

## OUR NEW CAMPUS

Founded in 1972 on Chapel Street in Westville, CT, the Chapel Haven Schleifer Center is a pioneer in helping adults with cognitive and social disabilities live independent and self-determined lives. Most individuals who graduate from our REACH program remain in New Haven after graduation. Our Bridge and Supported Living programs currently help more than 150 Community Members maintain their independent lives, regularly returning to our campus for socializing, continuing adult education classes, employment and supported living services.

Starting in 2017, Chapel Haven has embarked on its most significant campus expansion to date, a \$41.5 million project with the goal of providing optimum, lifelong care to our growing community.

## CHAPEL HAVEN SCHLEIFER CENTER INC.'S CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION INCLUDES: ✓

- A new, four-story REACH residential and classroom campus, (opened July 2018) which helps adults with cognitive and social disabilities learn to live independently. State-of-the-art classrooms, technology, spacious apartments designed by international experts in the field
- A new Welcome Center - the new gateway to our campus; community space, an art gallery, a conference room, admissions and leadership offices
- New "outdoor living room," spacious courtyard with native plantings, seatings and fountain – invites socialization for our vibrant community
- Coming in early 2020, the Schleifer Adult Independent Living (SAIL) facility, a state-of-the-art, four-story residential, community and engagement campus, designed for residents to age in place. Universal in design and layout, our new SAIL community will be intergenerational, where adults can flourish into their senior years in a vibrant and non-institutional setting.



CHAPEL HAVEN  
SCHLEIFER CENTER  
GROW THRIVE BELONG

### OUR MISSION

Chapel Haven Schleifer Center provides lifelong individualized services for people with developmental and social disabilities, empowering them to live independent and self-determined lives.

### ACCREDITATIONS



**NATIONALLY ACCREDITED THROUGH CARF**  
(Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities)

**APPROVED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION**  
(CT) as a special education school

**LICENSED THROUGH THE CT STATE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

### PRESTIGIOUS PARTNERSHIPS

Yale

THE UNIVERSITY  
OF ARIZONA

Southern Connecticut  
State University  
SC  
SU

JCC  
OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Chapel Haven Admissions Office  
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[www.chapelhaven.org](http://www.chapelhaven.org)



CHAPEL HAVEN  
SCHLEIFER CENTER  
GROW THRIVE BELONG

## Residential Education At Chapel Haven

# R.E.A.C.H



Empowering adults with varying abilities to live independent and self-empowered lives since 1972.



## THE FUNDAMENTALS OF REACH

### LIFE SKILLS

It is our proven belief that the only way to teach independence is in a setting that imitates life. Our young men and women, 18 years of age and older, live in fully furnished and equipped apartments on campus, with 24/7 staffing. Through small group and one-to-one attention and life skills instruction, students learn the skills they will need to transition out into the community. Experienced special education teachers and life skills instructors work hand in hand to blend lessons from the classroom into apartment instruction. From researching recipes on the Internet, to price comparisons for laundry soap and orange juice—we coach our students to be savvy and smart consumers.

### WE TEACH: ✓

- Household maintenance skills such as cooking, cleaning, laundry, menu planning, and shopping
- Mobility & Community Safety
- Managing finances: banking and budgeting
- Self-care, including health, medication administration, hygiene, and safety
- Learning to live with roommates

### EDUCATION

Chapel Haven's year-round Education Program encompasses 10 blended subject areas: Language Arts, Math and Science, Social Studies, Life Skills, Vocational Skills, Wellness, and Personal Enrichment, as well as an array of Continuing Adult Education classes. Classes on banking and budgeting, clothing management, cleaning, reading directions, and utilizing public transportation as well as decision making, problem solving and negotiating are taught by the special education teachers and supplemented by the Residential Life Skills Instructors.

### EMPLOYMENT

Gainful employment is an important part of an independent lifestyle; therefore employment is woven into REACH and Community programs, offering progressively more challenging opportunities as the individual progresses. **More than 85% of community members are working at 30 agencies and companies in the area, in either supported or competitive employment settings.** Our location in a small city with extensive public transit makes an excellent location for job seekers.

Chapel Haven Schleifer Center is proud to announce the launching of the **Center for Employment Services and Opportunities (CESO)**. Our new center uses a client-centered, individualized approach to job procurement and career development for our adults. Each participant is individually assessed and supported in order for them to procure employment in a situation of their choosing. We also are proud to be partnered with Yale-New Haven Hospital and Whelen Industries for PAVE – offering Chapel Haven participants a full immersion in the workplace supported by job coaching and vocational classes.



“ It struck me immediately upon coming to Chapel Haven that it had the classroom structure I was looking for because you never stop learning! For David, the program had the constant development and the recreational opportunities I wanted. The kindness and understanding of the staff is priceless. ”

**HARRIET SCHLEIFER - PARENT, CHAPPAQUA, NY**

Learn more about our amazing success stories at:  
[chapelhaven.org/testimonials](http://chapelhaven.org/testimonials)



To request literature:  
[admission@chapelhaven.org](mailto:admission@chapelhaven.org)

### RECREATION

A structured recreation program occurs on evenings and weekends, offering approximately 30 activities a month. All residential students in the REACH program also enjoy a free membership to the **JCC of Greater New Haven**, which offers world-class fitness and cultural amenities.

### THE RECREATION PROGRAM TEACHES OUR CLIENTS TO:

- Manage free time; master social etiquette; manage money and adhere to a schedule
- Make and nurture lifelong friendships

Activities range from a night out at the movies to theatre, athletics, chaperoned trips to Boston and New York City, as well as venues around the state including Gillette Castle and Sleeping Giant State Park.

### STUDENTS ALSO ENJOY:

- Special interests & Travel Clubs
- Tennis
- Overnight Trips to Crested Butte, Disney, and more
- Special Olympics (track and field, tennis swimming, bowling, basketball, soccer)
- The largest Best Buddies chapter in CT



### SOCIAL COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCY

Living in an apartment with roommates, managing an academic schedule and transitioning into productive and meaningful work all require that students compromise, solve problems, and advocate for their own needs and desires. These intangible social skills, essential to successful independence, are an important component of the REACH Program. Development of perspective-taking theory of mind skills is the cornerstone of the social communication curriculum. With the help of staff, students learn how to develop and interpret nonverbal language, facial expressions, gestures and physical proximity in a variety of contexts and settings.

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Chapel Haven has launched a Wellness Program led by a new Wellness Coordinator to help students adopt best practices in their diets, education, fitness and nutrition supports. The Wellness Program encourages students to exercise regularly through core classes and leisure pursuits such as working out at the JCC of Greater New Haven or taking part in coordinated 5Ks; to plan and cook healthier meals and to rethink how to order healthier meals when out on recreation trips and social occasions. The goal is to help each student adopt healthy practices that can be used for a lifetime.

“ There's a lot of worry about raising children who have developmental disabilities. You wonder what the future will hold. From our point of view, Chapel Haven has really helped to open the world of possibilities. We live in Manhattan and I worked for many years in the special needs world. We could have made all kinds of opportunities for Jacob. What we couldn't create for him in the same way is this community. ”

**LESLIE AND ALAN PEARSON WITH SON, JACOB, NEW YORK CITY**