



For People of All Abilities

Since 1965 Northwest Center has been a leader in promoting the rights and independence of infants, children, teens and adults with developmental disabilities. Through groundbreaking programs and services, we have helped transform lives and influence change across the nation.

Where We've Been

The parents who started Northwest Center in 1965 refused to accept the prevailing notion that their children with disabilities couldn't be taught. They banded together and fought relentlessly until the State of Washington recognized that all children—regardless of their ability—have an equal right to education.

Where We Are

That concept of inclusion continues to be the keystone of Northwest Center's services for children and adults with developmental disabilities:

- Our Child Development Program offers individualized programs of education, advocacy, therapy and support—to prepare children for school and life beyond.
- Adults who want to seek employment and build their independence utilize our spectrum of services, including training, placement and support.

What makes Northwest Center's programs so special? Our practice of putting people first. The needs of clients come first, and everything we do is built around meeting those needs.

Where We're Going

Northwest Center's pioneering spirit has held strong for over four decades. Now we are carrying that spirit forward by launching an era of unprecedented growth and development. Northwest Center will:

- Develop a transition program for young adults leaving high school to prepare them for future employment.
- Provide respite opportunities for families and caregivers who desperately need a break.
- Dramatically expand the number of child development centers we operate.

We are committed to achieving each of these ambitious goals—and many more. By putting people first.



Image courtesy of Nancy Treder

Fast Facts:

1,000 Families and individuals served in 2010

46 Years in existence; Northwest Center opened its doors in 1965

13 Northwest Center companies providing jobs for over 500 adults and funding for early learning and employment programs

13 Thousand children and adults of all abilities served to date

Mission

Northwest Center promotes the growth, development and independence of people with disabilities through programs of education, rehabilitation and work opportunity.