



Mission

"Schott Communities, founded with the belief that every person has the right to be treated with dignity and care, is dedicated to providing life-enriching programs, services and residences to meet the multiple needs of persons who are deaf or disabled."

Vision

The Vision and Mission of Schott Communities are rooted in the sacred belief that God gifts each human person with dignity and goodness; that the worth of the person lies not in one's productivity but in one's ability to offer and receive love. The Schott Communities envisions a caring community that welcomes while it challenges persons who are deaf or disabled to enjoy full and contributive lives. This vision is reflective of the agency's belief in God's care for each person, and the responsibility to give visible expression to that care.

Programs:

The Schott **Adult Day Training Program** is a daily enrichment program for adults with special needs. The curriculum includes community participation, functional academics, life skills, physical wellness, and the arts. The students enjoy: art and crafting classes, cooking, dancing, field trips, physical fitness activities, computers, etc.

The **Art from the Heart Program** emphasizes the creative process, as the simple act of putting paint to canvas has both physiological and psychological benefits. As artists work alongside one another in a group setting, they find support and enjoyment in the company of others who share their unique experience in life. The components of the art therapy program include oil and acrylic painting, crafting and art on the computer. Workshops and fieldtrips to cultural venues are offered with the support of local foundations and/or donors.

The Schott **Saturday Enrichment Program** serves the special needs community in the area. Students and a range of volunteers spend the day from 9:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. playing games and charades, dancing, working on the computer and creating arts and crafts projects. Guest speakers, field trips and other special events are planned throughout the year. The Schott program is designed to maximize what can be offered during a day: exercise, fun time, life skills, light academics, and socialization.

Faith Formation at St. Jude Chapel - Offered every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. the liturgy draws together in shared faith the members of the community: the deaf, disabled, blind, their families, friends, and caregivers. An interpreter signs at Sunday liturgy for members who are deaf. Many of the deaf or disabled members serve as liturgical ministers. Religious education for families with deaf or disabled members and their siblings is considered one of the primary works of Schott Communities. The program centers on family faith formation and faith formation throughout a child's development. All members are welcome to the program. Religious education classes are offered for autistic students.

Services:

The **Schott Group Home** is home to 8 developmentally disabled women. Each woman has her own room and bath; the communal areas are large and tastefully decorated. The women have space outside the home to enjoy activities like biking, barbequing, and gardening. Our clients enjoy a varied and exciting social life, visiting museums and local area attractions. They take part in community shows, worship services and welcome musicians and singers into their home on special occasions.

The second residence is a **complex of 6 apartments** for persons who are deaf or disabled yet capable of independent living. Two apartments are for small families; 4 are single dwellings. Several occupants are deaf; 1 is legally blind and another developmentally disabled. Each apartment has a fully equipped kitchen as well as a washer and dryer. Each also has its own outside patio. The apartments meet ADA requirements to support the independent living for the deaf or disabled.

Year Founded

Schott Communities is a non-profit founded in 1986 to address the needs of the special needs community in South Florida.