

Project Enable First Respite Day



Project Enable is a new coalition of agencies, community leaders, and stakeholders dedicated to providing support and respite to families of individuals with developmental disabilities. Their first Respite Day was held before the holidays on December 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Arc of Alachua County in Gainesville graciously hosted this event. With the assistance of Linn Nolte, nursing students from Express Training Services volunteered their services to participants in Respite Day.

This respite event was free to the families of loved ones currently on the Agency for Persons with Disabilities Medicaid waiver waiting list. There were a limited number of openings to maintain the required 1-to-2 ratio. Applications were filled out by caregivers in advance to note medical conditions, food allergies, and activity preferences. Participation was on a first come, first served basis.



A variety of activities were offered. Arts and crafts and karaoke were two of the favorite activities of attendees. Family members were pleased that they were able to do some holiday shopping, take some personal time for themselves, run errands, or simply enjoy some quiet time. Additional respite events are in the planning stages.