



What is the AJU Center for Independent Living?

In 1973, colleagues of wheelchair users (Association to Improve the lives of the Persons with Severe Disabilities in Aichi Prefecture) and the members of “The Movement for Action of Love (A.J.U.)” met each other, and jointly tackled on the movement of creation of welfare community where all the citizens including the disabled persons and non-disable persons enjoy living together.

In 1984, to create a workplace for the persons with severe disabilities, the sheltered workshop “WADACHI” was established. After that, AJU was honored to receive a special recommendation from Prince Tomohito to establish “Geshukuya” (accommodation) for the persons with disabilities”. Prince Tomohito kindly gave us several guidance and his efforts were also made to be involved from the planning stage, incorporation to construction of facility. Finally in 1990, “AJU Center for Independent Living” was completed.

To materialize the creation of the fruitful living in local community where the persons with disabilities could live with the non-disabled in harmony, AJU Center for Independent Living” provide 3 functions as follows.

1. The place where the persons with disabilities could perform their strength. (WADACHI Computer House)
2. The place as a living base for persons with disabilities (“Samaria House”)
3. The place for interaction with local community and friends (Day Center)

Now, we are challenging to put all the 3 functions mentioned above together and to create new welfare approach which has never been experienced before. The most significant characteristic of this approach is that persons with disabilities play central roles in planning and operating a facility. Thus, “AJU Center for Independent Living” positively supports the concept that the persons with disabilities not only depend on the welfare, but also create welfare, and we aim to create the society where even bedridden persons with disabilities find happiness in their livings, and to commit to play a responsible role to carry forward new welfare.

History

Date	Events
Sep. 1973	Formed “Association to improve the living of persons with severe disabilities in Aichi Prefecture”
Mar. 1975	Established “Wheelchair Center”
Oct. 1984	Established “WADACHI Sheltered Workshop”
Apr. 1990	Established “AJU Center for Independent Living” (Accommodation “Day Center WADACHI C.H.”)
Apr. 1993	Established “Nagoya MAC PETE House”
Oct. 1993	Started “Independent Support Program”
Apr. 1997	Established “Peer Nagoya” (Small-scale sheltered workshop)
Jul. 1997	Established AJU Independent Living Information Center
Apr. 2000	Established “Helper Station HOKATTO KEN”
Apr. 2002	Established Community Living Support Center for the Persons with Disabilities in Showa-ku
Apr. 2003	Established “Helper Station My Life”
May 2004	Established “Helper Station My Life West”
Oct. 2004	Established a vocational training center for persons with intellectual disabilities “Peer Nagoya”
Apr. 2007	Entrusted an independence experience program for persons with physical disabilities by Nagoya City Government
Aug. 2008	Established “Helper Station My Life KARIYA”
Oct. 2008	Entrusted a model project for community independence experience by Aichi Prefecture
Oct. 2010	Established “My Life IWAKURA”



Samaria House

♦Accommodation called “Geshukuya”

Samarina House is a residence for persons with disabilities to materialize their proactive living as individual adults and not like leading passive livings under the protection of their families and workers of institutions by reason of being persons with disabilities.

We aim to train persons with disabilities to be able to live in the community by gaining various living and social experience for 4 year period.

Since we opened our home, nearly 80 persons with severe disabilities left our home and started their independent livings in their local community.

♦Day Center (Living assistance)

Day Center is a meeting place with the concepts of “People, Goods and Chances”. “People” encounter someone other than their families, and develop their human relations. “Goods” means that welfare devices are introduced to expand their range of livings, and “Chances” is to introduce various opportunities and create their possibilities. Center offers satisfactory programs by which persons with disabilities could feel happy about their living even though their disabilities are severe, and they could try experiences which they never had before or at home.

♦Independent Living Experience Room

This is a place where persons with disabilities who live in institutions or with parents and families can experience different living from which they had in the past. They try their dreams and hopes, and can always have extraordinary time and lives with fun. This room is also a trial space of independent living for a brief period by the persons with disabilities who are worried to live on their own.

♦The disabled lecturer dispatch program (Workshop type support center of community activities)

This center is a place where the persons with disabilities play active roles as lecturers in the fields of creation of welfare city, welfare learning and seminars and so on.

♦Community Living Support Center for Persons with Disabilities in Showa-ku

This support center was established as a consultation support body of welfare support for persons with disabilities by local government. The center supports the living of persons (children) with disabilities and their families in the community, and promotes independent living and social participations of persons (children) with disabilities.



WADACHI computer house

Work support center for persons with disabilities

This is a place where persons with severe disabilities, mainly persons with quadriplegic impairment, can work by operating computers. 40 colleagues (staff) of persons with disabilities are currently working.

Wishes of persons with severe disabilities such as “a wish to become independent through labor activities” are fulfilled, and WADACHI computer house was established in October, 1984. The center was reformed to be a non-residential sheltered workshop in 1990, and since 2007, the contents of services have been transited to new system based on the Law for Supporting Independence of Persons with Disabilities.

The types of works includes; data input, process, website building, development of administrative systems, questionnaire planning • counting • analysis, consultation of administrative programs, audiotyping, DM representative dispatch, IT support for persons with disabilities, etc. We develop our business by capitalizing the viewpoints of persons with disabilities, and succeeded in participating in national projects such as accessibility check program of Chubu International Airport and Exposition of Global Harmony, etc.

Since 1996, we have achieved unprecedented success as a sheltered workshop such as yearly sales of 100 million Yen and average salary of 100,000 Yen for workers, and so on. It is also our characteristic that our workers with disabilities take their initiatives to be involved in our center operation.



Peer Nagoya

Non-residential sheltered workshop for persons with intellectual disabilities

Since 2003, Peer Nagoya has taken over “Tajimi Monastery Winery”, a historic winery in business for more than 70 years, operated by Catholic Tajimi Monastery. Now, we are cultivating grapes and selling wines. We are challenging to offer the traditional taste and aroma of 70 years to customers. It is our business strength as Peer Nagoya that we make an effective use of disability, and sell our welfare products and devices from the viewpoint of users with disabilities. We undertake mail order business for wine and welfare devices, etc., and persons with disabilities are working here as a real business oriented work place, not as protective employment workplace for the persons with disabilities. Wheelchair rental division provides consultation for persons with disabilities from the standpoint of welfare devices users in the public long-term care insurance scheme, and offers those items for rental purpose. This business has started from a group called “Free Wheelchair Rental” which was formed by the wheelchair users in 1975, and more than 100,000 wheelchairs were rented since then.



HOKATTO KEN

Support center for home-based care/Helper-dispatch Station

Please leave all matters related the public long-term care insurance to Hokatto Ken.

We provide various services from care plan services to the helper dispatch services based on the needs of elderly persons. In order to support elderly persons and their families who wish to live in their community as long as they can, we always value to listen to the own voices of elderly persons. Also, since we had been entrusted daily living independence support program by Aichi prefecture, we have made our efforts to support elderly persons with dementia to enable them to continue to live in their community by supporting elderly persons who do not have enough cognitional capacities for their welfare service utilization.

My Life

Helper-dispatch station for the persons with disabilities

This helper-dispatch station for persons with disabilities puts an emphasis on a user's own decisions on what support to get, which will lead to his/her self-determination, self-choice and self-responsibility. We also support lives of persons with disabilities at home for 24 hours and 365 days on a round-the-clock basis. To materialize the living which many persons with severe disabilities wish, we try to enhance and improve the quality for our services as much as possible. Furthermore, to secure a stable care system, we conduct training seminars for home helper Grade 2 and home visit care workers as training program of personal assistants.

In May 2004, "My Life West", in August 2008, "My Life Kariya", and in October 2010, "My Life Iwakura" were established in a row, and we have played our role as a new hub for a wide range of age group in our community.



Nagoya Mac / Pete House / TYM

This is a place where people who are addicted to alcohol practice the recovery program (12 steps), and to create alcohol-free living for them.

Persons who suffer from alcohol dependence syndrome try hard to abstain from drinking every day by fighting against many troubles such as misunderstanding and prejudice of the society regarding alcohol addiction. Nagoya Mac aims their recovery from addiction to alcohol by regular meetings, 3 times a day for 365 days.

In addition, we conduct consultation programs (for persons addicted to alcohol and their families), hospital message, exercise programs, recreations, occupational programs, summer camp training programs, overnight training, interaction programs with other organizations and groups, etc.



Preparatory office for opening “Multifunctional Support Center for Persons with Disabilities”

Unification of services for persons with 3 different types disability (Physical, intellectual and mental disabilities) has came into reality since the introduction of the Law for Supporting Independence of Persons with Disabilities in October 2006.

The AJU Independent Living Center aims to open a new support center with a function which unifies sectional services of 3 different disabilities based on the concept of devolution to the community. We commit ourselves to creating a system which persons with disabilities can be transferred smoothly into community living by crystalizing our philosophy - “All human beings are brothers and sisters” - into more concrete services.

