



Mission Statement

The mission of Creative Living Options, Inc., is to provide holistic, individualized support systems for adults managing developmental disabilities. CLO empowers consumers to choose and control their homes, liberated from restrictive congregate environments, achieve increasing independence, and widen their circles of community involvement and support.



Creative Living Options is a non-profit agency. Many opportunities exist to participate in programs that enrich the lives of the people we serve. However, budget constraints limit us.

You can help CLO meet our mission by:

- Contributing funds
- Serving on the CLO Board of Directors

The people we serve live on very low, fixed incomes that restrict their opportunities for the entertainment and community involvement that most of us take for granted. You can personally support our consumers by contributing:

- Tickets to sporting events, plays, concerts, etc.
- Gift certificates for restaurants, movie theaters, coffee shops, grocery stores, etc.
- Gift certificates for retail stores.
- Other monetary contributions

Please contact the CLO office at the number below if you can help.



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A Life That Fits



Creative Living Options owes its existence to two amazing men, Deron Schmidt and Jason Coon. Their mothers, CLO Co-CEOs Joan Schmidt and Kathleen Campbell, shared their challenges and journeys from infancy through adulthood managing profound autism. As their sons grew and developed, Joan and Kathleen became experts on supporting family members with developmental disabilities. They served as mentors and advocates for families living with children and young adults experiencing developmental disabilities. They pioneered Supported Living Services and became “single-household vendors” for their own sons, creating a manual that is the definitive resource for families embarking on that form of supported living in California. They served on legislative advisory committees, contributed to policy formation, and presented at conferences around the country. Founding a supported living agency was a natural outgrowth of their accomplishments. Creative Living Options began supporting its first consumer in March 2001. It serves as a leader and exemplar in the supporting living field.



Creative Living Options Supported Living Services

The range of holistic services CLO provides for consumers we support includes but is not limited to:

- Assessing consumers’ needs
- Helping to find, modify, and maintain a home
- Supporting and training in social, behavioral, and daily living skills
- Helping to develop employment goals
- Providing 24-hour emergency response systems
- Recruiting, hiring, and training individuals to provide direct support
- Facilitating circles of support to develop unpaid and natural supports in the community
- Advocating for consumers and facilitating self-advocacy

Meet Stacy



Before Supported Living Services through Creative Living Options,

- **Stacy’s mother abandoned her to an institution at the age of three and she never saw her parents or her family again.**
- **Shuttled from facility to facility, she lived in 36 different institutions and group homes. Sometimes she was moved after just one week.**
- **She endured mental and physical abuse by her “care-givers.”**

Now that CLO supports Stacy, she

- **Has purchased her own condo, in Auburn near the horse ranches she loves.**
- **Has control over her own discretionary spending.**
- **Is a seasoned traveler.**
- **Takes riding lessons twice a week.**
- **Works at a stable each week.**
- **Has learned to kayak, fish, and hook rugs.**
- **Has the ultimate choice over who will directly support her.**
- **Has made many friends and is a valued member of her community.**