



Backgrounder on Opportunity Partners

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Mission

Together we advance the quality of life for people with disabilities.

Nonprofit organization Opportunity Partners (OP) offers employment, enrichment and residential services that help people with disabilities earn an income, live as independently as possible, and participate as active members of the community. OP serves nearly 1,300 individuals with disabilities throughout the Twin Cities.

Opportunity Partners operates day/employment service locations for people with disabilities in Minnetonka (2) and Plymouth (2), as well as 20 residential group homes and 3 supported apartment programs throughout the Twin Cities. It also supports people in community job settings through training and job coaching.

History

Founded in 1953 in Richfield by a group of visionary parents who wanted a better life for their teenage children with disabilities, Opportunity Partners has always focused on the *abilities* of people. At a time when many people with disabilities were institutionalized in state hospitals, we provided a place where they could learn job skills and experience the sense of pride that comes from earning a paycheck. In 1959, we became the first service provider in the Twin Cities to place people with developmental disabilities with employers in the community. Then, in the early 1970s, we began offering residential services, assisting people with disabilities as they transitioned from large institutions into community-based housing and encouraging people to live as independently as possible.

Learn more at Opportunities.org