



CHAPEL HAVEN  
SCHLEIFER CENTER  
GROW THRIVE BELONG

# MY PARENTS WANT ME TO DO WHAAAAAT?!

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*THE NERVES & NUANCES BEHIND TAKING THE LEAP  
TO INDEPENDENT LIVING*

*Presented/Moderated by:*

*Christy Chandler, Director of Admissions*

*Chapel Haven Schleifer Center*



# WHAT IS CHAPEL HAVEN SCHLEIFER CENTER?

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Since 1972, CHSC has been empowering adults to live independent and self-determined lives. As an award-winning, nationally accredited school and transition program serving 250-plus adults with a variety of abilities and needs, CHSC occupies a flourishing campus in New Haven, CT.

A unique feature of Chapel Haven's programs is the ability of adults 18 and older to enroll in an intensive, residential experience, graduate and move into ongoing adult life in the Chapel Haven community.

Today's panel features students from the Asperger Syndrome Adult Transition (ASAT) program.

# INTRODUCING: MAYA

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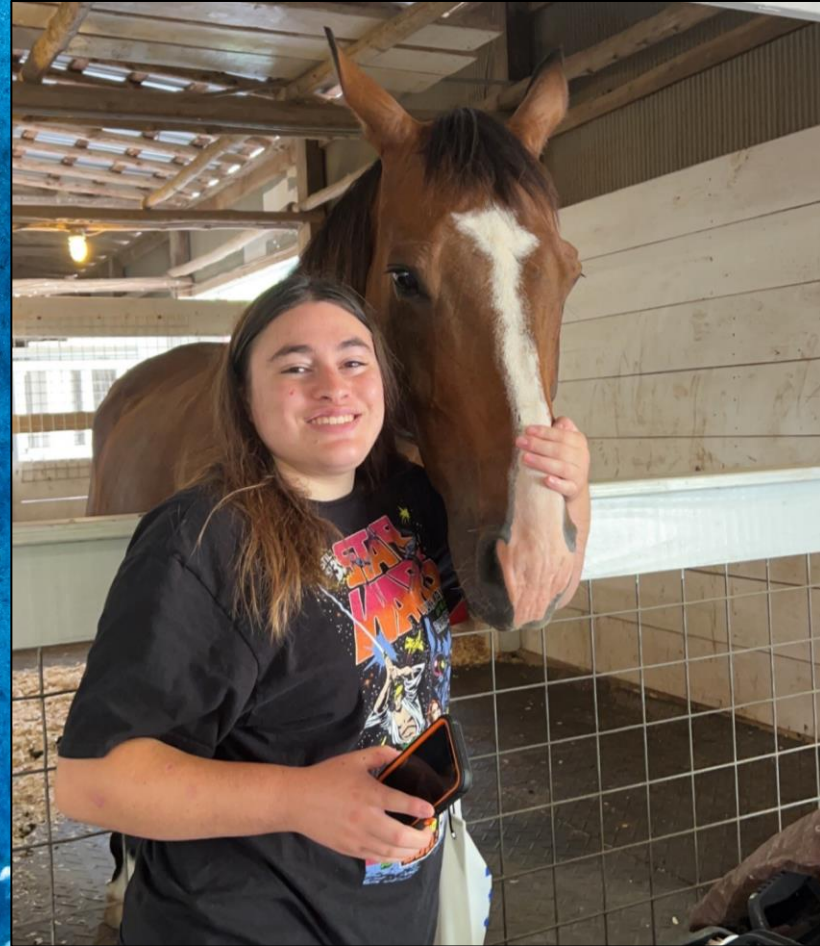
Pronouns: *she/her/hers*

Been at Chapel Haven since: *July 2024*

Hobbies: *Watching YouTube videos,  
playing video games like Sims and  
Pokémon*

Fun Fact: *She has been horseback riding  
since she was three years old!*

Why she considered Chapel Haven: *Maya  
already knew some residents at CHSC, and  
wanted to learn independent living skills  
for herself!*



# INTRODUCING: DASON

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Pronouns: he/him

Been at Chapel Haven since: Oct. 2023

Hobbies: creating art, listening to music, reading fantasy & sci-fi, watching You Tube

Why he chose Chapel Haven: For greater support getting a job, accessing the community, and developing friends.

His advice to prospective students: "Be ready for how your life will change in terms of schedules, keeping up with life stuff, having a roommate, and don't be afraid to speak up if something is going wrong or if you need help."



# INTRODUCING: BECCA

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Pronouns: she/her

Been at Chapel Haven since: July 2022 – now  
in the grad community pursuing a master's  
degree

Hobbies: reading, listening to music, hanging  
out with friends

Fun Fact: She used her new skills with public  
transportation to attend a Taylor Swift concert  
in a different city!

Why she chose Chapel Haven: To address the  
specific needs related to her social  
communication challenges.



# INTRODUCING: DAVID

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Pronouns: he/him/his

Been at Chapel Haven since: July 2024

Hobbies: watching YouTube and anime, playing video games, and building things with his hands- especially with Legos!

Why he chose Chapel Haven: After graduating college and receiving a new autism diagnosis, he needed support finding a job that was right for him, as well as the structure of a program to help him gain independence and develop a social network.

His advice to prospective students: "I realized that not everyone is going to be like me but that I would find people who are."



# INTRODUCING: ISAAC

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Pronouns: he/him/his

Been at Chapel Haven since: September 2023

Hobbies: music, hiking, bicycling

Fun Fact: has a photographic memory!

Why he chose Chapel Haven: to learn to become more independent

His advice to prospective students: "Take it one day at a time"





WHEN YOUR PARENTS FIRST  
MENTIONED CHSC, HOW  
DID YOU FEEL?  
WHAT HELPED YOU  
PROCESS THROUGH ANY  
RESERVATIONS?

*We recognize this is a big step! Our admissions process is strategically designed to get to know one another slowly - following the readiness pace of the prospective student.*




HOW DO YOUR  
(DIS)ABILITIES  
SHOW UP?

*CHSC offers specialized transitions programs (REACH & ASAT) designed for the unique learning needs of varying abilities, as well as a la carte options to meet folks where they are.*



DESCRIBE YOUR  
COLLEGE EXPERIENCE?  
HOW DO THESE  
CONNECT TO YOUR  
LONG-TERM GOALS?

*Approximately 1/3 of ASAT students have a college degree, with another 1/3 enrolled in classes. College supports can continue in the graduate community.*



DESCRIBE YOUR  
VOCATIONAL  
EXPERIENCES – HOW  
ARE THESE PREPPING  
YOU FOR A CAREER?

*Since 2017, CHSC's CareerAbility  
team has worked with over 120  
employers, in 15/16 career clusters, to  
develop 126 jobs for adults we serve.*



WHAT ARE YOU  
MOST PROUD OF  
SINCE JOINING THE  
ASAT PROGRAM?

*Each student's progress is measured with a curriculum-based assessment throughout their programming, along with goals and objectives created by the adult.*



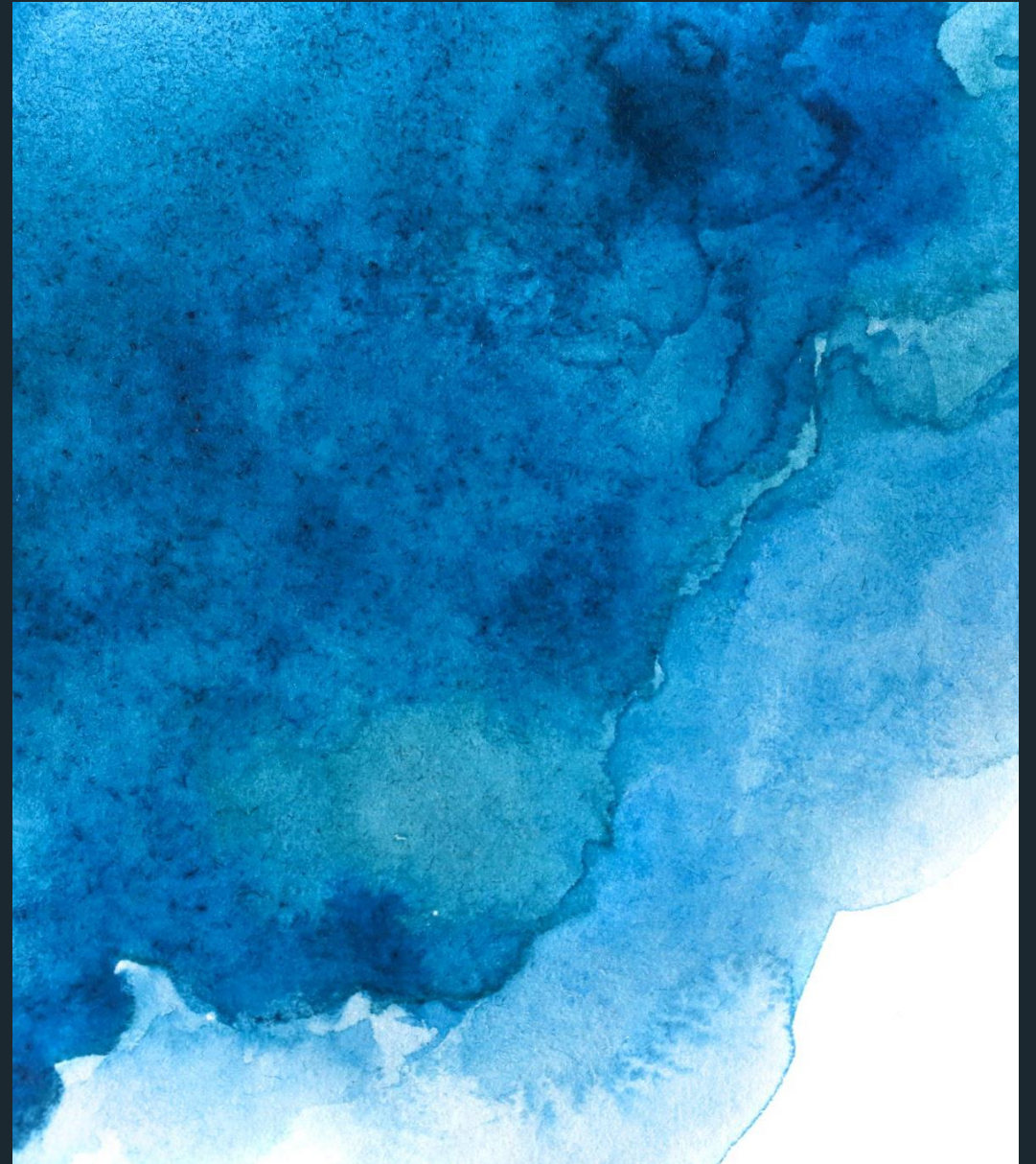
WHAT ADVICE WOULD  
YOU GIVE TO OTHER  
YOUNG ADULTS  
CONSIDERING NEXT  
STEPS?

*96% of ASAT students and 83% of  
ASAT parents report satisfaction with  
their programming and outcomes.*

QUESTIONS?



*Let us know what we can answer for you!*





THANK YOU!

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*For further information about Chapel Haven  
Schleifer Center, please contact Christy  
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