

COMPASSIONATE MINISTRIES OF JACKSON COUNTY



BUILD COMMUNITY • BE THE CHANGE

David's Promise Program Eligibility and Enrollment Guide



Table of Contents

David's Promise Overview	3
About Us	4
David's Promise Guiding Principles	5
CMJC Diversity Statement	6
Program Eligibility	7-8
New Enrollee Process	9

DAVID'S PROMISE OVERVIEW

David's Promise is a ministry of Compassionate Ministries of Jackson County (CMJC). Our David's Promise (DP) ministry provides daytime life enrichment activities and programming for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

This guide is provided to you as a resource and provides an overview of the David's Promise daytime program. In this guide you will find an about us section, our guiding principles, program eligibility requirements, and the new enrollee process.





ABOUT US

Our Beliefs

At David's Promise, we celebrate individuality, particularly when it comes to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We are all beautifully crafted in the image of Christ, and yearn for a supportive, friendly, and loving community.

The History of David's Promise

A group of individuals made up of parents of children with developmental differences, and professionals, including service providers and special educators, began meeting in 2012. The group began with a realization, which every parent of a child with developmental differences must face: "formal schooling as they knew it, would someday come to an end or had already come to an end." The school structure that helped the child learn and have a community of friends would no longer exist.

The group reached a mutual agreement on what parents desired post-formal education for their child with special needs. The expectations included a space that facilitated friendship, allowed the expression of their child's faith, continued learning, offered recreational and social programs, valued service to others, and most importantly, provided a safe community environment. David's Promise officially launched programming in 2014.

Who's David?

We often are asked about the name, "David's Promise." David's Promise comes from the Bible story of King David's best friend, Jonathan. As a child, Jonathan's son Mephibosheth had a tragic accident that left him unable to walk or care for himself.

After David's friend Jonathan died, David promised his friend's son that he would always eat at the king's table and would always have a place to live. "So, Mephibosheth ate at David's table like one of the king's sons" (2 Samuel 9:11).

In our faith community, we feel a genuine calling to honor David's pledge to Mephibosheth. Our aim is to cultivate an environment where individuals of varying abilities can participate in ministry, serve, learn, and exist harmoniously. This is "David's Promise!"

DAVID'S PROMISE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We know that everyone yearns for a supportive, friendly, and loving community. Acknowledging the unique abilities that each person carries, we offer a nurturing atmosphere where learning is a lifelong journey.

Our life enrichment activities are systematically designed to provide life enrichment and social activities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The prime focus is to endorse independence and develop a favorable self-image while amplifying social awareness, independence, and essential life skills. David's Promise life enrichment activities are presented in a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment that encourages learning and independence.

Additionally, we believe that God calls us as a faith community to follow through on David's promise to Mephibosheth. We seek to create a place where people with differing abilities can be a part of ministry, serve and learn together, and gather in community with one another. We know that we will all have an equal place at the King's table someday and we seek to invite everyone to know God.



CMJC DIVERSITY STATEMENT

At Compassionate Ministries of Jackson County, we passionately believe that diversity is not only a fundamental aspect of our community but also an essential strength that enriches our organization and the ministries we provide. We are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where individuals from all backgrounds feel welcomed, valued, and respected.





PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

David's Promise serves those with **intellectual and developmental disabilities**, 18 years and older, and must be able to function effectively within the existing program. David's Promise is designed to provide a 5:1 participant to staff ratio.

Program Criteria Consider for Enrollment

An enrolling participant ("applicant") must be able to function effectively with the existing program. Current staffing levels and the requirements and needs of existing participants are considered during the evaluation of all applicants. While the DP program eligibility and criteria is used to evaluate whether a new enrollee qualifies for our daytime program, **those currently enrolled at David's Promise** are regularly monitored by DP staff. **Current enrollees who are unable to follow program criteria, can be removed from the program at any time.** Criteria typically used during the evaluation of an applicant include:

1. Behavior

Types of behaviors, severity, and frequency, especially as related to safety and staffing requirements, include:

- Physically aggressive behavior
- Self-injurious behavior
- Behavior that may be injurious to others
- Screaming or yelling behaviors that are disruptive to the group

2. Group Setting

Is the enrolling participant able to function in a group setting.

3. Level of Independence

Is the enrolling participant able to function independently or does the enrolling participant require an individual assistant, not provided by CMJC and David's Promise.

4. Activities of Daily Living

What are the levels of independence pertaining to:

- Mobility
- Eating
- Dressing
- Toileting
(David's Promise staff and volunteers do not assist participants in the restroom).
- Activities

5. Session Schedule

Is the enrolling participant able to attend the session where there is an opening.

6. Transportation

David's Promise does not provide transportation to our daytime programming. Is the enrolling participant able to provide their own transportation to DP programming and be present when program starts and picked up promptly when programming ends.

7. Background Check

Like all DP staff and DP volunteers, enrolling participants will know that they must pass a criminal background check prior to enrollment in the program.





NEW ENROLLEE PROCESS

While we understand that families, caregivers, and participants desire immediate entry into David's Promise, each new enrolling participant will follow the steps outlined below prior to becoming part of David's Promise.

Initial Contact by Potential New Enrollee

Following the initial contact by the potential new enrollee, potential new enrollee's family/guardian will be provided with the DP program eligibility guide and placed on the DP waiting list.

David's Promise Wait List

The enrollment process will begin only when there is space available in the program for enrollment. David's Promise uses a waiting list for all potential new enrollees. The length of time being on the DP wait list varies. The maximum number of participants per session is fifteen (15).

Notice of Availability of Space and New Enrollee Interview

The David's Promise Program Director will notify enrolling participants parent, guardian, caregiver, and/or case worker of the availability of space within the program to begin the enrollment process.

During this time, the David's Promise Program Director will schedule a time to meet with the participant, family member(s), and any authorized personnel **in person**. At this meeting, information regarding the participant and David's Promise will be shared.

The David's Promise Registration form will be provided to the family/authorized personnel at the completion of the new enrollee interview.

PLEASE NOTE THAT WHILE THE ENROLLMENT PROCESS HAS BEEN INITIATED, ENTRY INTO DAVID'S PROMISE IS NOT ASSURED.

Notification of Being Enrolled at David's Promise

Following the new enrollee interview, David's Promise staff will meet and determine whether the potential new enrollee is approved for admission into David's Promise.

The David's Promise Program Director will notify the potential new enrollees' family/authorized personnel within three (3) business days of the new enrollee interview, on whether admission into David's Promise has been approved.

Those who have are approved for admission into David's Promise, **MUST return the David's Promise Registration Form to the DP Program Director within two (2) weeks of notification of approval. Failure to do so will omit admission into David's Promise.**