

Centers for Independent Living

Centers for Independent Living (CILs) exist to empower individuals with disabilities to take charge of their lives and make their own choices and decisions in order to be as self-sufficient as possible. CILs also lead efforts to break down barriers and prejudices within communities, replacing them with positive attitudes resulting in equal access to society for disabled persons. Run by people with disabilities who have successfully established independent lives of their own, the staff has a deep commitment to assisting other disabled people in achieving independence.

How do CILs assist people?

CILs work to increase the involvement of people with disabilities in every aspect of life. Through a wide variety of services and support, CILs provide assistance for disabled persons in their transition to independent living. Information and referral CILs respond to inquiries on a variety of issues from people with disabilities, family members and professionals, as well as the general public. Comprehensive information is available regarding services available in the community to help disabled persons live independently, such as accessible housing, transportation, employment opportunities, personal assistants, interpreters for people who are hearing impaired, readers for people who are visually impaired and more.

Peer counseling

The foundation of CIL services is the peer relationship. Staff who have experience living with a disability and are achieving their personal goals assist others who have similar disabilities, serving as role models, mentors and advocates. The peer relationship helps individuals work through problems specific to a particular disability, and also offers a source of encouragement as the transition is made to independent living.

Advocacy

CILs offer two types of advocacy:

Individual advocacy focuses on the individual with a disability and services available within the community to assist them in living independently and to eventually become their own advocate.

Systemic advocacy involves working together to eliminate barriers and allow people with disabilities to fully participate in their community.

Independent living skills training

The heart and soul of independent living is being in control of your own life. CILs offer a variety of training to equip disabled persons with the skills and information to manage their own lives and live more independently. Courses include use of public transportation, managing a personal budget, dealing with insensitive and discriminatory behavior and many other topics.

Other services

Each CIL also offers unique services based on the specific needs of the community. Among the most frequently provided services are community education and other public information services, equipment repair, recreational activities and home modifications..

Who is INCIL?

The Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living (INCIL) is a statewide organization made up of 24 Centers for Independent Living (CILs) in Illinois. INCIL coordinates the activities and efforts of all CILs, resulting in a stronger, more unified voice to promote the needs and priorities of the CILs and the people they serve. Operated by the executive directors of these CILs, this aggressive core of leadership advocates for and works to ensure that all people are treated with respect and given the same opportunities in life, regardless of their abilities.

Illinois Network of Independent Living
1 West Old State Capitol Plaza
Suite 501
Springfield, IL 62701
217 525-1308 v / tty
800 587-1227 toll free
www.incil.org
annford@incil.org

To find the CIL closest to you, go to their website www.incil.org

(Information obtained from the CIL website: www.incil.org)

Illinois Centers for Independent Living
Updated October 19, 2010

Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago	(V) 312-640-2100
115 W. Chicago Avenue	(T) 312-640-2102
Chicago, IL 60654 Toll Free 800-613-8549	(F) 312-640-2101
Daisy Feidt Director of Programs	dfeidt@accessliving.org
Serving the City of Chicago	

Advocates for Access	(V) 309-682-3500
4450 N. Prospect Rd., Suite C8	(TTY) 309 682-3567
Peoria Heights, IL 61616	(F) 309-682-3989
Melody Reynolds, Executive Director	mreynolds@advocatesforaccess.com
	www.advocatesforaccess.com
Serving Fulton, Peoria, Tazwell and Woodford Counties	

DuPage Center for Independent Living	(V) 630-469-2300
739 Roosevelt Rd. Building 8, #109	(TTY) 630-469-2492
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137	(F) 630-469-2606
	ed_dupagecil@sbcglobal.net
Leigh Ann Heenan, Executive Director	
Serving DuPage County	

FITE CIL	(V) 847-695-5818
1230 Larkin Avenue	(T) 847-695-5868
Elgin, IL 60123	(F) 847-695-5892
Marci Savage, Executive Director	msavage@fitecil.org
Serving Kane, Kendall and McHenry Counties	

Illinois/Iowa ILC (IIILC)	(V/T) 309-793-0090
3708 11 th St.	(F) 309-793-5198
P.O. Box 6156	
Rock Island, IL 61201	www.iicil.com
Liz Sherwin, Executive Director	execdirector@iicil.com
Serving Henry, Mercer and Rock Island Counties in IL and Clinton, Muscatine and Scott in IA	

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Illinois Valley CIL (V/T) 815-224-3126
18 Gunia Drive (F) 815-224-3576
LaSalle, IL 61301 Toll Free 800-822-3246
Donna Joerger, Executive Director ed@ivcil.com
www.ivcil.com

Serving Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam and Stark Counties

IMPACT (V) 618-462-1411
2735 East Broadway (T) 618-474-5333
Alton, IL 62002 (F) 618-474-5309
Cathy Contarino, Executive Director contarino@impactcil.org
Serving Bond, Calhoun, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin and Madison Counties

Jacksonville Area Center for Independent Living
15 Permac Road (V/TTY) 217-245-8371
Jacksonville, IL 62650 (T) 217-245-1991
(F) 217-245-1872
Toll Free (V/T) 888-317-3287
www.jacil.org
Becky McGinnis, Executive Director becky@jacil.org
Serving Cass, Mason, Morgan, and Scott Counties

Lake County CIL (V) 847-949-4440
377 N. Seymour Ave. TTY 847-949-0641
Mundelein, IL 60060 (F) 847-949-4445
Kelli Brooks, Executive Director kelli@lccil.org
Serving Lake County

LIFE Center for Independent Living (V) 309-663-5433
2201 Eastland Drive, Suite #1 (T) 309-663-0054
Bloomington, IL 61704 (F) 309-663-7024
(V/T) Toll Free 888-543-3245
www.lifecil.org
Gail Kear, Executive Director gail@lifecil.org
Serving Dewitt, Ford, Livingston and McLean Counties

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LINC, Inc. (V/TTY) 618-235-9988
1 Emerald Terrace, Suite 200 (F) 618-233-3729
Swansea, IL 62226 www.lincinc.org
Lynn Jarman, Executive Director ljarman@lincinc.org
Serving Monroe, Randolph, and St. Clair Counties

Northwestern Illinois CIL (NICIL) (V) 815-625-7860
229 1st Avenue, Suite 2 (T) 815-625-7863
Rock Falls, IL 61071 (F) 815-625-787
Kathy Fischer, Executive Director kathy@nicil.org
www.nicil.org
Serving Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside Counties

Opportunities for Access CIL (V) 618-244-9212
4206 Williamson Place, Suite 3 (TTY) 618-244-9575
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864 (F) 618-244-9310
Mike Egbert, Executive Director spud@ofacil.org
Serving Clay, Clinton, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Hamilton, Jasper, Jefferson,
Marion, Wabash, Washington, Wayne, and White Counties

Options Center for Independent Living (V) 815-936-0100
22 Heritage Drive, Suite 107 (T) 815-936-0132
Bourbonnais, IL 60914 (F) 815-936-0117
Kathy.Petersen@Optionscil.com
Kathy Petersen, Executive Director
Serving Iroquois and Kankakee Counties

Persons Assuming Control of their Environment (PACE)
1317 E. Florida (V) 217-344-5433
Urbana, IL 61801 (T) 217-344-5024
(F) 217-344-2414
Nancy McClellan-Hickey, Executive Director nmch@pacecil.org
Serving Champaign, Douglas, Edgar, Piatt, and Vermilion Counties

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Progress CIL (V) 708-209-1500
7521 Madison Street (T) 708-209-1826
Forest Park, IL 60130 (F) 708-209-1735
hesparza@progresscil.org

Horacio Esparza, Executive Director
Serving Suburban Cook County

Regional Access & Mobilization Project(RAMP) (V/T) 815-968-7467
202 Market Street (T) 815-968-2401
Rockford, IL 61107 (F) 815-968-7612
Julie Bosma, Executive Director jbosma@rampcil.org
Serving Boone, De Kalb, Stephenson and Winnebago Counties

Southern Illinois CIL (V/T) 618-457-3318
P.O. Box 627, 2135 W. Ramada Lane (F) 618-549-0132
Carbondale, IL 62901
Bonnie Vaughn, Executive Director bvaughn@neondsl.com
Serving Franklin, Jackson, Perry, and Williamson Counties

Soyland Access to Independent Living (SAIL) (V) 217-876-8888
2449 Federal Drive (F) 217-876-7245
Decatur, IL 62526 Toll Free (V/T) 1-800-358-8080
Jeri Wooters, Executive Director jwooters@decatursail.com
Serving Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Macon, Moultrie, and Shelby Counties

Springfield CIL (V/T) 217-523-2587
330 S. Grand Avenue W. (T) 217-523-6304
Springfield, IL 62704 ERP 1-800-447-4221
(F) 217-523-0427
Pete Roberts, Executive Director scil@scil.org
Serving Christian, Logan, Menard, Montgomery and Sangamon Counties

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Stone-Hayes Center for Independent Living
39 North Prairie Street
Galesburg, IL 61401

(V/T) 309-344-1306
(F) 309-344-1305
(T) 309-344-1306
Toll Free (V/T) 888-347-4245
dalep@stone-hayes.org

Dale Parsons, Executive Director
Serving Henderson, Knox, and Warren Counties

West Central Illinois CIL
300 Maine St., Ste 146
PO Box 1065
Quincy, IL 62301

(V) 217-223-0400
(T) 217-223-0475
(F) 217-223-0479
1-800-225-0407
ciledquincy@adams.net

Glenda Farkas, Executive Director
Serving Adams, Brown, Hancock, McDonough, Pike and Schuyler Counties

Will-Grundy CIL
2415 A West Jefferson Street
Joliet, IL 60435

(V) 815-729-0162
(T) 815-729-2085
(F) 815-729-3697
pamwgcil@sbcglobal.net

Pam Heavens, Executive Director
Serving Grundy and Will Counties

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1 West Old State Capitol Plaza Suite 501
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