

**The Mission of
New Avenues to Independence:**



New Avenues to Independence provides opportunities for people with disabilities and special needs to become more independent and productive members of society by offering the highest quality support services and developing innovative and inclusive programs.

New Avenues to Independence, Inc.

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*A Safe Place for
Individuals in
Residential Crisis*

**TRANSITIONAL RESPITE
PROGRAM**



New Avenues to Independence, Inc.

Providing services for individuals with disabilities since 1952.

Transitional Respite is...

a residential service option for individuals with mental retardation and/or developmental disabilities (MR/DD) who are in residential crisis. Transitional respite is different than traditional respite services. Transitional respite provides a preparatory environment towards a stable living placement. After 30 days of enrollment, the program conforms to requirements established by the Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities rules for licensed facilities.

New Avenue's Transitional Respite Program

In 1996, we were approved to provide these services at our Main Campus in Cuyahoga County. Our Transitional Respite Program includes housing (individual rooms for up to four individuals at any given time), board, nursing supports, and recreational activities in a nurturing and supportive environment. Staff to enrollee ratios are tailored to meet the health and safety needs of each enrollee. Traditionally, the length of stay averages between two weeks and six months.

New Avenues provides optional services to all Transitional Respite enrollees. These services include:

- Physician services
- Speech pathology
- Audiology
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Neurology
- Dietary
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Music Therapy
- Art Therapy
- Pharmacy Services
- Transportation to/from work, school

Eligibility and Referral Process

Children or adults with mental retardation and/or developmental disabilities may be considered for Transitional Respite services. Most referrals for Transitional Respite services are received by New Avenues from Northeast Ohio County Boards of Mental Retardation. However, arrangements can also be made directly with New Avenues for private referrals.

Exit Process

Because this is a transitional program, one of the areas of focus is the individual's next placement. The exit planning process begins at entry into the Transitional Respite Program, working in tandem with the referral source. During this planning process, a comprehensive summary report is developed. The report includes:

- Staff observations
- Skills assessments
- Behavioral assessment (if applicable)
- Medical assessment (if applicable)
- Diagnostic evaluations results (if applicable), and
- Recommendations for suitability for placement options.

Please refer to back page for contact information.