



FACT SHEET

Organization: Big Wave Group, a 501©(3) organization

Address: Physical location: 386 Airport Street, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019
Five miles north of Half Moon Bay, CA in the area known as Princeton Harbor
Mailing: PO Box 1901, El Granada, CA 94018

Contact: Julie Shenkman, Communications: press@bigwaveproject.org, (650) 726-1005

Mission: To provide a place to belong for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), through **housing**, a sense of **community**, and a hub for continuing education, job skills training, and **opportunities**.

The Need: Adults with IDD face extraordinary barriers to achieving what everyone deserves: independence, opportunity, and community. **Approximately 55,000 Bay Area individuals have IDD**, such as autism, Down syndrome, developmental delay, brain injury, and cerebral palsy. Over half are over 18. Once they exit the school system, they lose access to services, their community, and friends, and often become isolated and lonely. 80% live at home with family caregivers, creating a crisis as family members age and pass. Bay Area affordable housing serves just 8% of adults with IDD. 85% are unemployed with limited job skills and job options.

The Project: **THE BIG WAVE CENTER -- a community-led solution on a 12-acre campus including:**

- **50,000 sq. ft. residence** with 38 private studios, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom apartments for 40 residents. A portion of the units are reserved for scholarships for families in need.
- **10,000 sq. ft. outdoor courtyard** for recreation, socialization, and community engagement. Inside communal areas for gathering, dining, and celebrations.
- **One-bedroom apartments** include a bedroom, full bathroom, living room, small kitchenette, closet space, and stackable washer/dryer. Two-bedroom apartments include an additional bedroom and bathroom.
- **Culinary and Catering Program** for Bay Area adults with IDD operated by tenant One Step Beyond, Inc., teaching cooking skills for independent living or to gain employment in the culinary industry.
- **Day Program** operated by tenant One Step Beyond, Inc., providing continuing education, community inclusion, music, arts, physical fitness, recreation, life skills, and job training.
- **An additional 3,000 sq. ft. of commercial space** on the ground floor for businesses that may provide potential employment opportunities for adults with special needs.
- **Five-acre Farm** on adjacent property for education and skills development, which currently serves hundreds of Bay Area adults each month from multiple County Day Programs.



- **Supported living model** where residents choose their daily activities from jobs to volunteering, day programs, or recreation, with access to education, skills development, job opportunities, and community engagement.

Project Cost: Total cost to build: \$37M

Funding: **Community funded**, including private donations, grants, GoFundMe events, friends and family, sales of residential memberships via a community housing cooperative; up to \$12.5 million in construction funding by *Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)*.

Progress: Construction began in October 2024. Completed construction in June 2026. The general contractor was SWENSON. The architect was Architectural Dimensions.

Social Media:

Facebook:	@bigwaveproject
Instagram:	@bigwaveproject
YouTube	@bigwaveproject
LinkedIn:	/company/bigwaveproject

How to Help: Donate or volunteer at www.bigwaveproject.org.