

### **Our Vision**

People of all abilities belonging to interdependent communities where they are valued and empowered to share their essential God-given skills and abilities.

### **Our Mission**

Walking alongside families, and serving people of all abilities, experiencing the joys and challenges of life together.

*Bethesda desires to serve individuals with disabilities and their families with the attitude and motivation reflected in Luke 10. This Bible story shows the Good Samaritan doing "whatever it takes", with his abilities and resources, to help a person in need.*



**For more information about Bethesda's ministry, please contact us:**

## **BETHESDA CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION**

1-866-455-2231

life@bethesdabc.com

www.BethesdaBC.com

### *Head Office*

604-850-6604

105 - 2975 Gladwin Road  
Abbotsford, BC V2T 5T4

### *Okanagan Office*

250-718-3558

221 - 1889 Springfield Road  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 5V5

Bethesda is a CARF accredited organization and a member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities.



## Serving Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities and their Families



*...and as we have opportunity,  
let us do good to all people...*

*Galatians 6:10*

Bethesda (Aramaic for "place of mercy") was founded in 1971. God planted a seed in the hearts of our founding Board members, who were also family members and friends of loved ones with a disability, to create a place of safety and belonging that would meet the unique needs of their sons and daughters. They understood that we are all fundamentally the same - we all seek somewhere to belong and be accepted, to be celebrated for who we are.



**Bethesda provides an array of services throughout British Columbia including:**

#### Residential Homes

Typical homes in neighbourhoods where staff support people to participate in home and community life.

#### Home Share

Sharing a home with someone who is contracted to provide ongoing support. It allows people with disabilities to choose a home share provider and home environment that meets their unique goals and preferences.

#### Intentional Community

A community that offers affordable, flexible and individualized housing options for people with and without disabilities. *'A group of people who choose to live together with a common purpose, working cooperatively to create a lifestyle that reflects their shared core values and needs'.*

#### Community Inclusion

Individuals enjoy a variety of recreational and community activities that support goals, dreams and aspirations of people with intellectual disabilities. Individuals develop life skills to increase independence and participation in the community.

#### Supported Independent Living

Support for people who live independently or semi-independently but would like extra help with life skills and social connections.

## A Place To Belong



#### Employment Services

People with intellectual disabilities are encouraged to recognize their God-given gifts in order to find employment that matches their interests and abilities.

#### Family Support Services

Often described as doing "whatever it takes", family support services are offered to individuals and their families who are living with the challenges of a disability. These services include:

- Respite Support
- Summer Camps
- Problem Solving & Crisis Support
- Short & Long Term Planning
- Parent Support Groups
- Workshops & Seminars
- Support to Churches

#### Summer Day Camps

Eight weeks of day time adventures are offered to children and teens with disabilities. Campers may apply for up to 3 days per week throughout July and August.

#### Camp Bethesda

A one week fun, recreational and faith enriching vacation time in August offered to adults with disabilities.