

# Values/Guiding Principles

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**Choice** - We believe that all individuals should have choices. Personal decisions will be respected, promoted and encouraged unless they compromise one's health and safety.

**Autonomy** - Each person is valued as they are, with their respective strengths, needs, and potential.

**Self Determination** - All people have the right to follow their chosen lifestyle. We believe in supporting people to make informed decisions about their life and assist them in reaching their goals.

**Freedom** - All people have the right to be as independent as possible and have the authority to take control of their life decisions.

**Accountability** - Participants will take ownership and responsibility for their thoughts and actions and their respective consequences.

**Clarity** - We believe in openness, honesty and accountability in the sharing of information and the delivery of supports.

**Values** - All people are to be treated with respect and dignity. Total Life will promote an atmosphere where interactions and supports are designed and delivered to honor ethnic, cultural, religious, family and personal values.

**Empowerment** - People have the freedom to act on issues they define as important.

**Inclusion** - People with disabilities have the same rights, responsibilities, choices and opportunities to contribute and participate in their communities, as all other citizens.

**Person Centered** - People are at the center of the Total Life Program and their needs and preferences determine what types of information, experiences and supports are provided and how they are delivered.

**Privacy** - Individuals have the right to have control over the elements of their private life.

**Individualism** - Total Life will be responsive for the changing needs, desires and circumstances of its participants.

**Responsibility towards others** - We believe that our actions impact others and our community, and that each of us has the responsibility to be respectful, appreciative and mindful of those around us.