

WANTED:

*... Special People
to Work With
Special People ...*



THE
"Person to Person"
PROGRAM

Minnesota Department of Human Services

Ever Need a Friend?

Of course . . . we all do at one time or another . . . to listen, to care, to help or share . . . and we usually have lot's of friends we can turn to.

BUT . . . some people have no one and that's where we hope YOU will come in.



Your Help Is Needed

People who are developmentally disabled have unique needs and are trying hard to live independently in the community.

But they need help.

They need a friend to help them learn life skills, develop relationships, adjust positively and to get the support and care they deserve.

Our "Person to Person" Program



Offers you a one-on-one volunteer opportunity to befriend such a special person.

You'll be asked to:

- visit them twice a month for a year
- assist them with quality of life issues
- take them into your heart as a friend, and
- report progress or needs.

What Disabilities Might Such A Friend Have?



Everyone is unique but disabilities your friend might have in addition to mental retardation include blindness and other physical handicaps. You will be given specific information on a prospective friend prior to placement. Final decision on the volunteer to client match will not be made until after an initial meeting between the two of you.

How Do I Explore This Volunteer Opportunity?

To discuss specific needs, contact:

What Our Volunteers Tell Us:

- *"My clients and I share a beautiful friendship of love and trust. They make me feel special too! I come to work and have arms outstretched to me for hugs."*
- *"Helps me feel alive! I'm helping others and they give back to me!"*
- *"It has given me a new lease on life! I've exchanged my rocking chair for a life of giving and receiving . . . I love it!"*
- *"It feels good to know that your time is making a difference for someone else."*
- *"It has heightened my perspective of other people; their limitations, joys and hurts."*



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