

OUT OF STATE POLICY

After careful consideration and discussion, we have decided we are not accepting new patients from outside the State of Illinois. There are a number of issues that led to this decision. However, we found that the difficulty treating patients outside of Illinois came down to one main issue - the difficulty developing an ongoing relationship with these patients.

We have learned a great deal about caring for people with Down syndrome since the Center opened in 1992. A major component of successfully treating our patients is the development of an ongoing, consistent relationship with them. The "relational" model not only includes assessing biological, psychological and social aspects of health, but also emphasizes the importance of the relationship between the people we serve and our entire staff in assessing and promoting health. We have discovered that this approach is not only more satisfying for those we serve, but also much more effective.

The difficulty we have had with treating patients from outside Illinois is that we are not able to develop a relationship with these patients and their families and/or the staff and the agencies that serve them.

We will continue to provide information on the care of the adults with Down syndrome that we are developing on an ongoing basis. In addition, we will provide information that we have regarding other sources of information and health care.

BAC/caj