



Bethesda exists to support people with diverse abilities and thrives in reciprocal relationships, inclusive communities, and lifestyles rooted in true belonging.

As an organization committed to Jesus' call for unity and diversity in the body, we live interdependently, esteeming everyone's value and contribution because "in fact, God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as He wanted them to be." (1 Corinthians 12:18)

Bethesda meets people where they are, enabling growth on their own terms. Whether that is employment, experiencing success living independently, becoming so integral to a community that you are missed when you are not there, or making that friend you have ached for most of your life. Inclusion that leads to true belonging is always our goal.

As such, Bethesda's work represents a radical departure from the past, when institutionalization

and segregation was seen as the solution for addressing diverse abilities. Sadly, that exclusionary past still influences our culture in a number of unfortunate ways. All too often we treat people with diverse abilities and needs as 'strangers' and 'outsiders'.

At Bethesda, we believe that we are only capable of thriving when we thrive together. An inclusive world that makes room for people of all abilities and needs is a world in which we can all grow together. By creating relationships with people from all walks of life, we can access the richness of true community.

That's why, since 1971, when a group of families with diverse abilities founded Bethesda, they pioneered its Christian faith-based, community centered approach. Since then, it has empowered people with diverse abilities, with an unceasing commitment to inclusion and interdependence. Following Jesus' most important commandment, Bethesda strives to create a world where we will all love our neighbours as we love ourselves – realizing that every person is our neighbour.



Bethesda
Faith. Service. Inclusion.