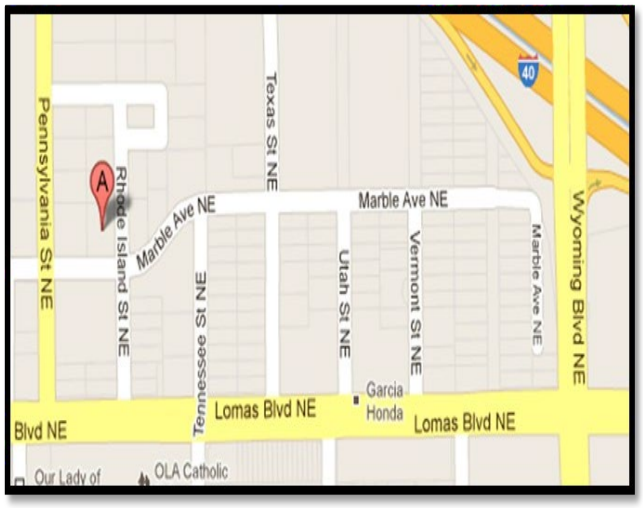
For information or to schedule an appointment at the Adult SAFE Clinic, contact:

Kyle Cottrell, COTA at 505.527.3611 or kyle.cottrell@hca.nm.gov

The SAFE Clinic is located at
7905 Marble Avenue
Albuquerque NM 87110
in the Health Care Authority (HCA) Dental and Specialty Seating Clinic building.

From Lomas, take Pennsylvania north for one block, turn right on Marble. You will see the parking lot and Clinic signs. Accessible parking is available.



The SAFE Clinic
7905 Marble Avenue
Albuquerque, NM 87110

HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

The Supports and Assessment for Feeding & Eating Clinic *(SAFE)* for Adults



Developmental Disabilities Supports Division *(DDSD)*

Clinical Services Bureau *(CSB)*

1.2025

What is the Adult SAFE Clinic?

Do you know an adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who is experiencing challenges related to oral eating and or tube feeding? The SAFE clinic team of experts provides ***free*** eating/feeding, nutritional and associated medical assessments with recommendations to support health, safety and independence. This clinic focuses on aspiration risk management support and development of specific strategies to assist with:

- Oral-motor function and swallowing
- Positioning
- Nutrition and overall health

Who we Serve?

We welcome adults with I/DD who have difficulty managing any of the following:

- Aspiration risk
- Gastroesophageal reflux (GERD)
- Oral-motor function
- Swallowing
- Positioning for health & safety during intake
- Tube feeding
- Transitioning from tube feeding to oral eating or oral to tube feeding
- Sensory issues
- Chewing
- Drinking liquids
- Risky eating behaviors
- Self-feeding
- Undesirable weight
- Menu planning
- Supportive eating and drinking dishes, cups and utensils

Services:

The SAFE Clinic Provides:

- Assessment from an expert clinical team.
- Nutritional consultation
- Positioning guidance
- Technical assistance for the comprehensive aspiration risk management plan (CARMP) development.
- Medical evaluation and consultation.
- Assistance of the DD Waiver IDT in locating appropriate community resources for the direct treatment, adaptive equipment and follow-up services.
- A personalized recording depicting feeding techniques specific for the client.
- Detailed written report of the assessment with recommendations.
- Technical assistance, support and continuing education for professionals.

Who can Refer?

It is as Simple as a Phone Call

Phone call referrals can be made to the SAFE program by:

- Family members
- Nutritionists
- Physicians and nurses
- Physical therapists and occupational therapists
- Speech and language pathologists
- Behavior support consultants
- Teachers
- Direct support personnel (DSP)
- Residential support staff
- Case managers
- Guardians
- Friends
- Self-referrals/individuals with I/DD

How Does it Work?

A phone call referral made to the SAFE Clinic is all it takes. *Tel # 505-527-3611*

- The individual's IDT will be invited to schedule a clinic-based collaborative assessment with the SAFE Clinic team.
- Throughout the assessment, the IDT , family members or DSP will be present and collaborating with the SAFE Clinic team.
- A follow-up consultation maybe arranged within one to six months of the assessment if requested.
- This is a *free* service.

Training & Technical Assistance:

- Pre-service education for undergraduate and graduate students regarding eating and aspiration risk management with a focus on health, safety and independence for adults with I/DD.
- Technical assistance to DD Waiver IDT's regarding collaborative assessment techniques and strategies for intervention.

Children from birth to age 17 continue to be served by the Pediatric SAFE clinic at the Center for Development and Disability (CDD) at 2300 Menaul NE, Albuquerque NM 87107.

Please call 1-505-272-3000 for information about an appointment for your child.