



---

Wintrust Mural and  
Avenues to Independence  
**REQUEST FOR  
PROPOSALS**

---

  
**Avenues**  
*To Independence*  
Since 1953



## The Project

Avenues to Independence has been selected to be the featured organization on the [Wintrust Mural](#), located at the Kennedy Expressway and North Avenue. The design will be featured from July 1 – August 31, 2024.

## About Avenues to Independence

Avenues to Independence is dedicated to putting aside old ideas about what is possible. We work in partnership with the community to support and encourage people with disabilities to lead the lives they choose responsibly and with independence and dignity. We have a life-long commitment to the people we serve.

Avenues to Independence is a non-profit organization that provides homes, jobs, social activities and learning opportunities to adults with intellectual and other developmental disabilities to help them become part of the community in every way. It is our goal to provide work and living opportunities enabling those with disabilities to be as independent as possible. This is achieved by ensuring adequate funding, strong leadership and strategic alliances.

Avenues was founded in 1953 when a group of parents believed things should be different for their sons and daughters with developmental disabilities. They wanted them to be a part of the community, close to home, among family and friends. Remaining in the community wasn't always easy, but it was what everyone wanted. And that has made all the difference. For more information, please visit our website, [Avenues to Independence](#).

## The Goal

The goal of this project is to gain exposure for Avenues to Independence and compel people to want to learn more about the work of the organization. Here are some of our overarching themes:

- Jobs. Homes. Community.
- Putting aside old ideas about what is possible
- A part of the community in every way
- Leading lives with independence and dignity

## The Request

Avenues to Independence is seeking your ideas! Please reply with the following information:

- Name
- City of residence
- Link to portfolio of design work and/or “mood board” for your concept
- Have you heard of Avenues to Independence? If so, how?
- Do you have a loved one or friend with a developmental disability? If so, please elaborate.
- What does the word “independence” mean to you?
- Why do you want to create this mural for Avenues to Independence?

Attached are the specifications for the project. All submissions are due by 5:00p CST on Friday, March 1. A subcommittee of staff/ Board will invite select artists for an interview and make a final selection by March 15. All artists will be notified regarding the selection. For additional details and mural specifications, please visit [Wintrust Mural details](#) and use Password: gSfwg6Ah.

Please reach out to Susan Matejka at [smatejka@avenuestoindependence.org](mailto:smatejka@avenuestoindependence.org) to submit your application or ask any questions. Thank you!

