

## Philosophy

Established in 1981, the Special Needs Services Program of Catholic Social Services has a vision of an inclusive society where the differences in all people are embraced, and where all people may experience dignity and acceptance in their community of choice.



### Who We Are:

Special Needs Services provides care for individuals who experience developmental disabilities, and offers a support system for their families.

Trained staff provide direct care services, including respite care, and Home and Community Based Medicaid Waiver services.

Services are provided in the least restrictive environment, which can include the consumer's home or a licensed provider's home. Those services can include taking part in community activities.

Program funding is provided by:

- State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services.
- Parent fees
- Private donations and memorials

## Mission

We service the community by providing support services and advocacy for children and adults who experience special needs in order to enhance the quality of life for those individuals and their families.

Called forth and empowered by Gospel values, we endeavor to provide competent and compassionate care, respecting the rights of all people to experience a life of dignity, love, and acceptance in the community.



## Special Needs Services



*Serving Individuals with  
Developmental Disabilities*

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[www.cssalaska.org](http://www.cssalaska.org)

## Eligibility for Services

Any individual experiencing a developmental disability, and who is determined to be eligible by the State of Alaska, Division of Senior and Disabilities Services (DSDS), may receive services.



## Accessing Services

Care is coordinated through the Special Needs Services office. Parents and/or caregivers request services and providers are assigned to fill the requests. Parents may request preferred providers. Respite is designed to give relief to primary caregivers and is not meant to cover care while primary caregivers are working. Other direct care services are offered to promote skill acquisition and goal attainment.

## Funding Sources

- Home and community Based Waiver Services
- Base Grant Respite Program
- Core Services and Individual Assistance Plans (IAP)



## Home and Community Based Waiver Services

Special Needs Services provides the following services for individual on MRDD, CCMC or APD waivers:

- In-home support services: Provided in the individuals home to work on skill acquisition.
- Day Habilitation: Designed to improve self-help abilities, adaptive and socialization skills through community activities.
- Case Management for all facilitative services.
- Agency Based Hourly Respite: Respite provided by agency providers.
- Agency Based Daily Respite: Designed to give primary caregivers a break for 12 to 24 hours by an agency provider.



## Base Grant Respite

Base grant respite is an annualized grant program. Anyone that has a letter eligibility with DSDS and is not receiving services elsewhere is eligible for this program. We serve 120 consumers at a time. Families may choose to use agency providers or use a Family Directed Voucher to pay for their own provider. There is a small fee based on a sliding scale for this program. Agency providers will also take care of siblings (up to age 12) for a nominal fee. Case Management is provided as needed.



## Core Services and Individualized Assistance Plans (IAP)

Core and IAP are annualized dollars that are distributed by DSDS. Individuals must be on DSDS waitlist to receive these services. Individuals may use their funds to pay for specialized equipment, services and respite.