# **VALLEYLIFE**



### **About Us**

VALLEYLIFE is a nonprofit organization that provides premier services to individuals with disabilities to enhance their quality of life. We are committed to helping people with disabilities in our community by enriching their lives with rewarding experiences and valuable opportunities. We enable them to live a life with choices, independence and dignity. Our services are delivered through our caring and dedicated staff, specialized programs and advocacy.

VALLEYLIFE Members' diagnoses range from physical, developmental and cognitive disabilities, to behavioral health issues, age-related conditions, mental illness and traumatic brain injury. Because we serve such a broad spectrum of disabilities, we have an in-depth understanding of how to meet the unique needs of each and every person we support.

VALLEYLIFE also provides production, janitorial, retail and restaurant services.

#### Mission

Our mission is to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities.

## History

VALLEYLIFE was established in 1947 by Bernice Kussell who opened her home as a residence to children with disabilities. When her new family outgrew her house, Mrs. Kussell moved to a larger property and in 1950, founded Valley of the Sun School and Habilitation Center.

As her school grew and her young children became adults, further programming was needed. In 1989, the school moved to a larger building where programs could be expanded and more individuals could be served. In 2009, the agency was rebranded as VALLEYLIFE.

After starting with only one bedroom in Mrs. Kussell's home, today VALLEYLIFE has grown to a staff of over 450 employees delivering services to nearly 500 Members annually.

# **Programs**

## • Residential Services

Provides a safe and healthy home environment for our Members, including habilitation and training. VALLEYLIFE owns and operates 27 group homes located in communities throughout the Phoenix metropolitan area.

## • Adult Day Services

Multiple locations in the greater Phoenix area offer day programs designed to improve independent living, social and recreational skills.

## Vocational Services

Supports those who are seeking employment. Works to maximize the independence of and job opportunities for individuals with disabilities, empowering them to contribute to and engage in their communities.

# • Home and Community Based Services

Customized in-home care and support for people with disabilities who want to remain in the comfort of their own home.

#### **Fast Facts**

- Mission is to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities.
- Founded in 1947 by Bernice Kussell.
- Became Valley of the Sun School and Habilitation Center in 1949.
- Rebranded as VALLEYLIFE in 2009.
- A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Federal Tax ID# 86-0135840.
- Serves approximately 500 individuals annually.
- Owns and operates 27 group homes in the Phoenix metropolitan area.
- Offers 11 adult day programs at multiple locations in the greater Phoenix area.
- Provides vocational services and job support in a variety of settings.
- Delivers customized in-home care and support for people with disabilities.