



KenCrest

Your Dreams. Our Mission.





OUR MISSION

KenCrest's mission is to support community development by exploring possibilities, mobilizing resources, and empowering dreams.



OUR VALUES

- Positive Approaches
- Reaching Higher
- Inclusion
- Discovery
- Excellence



OUR GUIDING THEMES

- Advocacy & Social Responsibility
- Economic Accountability
- Innovation
- Strategic Growth

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Friends,

My journey for the past several decades has led me back to where my career began. I never imagined when I started as a Direct Support Professional at KenCrest in 1977, that I would one day be the President & CEO of the company. After working for several different organizations in the human services field, I returned—prepared to tackle the challenges we face throughout this industry and continue to improve our communities so that every member is valued, regardless of their abilities.

As you explore our programs and services, you'll discover our ultimate goal is to ensure that people get the right supports for their needs. Listening to individuals and their families, and planning together to achieve their dreams and aspirations is always our first step. We want to ensure that each person gets the optimal supports to help and empower them to reach their goals, by focusing on abilities and opportunities for individual growth.

We offer those we support a holistic set of options to ensure every choice and opportunity that are conceivable can be explored. A meaningful life is more than providing a place for services; it is a mindset for authentic participation and contribution in everyday life. I, along with our 2,100+ team members, am committed to pushing innovation and advocacy forward. While changes in funding will impact and dictate the approaches of many agencies, KenCrest will continue to shape the future and further our vision of inclusion and equality for all. We hope you'll join us.

Sincerely,



Marian Baldini
President & CEO, KenCrest

Marian Baldini





“To this day, KenCrest remains focused on its proven model of serving people in their own communities...”

KENCREST HISTORY

KenCrest was founded in 1905 by Lutheran Deaconess Sister Maria Roeck and a local physician Dr. William G. Eisenhardt, to provide care to people suffering from tuberculosis in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Several years later, a property called RiverCrest was purchased outside of the city to provide a location where children who were orphaned by tuberculosis or afflicted with other ailments could “have a place in the sun” and heal in the fresh air. In 1947, when tuberculosis was eradicated, the organization, under the leadership of Sister Grace Jones, sought to meet a need in the community—supporting children with disabilities and their families. Combining the “Ken” from Kensington and the “Crest” from RiverCrest, KenCrest, as we know it today, was formed and accepted our new mission.

To this day, KenCrest remains focused on our proven model of serving people in their own communities with dignity and respect, supporting

not only the individual but the whole family. In the early 1980s and 90s, under the direction of William J. Nolan, KenCrest achieved many ‘firsts,’ including the first Early Learning Centers in Philadelphia that welcomed very young children with disabilities alongside typically developing children; community living homes in Delaware; customized and supported employment services for people with developmental disabilities; and the first homes in the country that specialized in supporting children who are dependent on medical technology.

In the early 2000s, KenCrest continued to expand our footprint, serving more and more individuals each year in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Connecticut. In 2015, KenCrest welcomed Marian Baldini as our President & CEO, and continues to offer community options, early education, employment, support services, and transition services as we move towards our goal of radical inclusion for all individuals.

EARLY LEARNING

For nearly a century, KenCrest has provided young children with a strong start in life through high-quality, community-based educational programs, and nutritious meals at no cost to underserved families.

From its early beginnings to present day, KenCrest's Early Learning Center (ELC) programs have grown to include Early Head Start, Head Start, Pre-K Counts, before-and-after care, and summer programming. KenCrest believes that high-quality educational programming creates a strong foundation for children to experience success in school, develop a love of learning, and

leave prepared for kindergarten. This is why each ELC implements the HighScope curriculum, a holistic approach that supports children's needs academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. All of KenCrest's ELCs are located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and designated by the Pennsylvania Keystone STARS Quality Assurance System as High Quality Centers.



A close-up photograph of a man with a dark beard and mustache, smiling broadly with his eyes closed. He is wearing a red short-sleeved button-down shirt with a pattern of brown and white animals, possibly dogs or cats, over a white ribbed tank top. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a kitchen with a stove and wooden cabinets.

“Individuals in adult community living reside in safe, centrally located neighborhoods...”

COMMUNITY LIVING

KenCrest offers residential community living services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout Connecticut, Delaware, and Pennsylvania. Each home complements the lifestyle of the individuals KenCrest supports—ensuring that each resident is empowered to pursue a well-rounded, meaningful life full of the activities, employment, friends, and family that they desire. Individuals in Adult Community Living reside in safe, centrally located

neighborhoods in homes with 24-hour support that can serve up to six residents at a time. Residents receive a myriad of services including transportation to and from appointments, employment, social activities, quality care, and meaningful community engagement. Many individuals receive specialty therapy services based on their individualized support plans such as art, music, and massage therapy.



COMMUNITY MEDICAL HOMES

Individuals with developmental disabilities and complex medical needs reside in specialized community medical homes that enable residents to live their best quality of life based on their health and social needs. Each home is customized to meet the needs of individuals, fully accessible based on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design, and centrally located in suburban neighborhoods with round-the-clock nursing care to provide medical support. In addition to the specialized medical attention, residents receive support services, transportation to and from appointments and community activities, therapy services, and the opportunity for community engagement activities.



SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING

Individuals with intellectual disabilities live as independently as possible through KenCrest's Supported Independent Living program.

Each client is empowered to fully participate in their community while receiving assistance in learning daily living skills, managing their finances, scheduling and attending appointments, connecting socially, and immersing themselves into activities that increase their community engagement. With services provided in Pennsylvania's Bucks, Montgomery, Berks, Philadelphia, Delaware, and Chester counties, clients successfully navigate their everyday, meaningful lives with help from the Supported Independent Living program.





COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

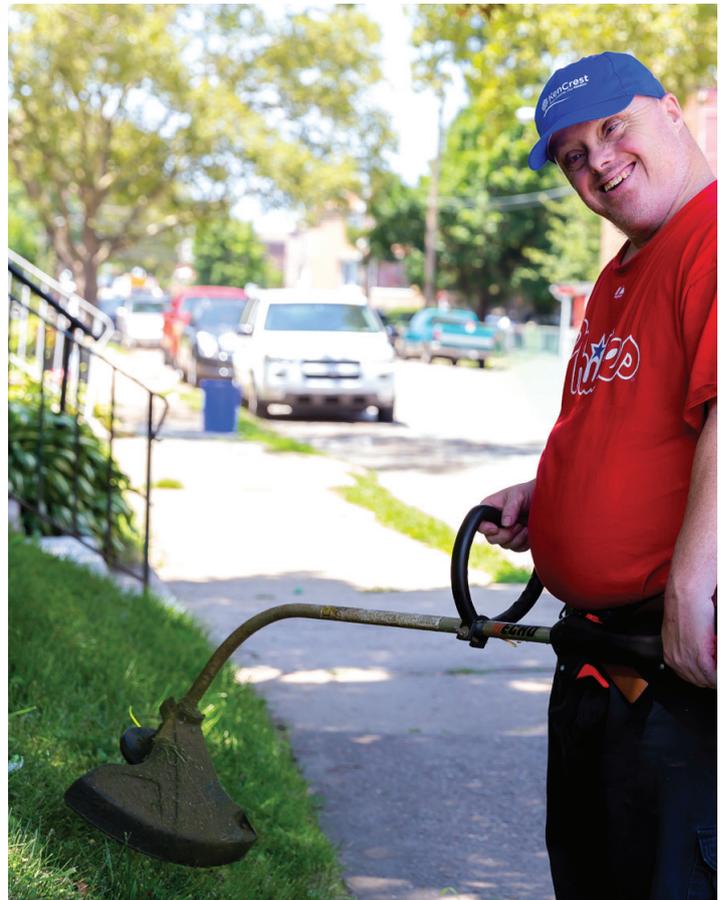
Individuals who reside with family in Pennsylvania's Bucks, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties receive Community-Based Services, including support for life-skills training as well as meaningful social engagement. Life-skills training includes learning to cook a meal, completing household chores, learning and using public transportation,

connecting and becoming more involved in their neighborhoods and communities, and developing personal care skills. Each individual chooses what supports they want to receive to live the life they desire, and they may engage in a myriad of opportunities to connect through social meet-ups and events.



LIFESHARING

KenCrest offers Lifesharing in Pennsylvania as a unique residential option for those who wish to support and share all aspects of their life and home alongside a person with disabilities. Lifesharers provide a lasting, supportive family environment by helping to empower and meet the physical, medical, emotional, and social supports of the individuals who are now part of their lives. The provider family helps the individual to integrate into the community through activities, employment, and volunteering. Individuals receive the support to achieve their goals, dreams, and plans, and to share their own traditions and values with their Lifesharing family. KenCrest affords every member of the Lifesharing family with on-call, medical, and respite support services, as well as extensive training. When individuals and Lifesharing families are matched, the lives of everyone involved become richer and fuller.



EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

KenCrest provides Early Intervention Services to families with children who have developmental delays and disabilities throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties. KenCrest also offers evaluation services and service coordination in partnership with the State of Delaware.

Early Intervention embraces a team approach when working with children and their families to set goals and empower their dreams. All services focus on the concerns of the parents or caregiver and the daily routines of the child. KenCrest's dedicated staff of therapists coach and support caregivers to implement specific strategies throughout the child's day-to-day activities. Parents/caregivers collaborate with physical, occupational, speech, and nutritional therapists, as well as special instructors, behavioral supports

specialists, and social workers as needed to create an individualized support plan. Children receive services in their home, a child care setting, and/or at any community setting the child attends with their parent or caregiver.

“Early Intervention embraces a team approach when working with children and their families to set goals and empower their dreams.”



A close-up photograph of a woman with blonde hair tied back, wearing teal scrubs, smiling warmly. She is holding a young child with dark skin and hair. The child is wearing a white shirt with blue dinosaur patterns and has a clear medical device attached to their chest. The background is softly blurred, showing an indoor setting.

“The children receive supports that go beyond what they can receive at their family homes.”

TRANSITIONAL CARE HOMES

KenCrest operates two transitional care homes in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania that accept young children who have complex medical needs and are dependent on medical technology. The children receive supports that go beyond what they can receive at their family homes. KenCrest was one of the first organizations in the country to pioneer this specialized care model that allows families to leave the hospital for a more home-like setting. The transitional care homes, staffed with 24-hour nursing care, can accommodate up to six children each, who may receive support and services for as long as necessary until they

can transition safely into their family home. Each home offers a warm, inviting environment that provides for their medical needs and supports natural family involvement. Staff work closely with each family to create a specialized plan of care for their child to address unique medical needs and support continued healing, both physically and emotionally. Families are encouraged to visit their child often to maintain family bonds and receive ongoing training regarding their child's care, making the transition back into the family home a safe and smooth one.



EMPLOYMENT

Adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania in Bucks, Berks, Montgomery, Delaware, Philadelphia, and Chester counties can receive employment, job training, and skills training through KenCrest.

Clients can engage in creative and customized paid work opportunities with support from accredited job coaches and businesses that partner with KenCrest. Individuals receive support for employment positions that are obtained through KenCrest's network of employer partners. Through partnerships with KenCrest, businesses identify their unmet workplace needs that clients can fulfill—providing a win-win situation for both parties.

For young adults ages 18-21, KenCrest offers an Alternative Careers and Education Supports (ACES) program for individuals with autism who are ready to graduate, but not yet equipped to have a job. The ACES program, which works in tandem with school districts, combines classroom learning and exposure to organizations where students can

learn necessary job and social skills in a workplace environment with the assistance of a job coach. KenCrest also oversees Project SEARCH programs in Montgomery and Chester counties. Project SEARCH is a national school-to-work unpaid internship program developed at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and provides job training and work experience with job coaching for individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or autism diagnoses. Each program cohort runs for nine months and takes place in a hospital or pharmaceutical setting.

“Students can learn necessary job and social skills in a workplace environment...”





“All of KenCrest’s Community Participation Opportunities empower those attending the program to socialize, grow, and explore.”

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

Ensuring that individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities are immersed in everyday community activities is a core component of KenCrest’s mission. Adults are empowered to engage in Community Participation Opportunities, such as art classes, yoga, grocery/retail shopping, daily living activities, visits to parks and other recreational areas, and much more, based on their individual interests and goals. KenCrest operates four Community Participation Opportunities programs throughout

Pennsylvania’s Chester and Montgomery counties and an additional program called “Seeds of Purpose,” where individuals learn about horticultural skills like planting, nurturing, and harvesting at a beautiful greenhouse. This program includes an on-site store, creating opportunities for participants about retail skills and customer service. All of KenCrest’s Community Participation Opportunities empower those attending the program to socialize, grow, and explore.



CONTACT US

610-825-9360

960A Harvest Drive, Suite 100
Blue Bell, PA 19422



FOLLOW US



KenCrest Services
Humans of KenCrest



KenCrest KenCrest Services



LEARN MORE

For General Information about
KenCrest or for Media Inquiries
kencrest.communications@kencrest.org

For volunteer opportunities
and donations
fund.development@kencrest.org

kencrest.org

