

# Rosewood Movers FY 2011

## Executive Summary

*“My home is better than Rosewood. I have my own room, clothes, furniture. I help pay for my food. I am looking for a job.”*—self respondent after two years

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) began moving people from its institutions many years before, but decided at the beginning of FY2009 to completely close the Rosewood Center, the largest of the four, by the end of the fiscal year. DDA contracted with The Arc Maryland to interview the remaining Rosewood residents prior to their moves to community agencies and again two years later. The Arc Maryland used a slightly modified *Ask Me! Survey<sup>sm</sup>* to conduct baseline interviews for 61 people in FY2009 and follow-up interviews in FY2011 for 39 of them. The interviewers, who themselves receive support in the community, determined that one-third of the individuals could respond for themselves on the baseline survey and one-third could respond for themselves on the follow-up survey. Eight individuals responded for themselves in both surveys, and proxies responded for 27 people in both surveys. All baseline proxies were Rosewood residential staff; most community proxies were family members or day staff.

The *Ask Me! Survey<sup>sm</sup>* measures quality of life in eight domains. Four hypotheses guided the study and this analysis.

*Hypothesis 1—Self respondents report different levels of quality of life than proxies report for people unable to respond for themselves.*

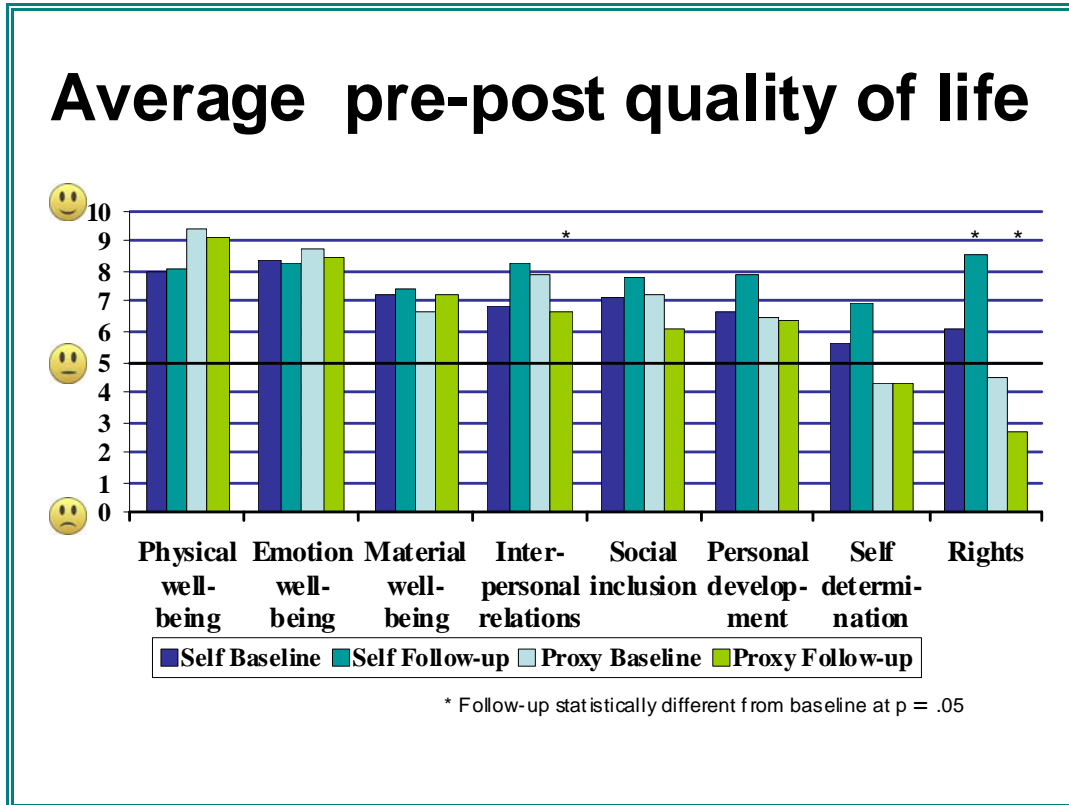
- Self respondents at Rosewood reported significantly lower Physical Well-being than proxies for people at Rosewood, the same as found for people already living in the community;
- Self respondents at Rosewood reported significantly higher Self Determination and Rights than proxies at Rosewood, the same as for those already in the community;
- Smaller percentages of self than proxy respondents at Rosewood reported getting all the services they needed, receiving the right concern about their health, and being helped to learn to do things themselves.

*Hypothesis 2—The quality of life in Rosewood is lower than that in the community, whether reported by individuals for themselves or by proxies for them.*

- Self respondents living in Rosewood report significantly lower Self Determination and Rights than self respondents already living in the community;
- Proxies for people living in Rosewood also report significantly lower Self Determination than proxies for people living in the community, along with lower Physical Well-being, Emotional Well-being, and Material Well-being.

*Hypothesis 3–Self-reported quality of life will show consistency over the two years and be higher after the move to the community than before in the institution.*

- The Rights, Social Inclusion and Physical Well-being self respondents report after moving to the community are significantly related to what they reported in Rosewood;
- Self respondents report significantly higher Rights after moving into the community, and slightly higher Self Determination, Personal Development, Social Inclusion and Interpersonal Relations (see chart);
- Self respondents expressed that they liked living in the community better than living in Rosewood.



*Hypothesis 4–Proxy-reported quality of life after the move has no relationship to that reported before the move, but will be lower overall due to less proxy bias.*

- Community proxies report low Material Well-being for people Rosewood proxies reported as high and high when Rosewood proxies reported low, but otherwise there is no relationship between their reports;
- Community proxies report significantly lower Rights, Social Inclusion, and Interpersonal Relations than Rosewood proxies report;
- Almost all community proxies express that the people they support are better off in the community than Rosewood, mentioning better behavior, going out more, and liking their own home or room.