



hope services

Homestart Parent Meeting



Serving
over 3,500
clients and
families

Six
counties

Amazing is all in a day's work.



hope services

Hope's Services



Amazing is all in a day's work.



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Hope Services

In service for 62+ years serving all age groups with developmental disabilities. Largest provider in our area with operating budget of \$40 million

Our Mission (updated)

To improve the Quality of Life for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

- Personal Development
- Self-determination
- Interpersonal Relations
- Social Inclusion
- Rights
- Emotional well-being
- Physical well-being
- Material well-being



Welcome to Holland

I am often asked to describe the experience of raising a child with a disability - to try to help people who have not shared that unique experience to understand it, to imagine how it would feel. It's like this...

When you're going to have a baby, it's like planning a fabulous vacation trip - to Italy. You buy a bunch of guide books and make your wonderful plans. The colliseum. The Michaelangelo David. The gondolas in Venice. You may learn some handy phrases in Italian. It's all very exciting.

After months of eager anticipation, the day finally arrives. You pack your bags and off you go. Several hours later, the plane lands. The stewardess comes in and says, "Welcome to Holland."

"Holland?!?" you say. "What do you mean, "Holland"??? I signed up for Italy! I'm supposed to be in Italy. All my life I dreamed of going to Italy."

But there's been a change in the flight plans. They've landed in Holland and there you must stay.

The important thing is that they haven't taken you to a horrible, disgusting, filthy place, full of pestilence, famine and disease. It's just a different place.

So you must go and buy new guide books. And you must learn a whole new language. And you will meet a whole new group of people you never would have met.

It's just a different place. It's slower than Italy, less flashy than Italy. But after you've been there for awhile and you catch your breath, you look around... and you begin to notice that Holland has windmills... Holland has tulips. Holland even has Rembrandts.

But everyone you know is busy coming and going from Italy... and they're all bragging about what a wonderful time they had there. And for the rest of your life, you will say, "Yes, that's where I was supposed to go. That's what I had planned."

And the pain of that will never, ever, ever, ever go away... because the loss of that dream is a very significant loss.

But... if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to Italy,, you may never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things... about Holland. ~Emily Perl Kingsley

