

INTENTIONAL COMMUNITIES SERVING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

Location	Name	web url	Notes
Arizona	Echoing Hope Ranch	echoinghoperanch.org	Not built yet
	Rainbow Acres	rainbowacres.com	Began 1974
	Rusty's Morningstar Ranch	rmr.org	Began 1985
California	Big Wave Project	bigwaveproject.com	Not built yet
	Camphill Communities California	camphillca.org camphill.org	Camphill is international
	Golden Heart Ranch	goldenheartranch.com	Not built yet
	Hacienda Oaks Estates	haciendaoaksestates.org	Not built yet
	Jeremiah's Ranch	jeremiahsranch.org	Not built yet
	Special Place Foundation	specialplacefoundation.org	Not built yet
	Sunflower Hill	sunflowerhill.org	Not built yet
	Sweetwater Spectrum	sweetwaterspectrum.org	Began 2009
	Vine Village	vinevillage.org	Began 1973
Colorado	Triangle Cross Ranch	trianglecrossranch.org	Began 1981
Connecticut	Friends of Autistic People	autisticadults.com	Not built yet
Florida	Promise in Brevard	promiseinbrevard.com	Not built yet
Hawaii	Lokelani O'hana	lokelaniohana.org	Not built yet
Illinois	Beverly Farm	beverlyfarm.org	Began 1897
	Lamb's Farm	lambsfarm.org	Began 1961
Indiana	Hannah and Friends	hannahandfriends.org	Began 2007
Massachusetts	Sage Crossing Foundation	sagecrossingfoundation.org	
	Homestead Community Farm	homesteadcommunityfarm.org	Not built yet
Michigan	Benjamin's Hope		Christian based
	Aacorn Farm	aacornfarm.org	Not built yet
Montana	Special K Ranch	specialkranch.org	Began 1986
	Farm in the Dell	farminthedell.org	Began 1989 Has helped found farms in other states
New Hampshire	Farmsteads of New England	farmsteads-ne.org	Has helped found farms in other states
	Plowshare Farm	plowsharefarm.org	
New Mexico	Mandy's Special Farm	mandysfarm.org	
New York	Triform Camphill Community	triform.org	Camphill is international
Ohio	Bittersweet Farms	http://home.tbbs.net/semisweet/index.html	
	Safe Haven Farms	safehavenfarms.org	Began 2009
Texas	Down Home Ranch	downhomeranch.org	
Virginia	Innisfree Village	innisfreevillage.org	Began 1971

STARTING A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Mancuso, Anthony. How to Form a Nonprofit Corporation, 11th edition. Nolo Press, 2013. www.nolo.com.

National Council of Nonprofits. How to Start a Nonprofit.
<http://www.councilofnonprofits.org/knowledge-center/how-start-nonprofit>

Foundation Center. How do I Start a Nonprofit Organization?
http://foundationcenter.org/getstarted/faqs/html/starting_nonprofit.html

CHARACTERISTICS OF RESIDENTIAL FARMS & RANCHES

ADVANTAGES

- Natural environment provides calm, freedom
- Diversity of activities allows for the development of personal gifts and interests
- Agricultural and animal husbandry tasks build from simple to complex, and challenge the individual while building vocational skills
- Farm and ranch tasks have satisfying visible concrete outcomes
- Quiet environment soothes over-stimulated senses, reduces anxiety
- Calmer, less anxious individuals have more chance of success
- The presence of animals can be therapeutic
- Growing plants can be therapeutic
- Growing food for oneself can be motivating and fulfilling
- Animals allow individuals with disabilities to take on a caregiver role
- Eating local food and sustainable living are increasingly popular
- A variety of vocational skills grow naturally from the farm/ranch setting, and others can be added

DISADVANTAGES

- Community integration must be planned and organized to avoid isolation
- Social activities must be planned
- Community supports must be sought out and considered when locating
- The cost of land in some areas of the country is prohibitive
- Providing services within the home setting can be expensive, particularly with a smaller number of residents

ISSUES

- Sustainability in funding is a major issue, with the goal of a home for life
- The type of home available affects the funding available (group homes versus owned or rented apartments or condominiums)
- Setting guidelines for eligibility can involve difficult decisions
- Staffing, getting volunteers, and providing continuity can be difficult
- Providing adequate therapies, activities, and rehabilitation all within the home setting can be daunting and an organizational challenge.