



*Safe. Happy. Home. A full life for individuals with disabilities and seniors.*

## **Enable Offers New Respite Options**

### **DDD and Now DCF Move to Agency Hired Respite Workers**

Princeton, NJ: December 2, 2015

Enable has decades of experience providing respite to families and caregivers around Central New Jersey. Respite -- which means break or relief -- provides temporary relief for the primary caregiver from the demands of caring for a child or adult with a disability. The care and supervision are provided in or out of the home on a temporary basis for short periods of time. Social, recreational and educational experiences are offered, depending on the consumer's Individual Service Plan.

Respite care is usually limited to 20 hours a month of service. If you are a family seeking respite care, please contact Tamika Lucas, Enable's Admissions Coordinator, by calling 609-987-5003 or email [admissions@enablenj.org](mailto:admissions@enablenj.org).

In 2014, the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities helped families transition from workers they hired on their own to agency hired workers. This allowed the State to draw down more federal dollars to support respite care. Enable worked with over 70 families to help them either find new workers or to assist with having the person the family hired become an Enable employee.

In 2015, the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) is also transitioning many families from family hired to agency hired workers. And the services will be offered on a fee for service basis, rather than in the previous form of payments to families. At the end of November, Enable became qualified with DCF's Children's System of Care and Medicaid to provide and bill for respite care to families with children having special needs. Enable will work with families who continue with their family hired worker and with families who elect to use an Enable hired worker. Enable has already been working with families with children through a grant from Mercer County. Our compassionate and experienced respite workers are known for the loving bonds they form with children.

#### **Workers Transitioning from Self Directed to Agency Hired Status**

- Families currently receiving self hired respite who want to maintain continuity of care can contact Enable to transition that worker into an Enable employee.
- Current Enable consumers of DCF Self Directed Respite will receive employment packets in the mail.

**For more information about transitioning a worker from Self Directed Respite to Agency Hired Respite, please contact Jay Johnston at Enable's Human Resources Department by calling 609-987-5003 or emailing [hr@enablenj.org](mailto:hr@enablenj.org).**