The GRACE Foundation has continued to create an innovative Day-Habilitation Without Walls program that fully respects the concept of person-centered planning. Dignity, teamwork and proactive self-direction motivates the participants to discover a greater knowledge about themselves and the world around them.

Graceful Bliss natural soaps is a venture that is managed by Day Hab staff and participants. The wide selection of all-natural soaps are hand-made and packaged with love.

For more information, call or e-mail Sandra Ortiz, Day Hab Director at 718.983.3800 ext. 209 or sortiz@graceofnyny.org

As per the CDC, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurological disorder that impacts the development of language and communication skills as well as social interaction and relatedness. Given the complexity of the disorder, each person with ASD is unique and therefore requires individualized guidance and support.

The GRACE Foundation provides innovative and progressive programs and services for individuals impacted by ASD. Each and every day we pride ourselves on embracing the incredible capabilities and talents of our participants. Our mission is to support, educate, empower and enhance the quality of life for children, teens, young adults and their families who face the unique challenges that come along with ASD. At The GRACE Foundation, we are a family and we believe anything is possible... together... with... teamwork!

There are many ways to help sustain and expand GRACE programs by supporting our various special events:
- The Annual Gala
- Walk for GRACE
- Annual Golf Outing
- Oktoberfest
- Community Partnered Events

Thank you to our community partners such as Empire State Bank, Colonial Funeral Home, Dependable Auto, M & R Construction Group, Susan Wagner High School, St. John’s University and The Vincent Gruppuso Foundation.

Did You Know
• About 1 in 59 children have been identified with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) according to estimates from CDC’s Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network
• Most scientists agree that genes are one of the risk factors that can make a person more likely to develop ASD
• Children who have a sibling with ASD are at a higher risk of also having ASD
• Early diagnosis and intervention improve outcomes!

Learn more at www.graceofnyny.org

The GRACE Foundation is funded primarily by the city and state of New York (Office for People with Developmental Disabilities). GRACE has been part of the Staten Island community for nearly two decades and relies on local community support and various grants to sustain and expand programs.

Our Mission
The GRACE Foundation is committed to supporting, educating, empowering and enhancing the quality of life for children, teens, young adults and their families living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
Performing Arts Programs...
address and enhance the creative abilities of our participants, while also encouraging the improvement of social skills. Learning takes place in a productive group setting using music, movement, lyrics, dialogue and interactive role play as motivation.
• GRACE-Ful Glee  • Junior Glee  • Pee-Wee Glee  
• Dance  • Art

Your Choice
is a Saturday life skills program for teens and young adults that focuses on independence through health and wellness, creative art design and hands on food creation.

Club Life...
is a Friday night program designed to encourage decision making, socialization, creativity and friendship-building skills amongst teens and young adults through self-determined theme nights.

Social Skills...
utilizes the most current research and best practices to teach social skills through the use of positive reinforcement and practice during both parallel and group activities.

Site-Based Programs
encourage independence, self-esteem, physical activities and teamwork through community achievement.
• Gym  
• Baseball  
• Bowling

Dinner Club...
is a new innovative special events program that will take place in various local dining locations.

Creative Arts

Art Program
Art and Artists presents a different artist each week allowing participants to create their own interpretation of specific artistic genres. Participants will be able to learn about an artist while exploring and discovering their own talents.

Sensory Art & Discovery is an innovative program that addresses the sensory needs of each participant through creative art. Participants will explore and discover their interests as we encourage the use of various mediums, textures and objects to create, while using music as inspiration.

Music & Movement
This program supports participants as they learn both dance moves and musical instruments in a social setting. Music & Movement takes place in a comfortable and creative environment in order to foster the exploration of musical sounds and rhythms.

Summer Programs

GRACE Cheer Team focuses on group participation within a positive and energetic atmosphere in order to encourage confidence, physical awareness and leadership skills.

Your Choice Summer Edition includes all of the regularly scheduled activities of our Your Choice Program but, also features gardening, photography and GRACE Summer games.

Overcoming Obstacles is a goal-oriented program with focus on physical activity, obstacle courses and completion of challenge activities.

Summer Stock is a performing arts program that embraces all aspects of producing a show including script writing, acting, dancing, singing and set/costume design.

Art History is a one of a kind program where participants spend quality time together while learning about global history and past interaction with the world through artistic expression. Art History encourages the flow of creative ideas by appointing and facilitating academic discussion between participants. Field trips are facilitated at various local historic sites.

Creative Writing is beneficial to self-expression, communication, imaginative thought, memory and social compatibility. Participants improve their self-esteem and increase feelings of accomplishment by heightening their abilities to share a creative idea within an interactive team. At the same time, they will develop personal style and self-determined creativity.

In-Home Respite...
offers one to one direct support in the home, providing relief to primary caregivers.

Care Management
Assists individuals with developmental disabilities gaining access to home and community based services and supports (HCBS) appropriate to the needs of the individual.

For more information on programs call or email: Julie Gottesman, Program Director at 718.983.3800 ext. 207 jgottesman@graceofny.org