



Independent Living of the **Genesee Region**

JUNE/JULY/AUGUST 2022

Annual Consumer ADA Picnic

Independent Living of the Genesee Region invites you to join our family of agencies to celebrate the Americans with Disabilities Act Annual Picnic. Free food, fun and games will be provided. We look forward to having you celebrate with us!

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

**Town of Batavia Kiwanis Park
3808 W. Main St. Rd.. Batavia NY**

4:00pm—6:00pm

If you plan to attend, please RSVP
Cathy DeMare (585) 815-8501 ext. 400



319 W. Main Street
Crickler Building
Batavia, NY 14020

243 S. Main Street
Arnold Gregory Building
Albion NY 14411

OUR VISION

ILGR is the connection for community and systems change to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities.

WWW.WNYIL.ORG/ILGR

PHONE: (585) 815-8501 EXT. 400



ADMINISTRATION

Rae Frank, Director
Ext. 406 rfrank@wnyil.org

Ida Caldwell, Assistant Director
Ext. 425 icaldwell@wnyil.org

Cathy DeMare, Administrative Assistant
Ext. 400 cdemare@wnyil.org

CONSUMER DIRECTED PERSONAL ASSISTANT SERVICES (CDPAS)

Holly McAllister, Taking Control Administrator
Ext. 402 hmcallister@wnyil.org

Amie Dedman, PA Specialist
Ext. 403 adedman@wnyil.org

Megan Donohue, Taking Control Administrative Assistant
Ext. 410 mdonohue@wnyil.org

HEALTH HOMES OF UPSTATE NY (HHUNY)

Megan Murphy, Care Coordinator
Ext. 404 mmurphy@wnyil.org

HOUSING SPECIALIST

Betessa Thompson, Housing Specialist
Ext. 424 bthompson@wnyil.org

Gina Schelemanow, Housing Specialist
Ext. 417 gschelemanow@wnyil.org

HOMELESS ALLIANCE OF WESTERN NY (HAWNY)

INDEPENDENT LIVING SPECIALIST

Ashley Dunham, Independent Living Specialist
Ext. 414 adunham@wnyil.org

Scott Crossett, Independent Living Specialist
Ext. 409 scrossett@wnyil.org

RAPID REHOUSING

Kristen Lazarony, Independent Living Specialist, Rapid Rehousing
Ext. 405 klazarony@wnyil.org

MEDICAID APPLICATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Scott Dorchak, Facilitated Enroller
Ext. 409 sdorchak@wnyil.org

Shuntynia Robinson, Facilitated Enroller
Ext. 415 srobinson@wnyil.org

NY CONNECTS

Katie Cotter, NY Connects Independent Living Specialist
Ext. 418 kcotter@wnyil.org

Christine Perrin, NY Connects Independent Living Specialist
Ext. 413 cperrin@wnyil.org

OPEN DOORS TRANSITION TO THE COMMUNITY

Danielle Dispenza, Transition Specialist
Ext. 416 ddispenza@wnyil.org

YOUTH PEER ADVOCACY

Bianca Logan, Youth Peer Advocacy Coordinator
Ext. 540 blogan@wnyil.org

You, the consumer, are our number 1 priority. Please do not hesitate to reach out to anyone on this list for assistance.



Jonathan Wallace Doherty

Independent Living of the Genesee Region recognizes the service and dedication of Jonathan Doherty who was welcomed as a Governing Council Member in December 2015 and who served through May 2022, rarely missing a meeting. We were fortunate to enjoy his cheerful presence and steadfast willingness to help spread the word about our agency. Jonathan regularly brought awareness of ILGR to his other activities including scheduling a tour of our office for the Boy Scouts.

An employee of the ARC Cleaning Crew for over 15 years, he also held a substitute position with the Albion Schools. As a client of the ARC, he was one of the founders of the Self-Advocacy All Stars, attending statewide and national meetings on behalf of his differently abled peers. He could be bold about big issues, speaking at County Legislature meetings in 2010, asking the county lawmakers to support a ban on the "R-word". The County Legislature followed his prodding and made an official declaration,

telling local, state and federal governments to no longer use the word "retarded" in describing people with developmental disabilities. The R-word is a "vicious slang" that is insulting and hurtful to people with developmental disabilities and their families, legislators said in their resolution.

Jonathan was a member of the Orleans County Historical Association and a lifelong Buffalo Bills fan, in good times and bad. Jonathan passed suddenly in May 2022. He will be missed.

Get one-on-one help with your Medicare questions.

I'm Jacky Smith, a licensed sales agent in New York. When it comes to Medicare, it's important to consider all of your options. What works well for your neighbor may not be the best fit for you. I know the ins and outs of Medicare, and I'm ready to answer your questions and help you find a plan that fits your needs. **Take advantage of my knowledge and experience to:**

- Take the confusion out of Medicare
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- Get help comparing plans
- Make enrolling in a plan easier

I look forward to helping you explore your Medicare options so you can enroll in a plan with confidence.

It's time to take advantage.

Jacky Smith
 Licensed Sales Agent
 (585) 704-8187, TTY 711
 jsmith.medicare@gmail.com
 www.MyUHCagent.com/jacky.smith

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4 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Independent Living will assist people with disabilities in exercising more freedom and control over their lives. Whenever possible, the individual will develop their own goals, direct delivery of services and experience self-advocacy at all times.

Budgeting

An Independent Living Specialist will help you create a budget and make informed suggestions on how to cut costs and work savings into your plans.



Loan Closet

FREE (gently used) medical equipment including wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, shower benches, raised toilet seats, portable ramps, and more based on availability.



Peer Counseling

An Independent Living Specialist is someone who's walked a mile in your shoes. We are here to listen without judging. If you are interested in setting goals, we can help establish a plan and provide support as you work towards those goals.



Job Search

There is an Independent Living Specialist available to help you with all your job search needs. Computer access, assistance with on-line applications, cover letters, resumes, interview tips, references and more.



Housing Search and Rapid Rehousing

We can provide a housing list, an apartment guide and application assistance to anyone with a disability.

The Rapid Rehousing Program will pay rent and security deposits for people who are homeless. Eligibility must be determined according to HUD guidelines.



Transportation

We can assist people with transportation to and from our office to meet with an Independent Living Specialist. In addition, we can deliver loan closet equipment, food pantry supplies and pharmacy items to your door.

Visit wnyil.org for a full list and descriptions of our programs and services!

“Music for the Ages” musical intervention program uses personalized music to increase focus and pleasant memories in those affected by dementia. How does it work? Musical aptitude and musical recognition are two of the last remaining abilities in Dementia patients. When music is recognized, emotions follow often



leading to decreased stress.

Music is widely used to maintain or increase levels of physical, mental, social, and emotional functioning. Music used as a sensory and intellectual stimulation can help maintain a person's quality of life or even improve it.

Increasing research has demonstrated that Music Therapy can improve multiple domains of cognition in Dementia patients, including attention, memory, and orientation. Application of music can

also reduce agitation and increase contentedness.

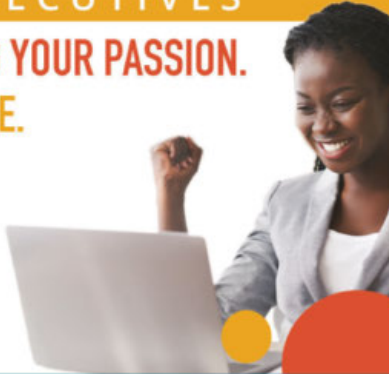
We are currently offering services within the following facilities: Premier Genesee, Batavia; The Grand, Batavia; LeRoy Manor, LeRoy; Eastside Nursing & Rehabilitation, Warsaw. For more information, call Independent Living at 585-815-8501 ext. 409.

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For more information or to register, call Ashley at 585-815-8501 ext. 414

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Consumer Directed Personal Care Aide



Call Holly McAllister for details
(585) 815-8501 ext. 402

Taking Control is a unique program that can allow eligible Medicaid recipients to remain independent in their own home with the assistance of a Personal Care Aide (PCA). Assistance with daily living activities can be key to being self-sufficient and remaining in one's community. The person in the home becomes the employer of their PCA; hiring who they wish, including a relative. Our Staff can help with finding a PCA if needed, then ILGR will take care of the PCA's payroll and all of the Dept. of Labor aspects of employment. The service is paid for by Medicaid and allows a person to be "Taking Control" of their own care; hence Independent Living has labeled their program as such. When you or your family are overwhelmed by the increasing need for assistance, consider calling us for guidance in enrolling in Taking Control. We can assist with phone calls, evaluations and finding a Personal Care Aide; or we can just explain the process.

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

JOB TITLE: Health Homes Care Coordinator

DEPARTMENT: HHUNY Huther-Doyle (H-HD), Health Homes Administration (HHA)

LOCATION : Batavia, N.Y.

DIRECT SUPERVISOR: Director, HHA 716-836-0822 ext. 523

GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION : Perform outreach and enrollment activities to assist consumers in the community understand the benefits of, and enroll in, a Health Home. Coordinate services to decrease high risk medical and/or behavioral health costs for individuals being served in Health Homes.

JOB TITLE: Housing Specialist

DEPARTMENT: Independent Living of the Genesee Region (ILGR)

LOCATION: Batavia, N.Y.

DIRECT SUPERVISOR: Assistant Director, ILGR 585-815-8501 ext. 425

GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION: To assist individuals to apply for, and navigate, the programs and services offered through Independent Living, including but not limited to coordinating housing evaluations and program options for persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

JOB TITLE: Personal Aides

DEPARTMENT: Taking Control

LOCATION: Genesee, Orleans, Wyoming, Monroe Counties

GENERAL JOB DESCRIPTION: Personal care, meal prep, light housekeeping, errands

CONTACT: PA Specialist, ILGR 585-815-8501 ext. 403

NEW STAFF



Independent Living of the Genesee Region welcomes Gina Schelemanow as a Housing Specialist.

A Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA), their previous positions include: Lead Peer Advocate of the Genesee Council on Alcohol and Substance Abuse in Batavia; Genesee/Orleans Counselor Advocate at RESTORE Sexual Assault Services in Batavia; Linkage and Navigation Specialist at PathStone Corporation in Albion; and Community Development Specialist at Western New York Prevention Resource Center in Batavia.

In this new position, Gina will be assisting individuals to apply for, and navigate, the programs and services offered through Independent Living, including, but not limited to, coordinating housing evaluations and program options for persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, including Rapid Rehousing. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic they also help with applications for the Emergency Solutions Grants – Corona Virus (ESG-CV) Program as funded by the CARES Act.
