disabilities. FRIENDS soon incorporated and we began our effort to provide recreational opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities through the establishment of the first Broomfield Special Olympic program, and later, therapeutic recreation through the city. In 2005, FRIENDS transitioned from an advocacy organization to a direct service provider...opening our Day Program to serve 5 individuals with a developmental disability.

What does FRIENDS do?

FRIENDS designs staff intensive services that foster community connections and relationships, improve daily living skills, promote independence, increase self-sufficiency, support personal choice and control, develop work skills, and encourage participant volunteerism in their community.

What is the organization's annual budget?

The annual budget of FRIENDS is \$850,000.00.

FRIENDS FAQs

What are the sources of revenue and what is the portion of the budget that goes to administration?

About 75% of our revenue comes from Medicaid and state general fund payments for program services we provide, however, the percentage we receive from government sources has decreased annually. The trend in decreased government funding is likely to continue. The other 25% of our income comes from private support consisting of individuals, companies, foundations and churches. Our administrative costs average about 9% of our budget, which means 91% of every dollar goes directly to program services.

What are the results?

Since becoming a state certified direct service agency in 2005, we have significantly expanded our programs to include social networking and independent living support. To date, we have served over 160 individuals and have plans to expand program areas to include pre-vocational and supported employment services.

Why does FRIENDS need a new building?

FRIENDS leases a small and deteriorating building to house our Day and Social programs and our administrative staff. This building and its location in an industrial corridor limits our ability to support our participants long-term and prevents the organization from creating a more sustainable business model.

FRIENDS FAQs

Why not purchase or lease another developed property?

Years of searching for viable properties in the area - large enough and close in proximity to community resources (e.g., transportation, affordable housing, shopping, and recreation) necessary for our participants to live full, independent, and meaningful lives - became an increasingly challenging and discouraging endeavor. Broomfield is a vibrant, desirable, and densely populated city, but also a community with a limited amount of affordable/available commercial property and/or open land for development.

How will a new building improve services?

FRIENDS will be able to expand its Day, Social, and Residential programs. The new building will allow the Day Program to potentially double in size in the next 3-5 years. It will also significantly improve service delivery through on-site resources and adaptive technologies that are presently not possible. Programs and services will operate more efficiently and effectively through modernized technology and infrastructure.

Why a capital campaign?

As little as 18 months ago, the dream of FRIENDS having its own building, or even leasing another larger and more functional property in the area, seemed dim at best. It was during this crucial juncture in the history of FRIENDS that an anonymous family foundation approached the organization with an opportunity and a challenge.

FRIENDS FAQs

The opportunity was clear. A land use grant and a large donation would allow FRIENDS to build its own fully accessible property, expand operations to serve the growing needs of the community, cultivate its mission and vision, draw awareness and attention toward the desires and goals of the developmentally disabled population, as well as, broaden its funding resources and relationships.

The challenge was equally clear. FRIENDS would need to leverage this major contribution by garnering the financial support of other foundations, businesses, civic groups, and community members. It was decided that a capital campaign would offer the best approach to raise the funds necessary to complete the project.

Are you only seeking support from the Broomfield community?

The focus of the capital campaign will be to network with foundations, businesses, civic organizations, and citizens in the Broomfield and Boulder areas. Broomfield and Boulder are the primary communities that engage FRIENDS for direct service support, however, participants attending Day and Social programs live and work in surrounding areas as well. The capital campaign will also include prospect research and target potential resources from other state and national foundations.

FRIENDS FAQs

What are some of the benefits of a capital campaign?

- Community members of Broomfield, and its surrounding areas, will be more knowledgeable and have a better understanding of the strengths and challenges of the developmental disability population.
- The public will be introduced to person centered concepts and values that promote individual choice and outcome achievement.
- Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities will be seen as valued members of their communities with the same hopes and dreams as their neighbors - to live a full, meaningful, happy, and healthy life in the community of their choice.
- The capital campaign will broaden the fundraising potential of FRIENDS, by identifying and cultivating long-term donor relationships in the community.
- The capital campaign will provide a strong list of community volunteers that can be recruited as future board members of the organization.

Why \$3.6 million?

The goal of the capital campaign is currently set at \$3.6 million. The goal is intended to cover the costs associated with the construction of the building (\$2.4 million), the estimated cost to furnish the building (\$100,000), project contingencies (\$200,000) and fundraising costs (\$100,000), and an amount to fund future maintenance of the building (\$300,000), as well as, to establish an endowment to support 15-20 unfunded individuals, per year, to access program services (\$500,000).



FRIENDS FAQs

How will the capital campaign be managed?

Organizing and directing the capital campaign will include a large number of people who will serve at the discretion of FRIENDS' Board of Directors. FRIENDS will establish a Steering Committee and Campaign Committee to manage and execute the capital campaign. The primary leadership group will be the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee group will keep the project moving forward and work to coordinate the functions of the Campaign Committee. Together, the Steering and Campaign Committees will work closely with the Board of Directors to initiate, implement, and execute the capital campaign.

Are there naming opportunities?

Our Steering Committee decided not to create specific naming opportunities which are typically offered in other major capital campaigns, such as, naming particular rooms or the building itself according to a certain donation level. FRIENDS has always been and will continue to be a broadly based community organization and we value the support of all our benefactors, both great and small. We plan to work with a local artist to create a way to honor our capital campaign contributors with a piece that will be prominently displayed in our new building.



Our Programs

FRIENDS provides services to individuals with developmental disabilities in three main program areas:

FRIENDS Unlimited Day Program

Our Day Program provides habilitation services to assist with acquisition, retention or improvement in self-help, socialization and adaptive skills that take place in a nonresidential setting. Activities and environments are designed to foster the acquisition of skills, appropriate behavior, greater independence, and personal choice.

Specialized Habilitation

Specialized Hab focuses on participants increasing their level of self-sufficiency and attaining their maximum functional level. The purpose of the service is to reinforce skills/lessons taught in school, therapy, or other settings. Specialized Hab may be coordinated with physical, occupational or speech therapies and are generally delivered at the base site.

Supported Community Connections (SCC)

SCC works on skills necessary for the participant to access typical activities and functions of community life. Service delivery utilizes the community as a learning environment which helps facilitate and build relationships and develop natural supports. Trainings are focused on socialization, adaptive skills, money management, and health and safety awareness.

Our Programs

FRIENDS Independent Living Program

Our Independent Living Program was created to bridge the gap between living at home with parents and family members to being more independent and self-sufficient. The program offers four models to support participants living in the community.

On My Own (OMO)

OMO is a unique apartment living model. Services include support in the area of personal care, mentorship, and home management skills. Participants live on their own, or with a roommate, and receive minimal support (5-7 hours per week) with higher level skills, such as paying bills, menu planning, shopping, taxes, and employment.

Companion

Companion is a model designed to serve one or more individuals sharing living arrangements with a care giver/roommate. Participants receive approximately 10-20 hours a week of focused support intended to build functional living skills in the home and out in the community.

Our Programs

Personal Care Alternatives (PCA)

PCA is a model where support is provided for up to three individuals in a home. Individuals have access to 24/7 emergency support, but participants typically live on their own without requiring overnight supervision. Participants receive moderate support (20-25 hours per week) to manage their home life, access health appointments, and navigate their community safely.

Host Homes

Host Homes are traditional residential services that are delivered to one or two people who live in another family's home under the care and supervision of a contracted provider. FRIENDS' monitors the home environment and ensures that the participant is safe, healthy, and working toward greater independence.

FRIENDS Night Out Social Programs

The goal of our Social Program is to provide opportunities that increase social networks, foster friendships and allow for regular participation in leisure activities, such as going to movies, concerts, restaurants, dances and other recreational activities. FRIENDS offers evening social activities that are open to individuals currently in our programs, as well as others in the community who maybe in high school, transitioning from the school system or work during the day. We offer gender specific activities through Women's Night Out and Men's Night Out, as well as monthly large group activities through FRIENDS Night Out. We strive to keep costs low for participants and their families and our social programs are a great way for participants to learn more about FRIENDS and the services we provide.



Letter of Intent

It is my/our intention to make a contribution in the amount of \$_____ each Year Quarter Month
for the next Three years Five years in support of the A Place to Belong Capital Campaign.

It is my/our intention to make the first payment beginning _____, 20_____.

In lieu of pledge installments, it is my/our intention to make a one-time contribution in the amount of \$_____.

I/We understand that this letter of intent is not a legal obligation; however, it is my/our intention to complete this gift unless unforeseen circumstances render payment a hardship on me or my/our family.

I/We understand that our contribution will be used for Capital Expenses.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I/We wish to remain anonymous. I/We wish my/our name(s) to be listed among the campaign donors.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **FRIENDS of Broomfield, Inc.**

P.O. Box 836

Broomfield, Colorado 80038-0836