

# COVENANT ABILITY NETWORK

MICHIGAN





#### A STRONG NETWORK

Covenant Ability Network of Michigan offers licensed adult foster care at four locations in Grand Rapids and Muskegon, Michigan.

Covenant Ability Network has affiliated communities located in Oak Forest, Illinois, as well as in Duluth and the Twin Cities area of Minnesota. We have over a dozen homes serving nearly 100 families across three states.

Behind our growing Covenant Ability Network family, is a foundation of commitment, collaboration and community. We provide our residential programs and services in partnership with Covenant Initiatives for Care, an affiliation of Covenant Ministries of Benevolence and the Evangelical Covenant Church. Since its founding in 1885, the Evangelical Covenant Church has sought to follow the biblical call in Matthew 25 to care for those who are in need. The legacy that began with the Home of Mercy in Chicago continues today through Covenant Ability Network and the ministries of Covenant Initiatives for Care.



#### WHO WE ARE

The mission of Covenant Ability Network is to extend dignity to every individual by optimizing independence and encouraging health and hope through Christian community.

Many people take the ability to live independently for granted. Operating as an affiliated ministry of Covenant Initiatives for Care (a part of the Covenant Ministries of Benevolence) Covenant Ability Network of Michigan provides safe and secure homes, along with programming for adults who have intellectual disabilities and other related conditions. Covenant Ability Network of Michigan seeks to foster personal growth, encourage independence, and stimulate the emotional and intellectual well-being of those we serve.

Our network is made stronger by the local congregations and conferences of the Evangelical Covenant Church with whom we partner.

#### WHO WE SERVE

The people we serve participate in a variety of different activities based on desires, needs and personal goals. This includes opportunities to volunteer in the community, work at local businesses and participate in spiritual formation.

At Covenant Ability Network of Michigan we understand the challenges families face in helping their loved ones grow spiritually and in self-sufficiency. We promote fulfilling lifestyles for individuals who have intellectual disabilities and other related conditions. Enabling an enhanced quality of life—whether that is living independently, being gainfully employed or making a meaningful contribution to society—is at the heart of our mission.

Covenant Ability Network of Michigan strives to provide homes and programming as an extension of the families of those we serve, understanding families come in many forms.





#### OUR VALUES

# Dignity

We recognize the inherent value and worth of every person.

## Whole Person

We strive to care for the needs of the whole person; physical, emotional, social and spiritual.

## Excellence

We strive to be outstanding and professional in all aspects of care.

## Service

We believe serving people with humility and integrity is the best expression of our Christian faith.

## Family

We are an extension of each person's family and support system.

## Collaboration

We recognize the health, strength and expertise that collaborations with other people, communities, and organizations bring to those we serve.

## OUR HISTORY

Originally an outreach of Covenant Women Ministries, the first Covenant residence serving adults with intellectual disabilities, Bjorklund House, opened its doors in 1994 in Oak Forest, Illinois.

In May of 2001, working in partnership with Forest Park Covenant Church in Muskegon, Michigan, Mary's and Joseph's Houses opened their doors. These two side-by-side homes serve six adult men and six adult women, and is located adjacent to the church. This relationship and proximity provides many opportunities for programming and ministry with Forest Park Covenant Church.

In 2011, the first home in Grand Rapids opened, serving six adult men. Faith House is located on the campus of Covenant Living of the Great Lakes. Two years later, Hope House opened next to Faith House, serving six adult women.



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