Independent Living Program

Fact Sheet

## Overview

## This program supports Centers for Independent Living that are designed and operated within the local community by individuals with disabilities. The Centers provide an array of independent living services, including the core services of information and referral, independent living skills training, peer counseling, and individual and systemic advocacy, designed to promote the independence, productivity, and quality of life of at least 250 persons with disabilities annually.

In addition to the legislatively authorized Independent Living Program, DORS also administers Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Through this program comprehensive independent living services are provided to persons with significant disabilities. This objective is achieved via contracts with Connecticut's five community-based Centers for Independent Living (CIL's). The Department also contracts with the State Independent Living Council (SILC) and oversees the administration and delivery of the federally mandated State Plan for Independent Living.

## Who is eligible?

CILs serve persons with all types of disabilities in all age groups; from children to seniors.

## Getting Started

Here are five (5) Centers for Independent Living in Connecticut. They are located in:

* Stratford
* West Haven
* Norwich
* Naugatuck
* Hartford

## Services

* CILs assist individuals in navigating complex service systems and advocate to ensure access to their chosen services and supports. Core programs include information and referral services, peer counseling, individual and systems advocacy, independent living skills training and transition services for both youth transition and nursing facility transition. CILs are responsive to the unique needs of each community. Other services vary from individual center to center but generally include: assistance with housing, education, employment, benefits, assistive technology, medical needs and personal care attendant services among others.
* On-The-Job-Training
* Job Seeking Skills/Placement Assistance

## Referrals

Referrals primarily come from the individual themselves or from anyone else in the community.

## For More Information:

**Access Independence**

80 Ferry Boulevard, Suite 205   
Stratford, CT 06615

**PHONE:** (203) 378-6977

**FAX:**[(203) 375-2748](tel:(203)%20375-2748)

**Website:** <http://accessinct.org/>

**Center for Disability Rights**

369 Highland St.

West Haven, CT 06516  
**PHONE:** (203) 934-7077

**FAX:** (203) 934-7078

**Website:** <http://cdr-ct.org/>

**Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut**

19 Ohio Ave.

Norwich, CT 06360

**PHONE:** 860-823-1898 (voice)

**FAX:** 860-886-2316

**VIDEOPHONE:** 860-237-4515

**Website:** [www.DNEC.org](http://www.DNEC.org)

**Independence Northwest**

1183 New Haven Rd.

Suite 200

Naugatuck, CT 06770

**PHONE:** 203-729-3299

**FAX:** 203-729-2839

**Website:** <http://www.independencenorthwest.org/>

**Independence Unlimited**

151 New Park Ave.

North Annex/Suite D

Hartford, CT 06106

**PHONE:** 860-523-5021 (voice/TTY)

**FAX:** 860-523-5603

**Website:** <http://independenceunlimited.org>

**State Independent Living Council**

270 Farmington Ave.

The Exchange, Building 4, Suite 181

Farmington, CT 06030

**PHONE:** 860-656-0430

**Website:** <http://ctsilc.org/>