



The Neighborhood

Join Us to Create an Inclusive Community for People of All Abilities!

The Neighborhood of Maryland, Inc., (“The Neighborhood”) is a nonprofit organization focused on creating a supportive and inclusive community open to all, but especially attuned to special needs adults, including adults with autism and others with varying abilities. Working together with a privately funded group of parents of special needs adults (“Neighborhood Development”), an innovative new community will be designed and built. A publicly accessible Community Center owned and operated by The Neighborhood will provide social and educational activities for special needs adults and host programs and relationship-building opportunities for public benefit. Neighborhood Development will build an inclusive community adjacent to the Community Center with modest homes available for purchase.

A long-term housing ownership solution is top priority for parents seeking a stable life-long home for their loved one. Adults with autism and many others with varying abilities, face many challenges – making friends, going to college, holding a job, contributing to society, and having a comfortable place to live. Similar to most adults, special needs adults desire independence and inclusion, especially with respect to where and how they live. However, there is a large void of housing support for these adults. Although they have typically lived with their parents their entire life, they should have the option to live with friends and like-minded individuals.

The lack of home ownership opportunities for adults with autism and other varying abilities is a national crisis. The default solution for special needs housing (when living with a relative is no longer an option) is a choice between group homes, rentals, and institutions. While generally created in public interest and operated with good intent, these options are not appealing choices. The focus on “inclusion” can inadvertently create isolation by placing special needs individuals in communities that do not want them there. When special needs adults are placed in affordable rental housing, they are subject to rent increases and possible lease terminations, providing no control and little stability. **Change – especially frequent change – can be intensely stressful to many of these adults.**

The aim of Neighborhood Development is an inclusive community for people of all abilities, located in Montgomery County, Maryland. The site will be 3-5 usable acres, accessible to public transportation and services, able to accommodate up to 19 modestly sized homes and a Community Center with generous recreation space. The community will be built as a “Pocket Neighborhood,” featuring smaller houses in clusters surrounding open green spaces, designed to promote social interaction. At the same time, Neighborhood Development will demonstrate to the residential building community that this is a viable market, as these homes will be market-priced homes typical of Montgomery County, Maryland.

We invite all who share our vision of an inclusive and supportive community to join The Neighborhood to increase parent participation and raise funds for this important initiative. Our near-term goals are to design the Community Center, develop a programming infrastructure, promote awareness and to ultimately raise the necessary funds for implementation. In parallel, the separate parent group Neighborhood Development is evaluating site locations and generating projected cost figures for potential purchasers/resident families to consider. With your help, The Neighborhood will establish a much-improved new standard for special needs lifetime housing and create a successful template for others to follow.

<https://theneighborhoodofmd.org>



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Inclusive Community for All Abilities

The Neighborhood of Maryland, Inc.

Non-Profit Organization

Responsible for Community Center & Programs
Public Benefit

Inclusive Social Programs

Special Needs Focused Activities
For People of All Abilities
Memberships Available to Public

TNM Nonprofit Ownership

Buys Community Center Site & Building
from Neighborhood Development, LLC

The Neighborhood of Maryland, Inc.

Community Center Operation,
Management, Administration, and
Fundraising for Nonprofit

Neighborhood Development, LLC

Real Estate Development Entity

Responsible for Community Design & Construction
Private Initiative

Inclusive Purchase Opportunity

~19 Home Ownership Opportunities
For People of All Abilities
Community Center Access via HOA

Cooperative or Condo Ownership

Sell Community Center to TNM
Sell Residences to Private Owners

3rd Party Community Management

Privately Owned Residences and
The Neighborhood of Maryland, Inc.,
pay proportionate share of Community upkeep

Community Center

Public/Private Enterprise