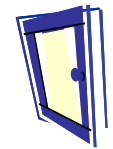


# *The Escape* ....(special needs – special care)



## OFFICIAL OPENING : JUNE 2004

The Escape is a new initiative (within the boundary Leiden/The Hague/Delft/-Zoetermeer) providing English-speaking special care services for children, adults and families with special needs - including respite care, adult and child day care with an energetic and therapeutic activity programme.

As The Escape grows, we will be able to implement a programme of updating and improving the specialised equipment to make our centre accessible and fun for guests with all levels of restricted ability.

Our services for adults and children with learning difficulties and/or restricted physical ability, provide a variety of activities that are fun, stimulating and fostering a sense of independence and achievement.

Our day care centre (which is open five days a week), is housed within the beautiful setting of the Don Bosco Multi-cultural Centre in Rijswijk - with the Rijswijksebos in front and the Park Den Burgh behind, provides a setting away from the noise of the city, yet close to all main motorway and public transport connections.



The utmost care is taken to ensure that our guests are made to feel welcome and that family members are reassured by our services and attention to detail when welcoming their loved ones to our centre. We understand that many parents/guardians or other responsible adults are often times working during the day. This is why we offer evening visits, to come to the home of any prospective new guest, to speak with the family, to view the family setting and to answer the many questions that often spring

to mind. In turn, it allows us the time to speak with everyone concerned, establish what activities our new guest would like to get involved in and, where that activity is not available immediately, to ensure that we find a way to fulfil their wishes.

Alternatively, families may wish to protect their privacy and come along to our centre instead, to get a feel for the surroundings. These visits can easily be arranged by appointment.

Guests attending our day care services can take part in activities such as art, drama, learn life skills such as cooking, enjoy or play music, clay modelling, swimming and much more besides. All our activities are designed to stimulate and promote confidence. The creative arts are there to stimulate co-ordination as well as hand-eye co-ordination. Swimming helps with balance and is a tremendous confidence booster.

We can teach our guests how to by-pass any physical restrictions and still enjoy the freedom of propelling themselves through water. Singing too provides the opportunity to express confidence through song. Even a simple game of darts becomes an issue of balance + co-ordination + distance judgement. With additional exercises in short- and long-term memory training, we can assist those guests who are encountering problems either due to progression of an illness, or as a result of accident or injury.

The Escape is hoping to become a lifeline to many families. The high level of care we can provide is essential for the safety and comfort of our guests - many will need our staff on hand throughout the day.

The Escape is supported by a dedicated care team, providing vital assistance throughout our care programmes. As the demand for our services and/or activities increases, we will need to continually recruit staff and volunteers with a variety of experience, skills and abilities to assist us in all areas of our work. Volunteers will receive a payment to cover essential expenses and a little more