



our
mission
is our passion.



to Oak Hill. Founded in 1893 as the Connecticut Institute for the Blind, our organization continues to share a unique and compelling story that flourishes through our relentless dedication and commitment to individuals with disabilities.

Oak Hill has grown from a small school for blind children, to today serving as Connecticut's largest nonprofit provider of services for people with all types of disabilities.

The standards that set Oak Hill apart are impossible to ignore. We believe in the enduring power of our 125 year history and the power of our clear vision. So, share our passion. Passion fuels progress, and leads to incredible outcomes.

We invite you to embark on this journey with us...

[mission]

Oak Hill sets the standard, partnering with people with disabilities, to provide services and solutions promoting independence, education, health and dignity.



our past

In 1888, Emily Wells Foster formed the nation's first nursery school for blind children at her home in Hartford. Through Foster's efforts an institution grew and forever changed the lives of hundreds of blind Americans and their families, who were denied education in their public schools based solely on their disability. In 1893, we incorporated as the Connecticut Institution and Industrial Home for the Blind, then the Connecticut Institute for the Blind. As key federal education and civil rights laws were passed in the 1960s and 1970s, our students were finally allowed to be educated alongside their peers in public schools.



Not only did the students leave behind a name – affectionately called “Oak Hill School” after our location in Hartford and our stunning campus of Oak trees – they left a legacy steeped in pride, tackling obstacles, and achieving great things.

In 1978, we opened our first group home in the community, serving people with multiple disabilities and going by the well-earned name of Oak Hill. By 1986, we amended our articles of incorporation and bylaws to officially serve people with various disabilities, not only visual impairments. This expanded our mission and aligned our services with the changing needs of society.

Emily Wells Foster legacy of philanthropy is going strong today. Oak Hill is grateful to our dedicated volunteers that give their time to support our programs, and help us fundraise for our mission.



our present

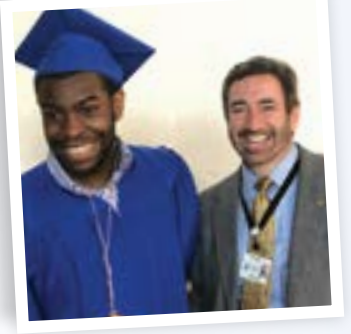
Today, known as Oak Hill, we are a leader in providing specialty healthcare and education in community-based programs – such as housing, employment training, special education, assistive technology, relationship education, and recreation to children and adults with multiple disabilities.

As Connecticut's largest private provider of services to people with disabilities, Oak Hill helps individuals of all ages, from newborns to seniors. Our experienced staff covers the needs of every intellectual, developmental and physical disability.

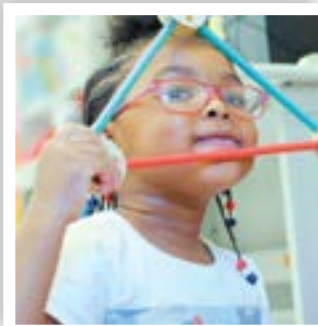
We believe that people with disabilities have the right and capability to be

contributing, productive members of their communities. Building from that belief, we established a full-service organization to care for, educate, and advocate for people with disabilities, their families and their communities.

Oak Hill employs over 1,700 professionals who work at our 124 program sites located in 73 towns throughout Connecticut. Our extensive list of diverse programs which continues to evolve as we successfully meet the changing needs of over 40,000 people with disabilities each year.



Oak Hill's Continuum of Care



adaptive sports and fitness

At Oak Hill, we have seen again and again that health and wellness are the key to independence.

Our sports and fitness specialists are here to help you achieve your goals no matter how big or small. Our staff will provide you with the guidance and training so you can reach your goals with confidence and success.



assistive technology

At the New England Assistive Technology (NEAT) Center at Oak Hill, you can learn about the latest technology, products, equipment and services that assist people with day-to-day activities that they have trouble doing themselves, either because of a disability or the effects of aging.



camps and recreation

Camp provides a week-long overnight summer camp for adults and children with disabilities. Our camps are a fun, safe place for campers with similar needs, activity and social interests, to come together.

Our trained staff provides a supportive environment where campers have many new opportunities.



- Adaptive Sports & Fitness, Chapter 126
- Art & Music Therapy
- Autism Services
- Center for Relationship & Sexuality Education (CRSE)
- Community Group Homes
- Easterseals of Oak Hill
- Employment Services
- Equipment Restoration Center (ERC)
- Gilead Community Services (Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services)
- The Hemlocks Center/Easterseals Camp Hemlocks
- In Home Supports
- New England Assistive Technology, NEAT
- Oak Hill Camps
- Oak Hill School
- Professional Development
- Residential Services
- Services for the Blind
- Veterans & Military Family Services
- Wraparound Support Services

1,700 professionals
124 programs
73 towns & 20 districts
serving 40,000 people
with disabilities



community programs

Oak Hill's programs provide top quality housing for adults living with intellectual and physical disabilities. Homes and apartments are located throughout Connecticut. Each one has been carefully designed to include full- or part-time support staff, supervisors, nurses, speech, occupational and physical therapists and social workers.



employment services

Our programs help place adults with disabilities in either paid or volunteer positions around Connecticut. Participants gain valuable skills, increase their independence and enhance their self esteem. Our staff provides the necessary support, training and supervision to make our program work for both employees and employers.



healthy relationships and sexuality education

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) face a rate of sexual assault that is SEVEN TIMES higher than those without disabilities. Sexual assault generally is an underreported crime, and individuals with disabilities face unique barriers to reporting, meaning that the rate is likely even higher. Oak Hill fights through education and outreach to end this epidemic.



oak hill school & education services

Oak Hill School is a private state approved special education school creatively meeting the needs of each individual student. We offer a 12-month community-based education program for day and residential students. The program serves students with moderate to severe disabilities from ages 3 to 21.



veteran & military family services

Our mission is to ensure Veterans and military families can live their lives to the fullest. We are proud to offer programs to Veterans and their families through our programs and various affiliate organizations. Health & wellness and mental health services are always being improved and expanded.



[vision]

Oak Hill's vision is that people with disabilities will be able to achieve their full potential, engage in their community and meaningful relationships, and fulfill their physical, intellectual, emotional, economic, social, and spiritual needs.

our future

Join our mission. Consider a gift to Oak Hill.

Every gift Oak Hill receives makes a difference in the lives of people we serve throughout the state of Connecticut. Donors express their gratitude, honor a loved one or share a part of themselves with others; the outcome of these gifts are extraordinary.

Ways to Give

- **Cash** – if you itemize, outright cash gifts are generally deductible up to 50% of your adjusted gross income
- **Stock** – any stock held over one year and that increases in value is subject to capital gains tax when sold
- **Real Estate** – a home, farm, or land may have so appreciated in value through the years that its sale would mean a sizeable capital gains tax
- **Life Insurance Policies** – a gift of a policy that is no longer needed for your family's security would entitle you to an income tax deduction equal to the policy's replacement cost at the date of the gift
- **Retirement or Pension Plans** – benefits paid to a tax-exempt charity are not subject to income tax
- **Bequests** – one of the simplest ways to make a gift to Oak Hill is through your will. You can make Oak Hill the direct beneficiary of specific assets, of a portion of your estate or of your residential estate after payment of other bequests. Donors who have included Oak Hill in their wills, designated Oak Hill as a beneficiary in a life insurance policy, or established an endowed fund at Oak Hill are recognized through the Oak Hill Legacy Society.
- **Planned Gifts** – there are many types of charitable gifts with substantial tax advantages that we can discuss with you and your financial advisor. For more information please contact our Development Department at (860) 769-3854 or email info@OakHillCT.org

Donate online at OakHillCT.org

or mail your gift to
Oak Hill

**Attn: Development Dept.
120 Holcomb Street
Hartford, CT 06112**



We are the proud affiliate of Easterseals. For 100 years, Easterseals has served as an indispensable resource for individuals with disabilities, veterans, seniors and their families. Easterseals affiliates in communities nationwide serve 1.5M people through high-quality programs including autism services, early intervention, workforce development, adult day care and more.



Oak Hill is Connecticut's largest
private provider of services
to people with disabilities.
Join our mission.



[core values]

Oak Hill's actions, policies, and day-to-day decisions
are guided by these **core values: responsibility,
integrity, diversity, partnership,
excellence and fiscal stewardship.**

Proud affiliates:

