



# Independent Living of the **Genesee Region**

JANUARY - FEBRUARY - MARCH - 2020



## Look for the Green Awning!

Celebrating ONE YEAR  
located at the left side  
of the Crickler  
Executive Business  
Center on Main Street  
in Batavia, NY.



## Education, Empowerment, Equality for All



319 W. Main Street,  
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Batavia, NY 14020



2407 Main Street, Warsaw,  
NY 14569

## OUR VISION

Independent Living of the Genesee Region is a  
community pathway for an empowered  
life for people with disabilities.

[WWW.WNYIL.ORG/ILGR](http://WWW.WNYIL.ORG/ILGR)

PHONE: (585) 815-8501 EXT. 400

## 2 STAFF & CONTACTS

### ADMINISTRATION

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### HOMELESS ALLIANCE OF WESTERN NEW YORK (HAWNY)

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### NY CONNECTS

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### OPEN DOORS TRANSITION TO THE COMMUNITY

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### RAPID REHOUSING

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Independent Living Specialist,  
Rapid Rehousing  
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**Ann Scherff**

If you are a person with a disability and would like to support our work in the community, please consider volunteering your time as a council member. In person meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month, from 11:45 am to 1:30 pm. Accessible accommodations will be provided.

## OUR GOVERNING COUNCIL

FOR GENESEE, ORLEANS & WYOMING COUNTIES

Gen. County: Ann Scherff, Chairperson;

Kelly March, Vice Chairperson;

Orleans County: Ida Caldwell, Treasurer;

Jonathan Doherty

Wyoming County: Erycka Kosinski, Secretary;

Linda Makson

*thank you!*

Our governing council are community volunteers who lead and guide the activities of the IL Center. They monitor programs and ensure goals are met while supporting executive duties.

Call Rae Frank for details.

### One-on-one help with your Medicare questions. Take advantage of it.

I can help answer your Medicare questions, so you can find the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage plan that fits your needs. Give me a call to:

- Take the confusion out of Medicare
- Get help comparing plans
- Receive one-on-one service
- Make switching plans easier



### I'm Jacky Smith, a licensed sales representative in New York.

When it comes to Medicare, one size definitely does not fit all. What works well for your neighbor may not be the best fit for you. And what met your needs last year might not be the best fit this year. Take advantage of this time to explore your Medicare choices so you can enroll in a plan with confidence. I'm here to help. I know the ins and outs of Medicare. And I know how to make it easier for you to understand, as well.

### Go ahead, take advantage.



**Jacky Smith**  
Licensed Sales Representative  
585-704-8187, TTY 711  
[www.MyUHCagent.com/jacky.smith](http://www.MyUHCagent.com/jacky.smith)



Plans are insured through UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company or one of its affiliated companies, a Medicare Advantage organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in the plan depends on the plan's contract renewal with Medicare.

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## Washington Towers

One State Street, Batavia

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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 and help with accessing other transportation options.

Visit [wnyil.org](http://wnyil.org) for a full list and descriptions of our programs and services!

## Music for the Ages

Assistive technology for people with dementia; nursing home residents receive an ipod (or mp3 player), headphones and music from their youth to improve their quality of life. Accepting monetary donations.



- Advocacy for Individuals
- Advocacy for System Change
- Aged, Blind & Disabled Medicaid Application Assistance Program
- ARTiculations Exhibition
- CDPAS Program (Member Directed Personal Assistant Services)
- Benefits Advisement
- Educational Coaching
- Housing Help
- Information & Referral
- Ticket to Work
- Transition Services for Youth & Seniors

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**ARTiculations**

(716)833-6260  
(585) 815-8501 ext. 411

**Ability Exhibitions**

Opportunities for Artists Who Are Disabled

A University Heights Arts Association Art Partnering Series of Exhibitions  
uhartsgroup.com/ARTiculations

## SHOW YOUR ARTISTIC SIDE

A juried competition, this Exhibition is open to artists with disabilities who reside in the tri-county area. Artists can mark work “not for sale” or set their own prices without paying any commissions.

Four times each year a new exhibit is displayed in our Reception area. Opening receptions and press releases are provided, along with an online event page. This is free for the Artist, and we can assist with framing. Call for details and an application if you would like to apply. (585) 815-8501 ext. 411

Partnering with University Heights Arts Association (UHAA) at [fineart@uhartsgroup.com](mailto:fineart@uhartsgroup.com)



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*Community*





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. 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.

Consumer Directed Personal Care Aide Services

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

## NEVER MISS A NEWSLETTER !

Sign up to have our newsletter emailed  
to you at [www.ourseniorcenter.com](http://www.ourseniorcenter.com)





# COME SEE WHATS PLANNED FOR 2020

Throughout the year we will host a variety of events designed to advocate for the rights of people with disabilities.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

January

PROJECT CONNECT in 3 Counties on January 30th. Anyone experiencing housing instability can get a hot meal and learn about resources in their community. The Salvation Army in Batavia, United Church of Christ in Warsaw, and The Hoag Library in Albion. Call for details.

April

### LUNCH IN THE DARK

A disability simulation for low vision/blindness hosted at the School for the Blind in Batavia. Experience a meal in total darkness and learn ways to make events more accessible for people with vision impairment.

May

### MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Independent Living will partner with the Suicide Prevention Coalition to host Zach Sandler, a musical composer who shares his story of living with bipolar and how it impacts his creativity.

June

### NY CONNECTS LONG TERM CARE MEETING TRI-COUNTY DISABILITY SIMULATION

A educational community meeting, open to anyone, learn ways to support people with disabilities, gain understanding.

July

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT- CELEBRATION (30 YEARS OF ADA) Picnic and Pride Parade. We will celebrate with a community wide picnic, inviting the public to join us in celebrating the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990. Pride Parade scheduled for July 26 in Buffalo.

October

### MEET THE CANDIDATES

The Presidential election year! We will invite all candidates on the ballot to present their platform and address how they will be assist people with disabilities. This event will be live streamed on Facebook for later viewing.