



A Letter from Casa's Executive Director:

Having been at Casa de Amma since the year we opened, I have seen a lot of change. From four residents and a seemingly empty building in 2004, to currently serving thirty-six residents and a building full of life, laughter and continual growth. We have certainly come a long way!

Casa de Amma started from a dream by founders Russ and Susie Leatherby. A place that could offer security and structure as well as thoughtful and individualized support, allowing each resident to grow and thrive in their own unique manner. Much of what is typically offered for adults with disabilities tends towards two extremes; either large, congregate living programs or small isolated home settings. Neither tends to offer the balance of independence and support that is needed. This is where we come in.

Our residents receive a specific support plan that addresses their strengths and challenges, giving them the encouragement they need in a caring and responsive setting. They are able to experience meaningful events which are often taken for granted by most of us, such as employment, regular outings with friends and having their own apartment. We are dedicated to improving the quality of life for each of our residents by giving them every opportunity to be more independent so they can accomplish their goals. When visiting Casa, many people comment that our residents "seem so happy". It's obvious by their smiles that Casa is a place that they can grow and thrive.

Casa de Amma has now paved the way and become a model support option for adults with disabilities. As many recognize "the Casa way", more are taking steps to model their own programs after ours. We encourage these additional options that show individualization and creativity in this type of specialized support as we recognize the need is enormous. If you haven't experienced Casa de Amma for yourself, please contact me and plan a visit. You will see why the smiles are contagious!

Sincerely Yours,  
Aaron Vorell  
Executive Director / Casa de Amma

