



**ROSEWOOD CENTER SHOULD NOT REMAIN OPEN AND BECOME A
“COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER”**

WHY?

Do we need a “Community Resource Center” at Rosewood Center to provide optimum health care for persons with developmental disabilities?

No.

- The Baltimore Area is nationally recognized as having the most advanced health care in the nation. The Johns Hopkins Medical Center and the University of Maryland Medical Center are teaching hospitals that attract specialists who are widely respected in their field.
- These Teaching Facilities eagerly accept persons with complex medical needs and pride themselves on finding answers that improve the lives of all persons who need their services.

Are community Physicians, Dentists and other Health Care Providers ill equipped to provide care to persons with intensive needs?

No.

- Community health care providers are very capable. Sometimes additional training and coordination is needed; however training at an institution is not the answer. One proven approach is occurring in the Philadelphia area. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has established Philadelphia Coordinated Health Care that provides technical assistance and training for medical personnel, including physicians, dentists and medical students; individuals with developmental disabilities and their families; and community support staff. Collaborative efforts result in accessible quality medical, dental, and behavioral health care. PCHC works with each county to develop a plan to address disability priorities in the health care arena.

Is a “Resource Center” located at an institution necessary to train staff of community service providers?

No.

- The Developmental Disabilities Administration requires intensive training of community staff. Adult training is best done in an experiential manner and not in an artificial setting such as the buildings of an institution. Training can always be improved, but it is best done in the community where people are living. It should be done by those who receive services, their families, and professionals in the field.
- In the last few years, some agencies have pooled their resources and enlisted the assistance of local community colleges to enhance the professional standards for staff. We must build upon existing community and college resources, rather than establishing a new bureaucracy and program housed at an institution.

Do we need Rosewood Center to provide respite care and other services to people who live in the community?

No.

- Families overwhelmingly report that they want access to respite care and other supportive services in their home or home community, rather than traveling to an institution. The market demands quality respite care and other services in the community.
- Individuals living in the community are not attracted to large segregated sites for respite or other services. Community respite services have been provided in more inclusive settings for more than 15 years. Younger families are more comfortable with community settings.
- Maintaining and improving increasingly deteriorating buildings at state institutions is expensive and unnecessary.

MARYLAND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COALITION

People on the Go of Maryland - The Arc of Maryland

Maryland Association of Community Services

Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council - Maryland Disability Law Center