



# Advocate January 2009

## Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin, Inc.

### **New Freedom Transportation Program Update**

The year 2008 proved to be very busy for the Transportation Department! Through the three programs, Coalition, New Freedom Volunteer Driver and Voucher, 3,449 rides were given to 238 elderly and persons with disabilities. The counties that have been served in 2008 are St. Croix, Dunn, Chippewa, Eau Claire, Pierce, Clark and Pepin. New riders with transportation barriers continue to enroll daily! The New Freedom programs are gearing up to expand their transportation programs to serve the rest of their 10 county service area by March. The new counties that will be included in the expansion of transportation services include Rusk, Barron, and Polk. Plans are also being made to update the Center for Independent Living's current website to include transportation services. A comprehensive 10 county service provider list is being created to help coordinate regional transportation efforts and will debut soon on the website!

### **Volunteer Driver Program of St. Croix County**

The Volunteer Driver Program of St. Croix County provides transportation to persons with disabilities and the elderly in St. Croix County. Most of our trips are for medical and counseling appointments, however, we also give rides for those who need to engage in independent living activities (shopping, banking, etc), for social/recreational purposes and employment-related needs that enable riders to access and participate in their community. During 2008, we served 107 consumers and made 1,154 trips!

For 2009, we anticipate serving 120 consumers and making over 1300 trips. **WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS!** Our riders all live in St. Croix County, but we take them both within the county and to places like Eau Claire, Stillwater and the Twin Cities. You would set your own schedule and determine where you are willing to travel. You would receive mileage reimbursement at the Federal rate (currently 55 cents per mile) and reimbursement for any meals or parking incurred during the trip. Since there is no salary, the reimbursement is not considered "earned income" so it would not affect any Public Assistance you may be receiving (like SSI, subsidized housing, food stamps, etc).

For more information or to set up an appointment, call Joan toll free at 1-877-595-7283. She works from 8:30-11:30 Monday-Friday. We also have a 24-hour answering machine.

Thank you for wanting to make a difference in someone's life!

### **WisTech Loan and Demonstration Program**

By Kay Sommerfeld

New items in the loan and demonstration program! If you are interested in trying or learning more about the devices in our program (over 2000 devices) please call the Center at 1-800-228-3287 or 715-233-1070 v/tty. Rice Lake office numbers are: 716-736-1800 or 866-419-1260 v/tty

**Auto Hand Grip:** this handgrip attaches to car or truck headrest. Assists with getting in and out of the back seat.

**Soft Swivel Seat:** portable seat cushion which turns a full 360 degrees to assist with getting in and out of the car

**Knife guard Safety Handle:** the handle attaches to the end of most knives to allow you to easily push down with both hands. Helps with cutting produce

**Book Stand with 2x Magnifier:** combination book stand with fresnel magnifier provides a large 10" x 12" adjustable magnifier on a sturdy book stand.

**Large Button Remote:** Control up to four devices. Buttons are extra large, measuring 5/8". Characters are black and are in high contrast to the white buttons. Keys light up.

**Jumbo Talking Calculator:** 8x11" size with 7/8" high display numbers. Easy to find soft rubber buttons measure 1 1/16" x 7/8"

**INVOCA Voice Activated Remote Control** recognizes up to 25 user programmable voice commands. Recharge cradle for constant power. Controls TV, VCR, DVD, Cable Satellite and AUX by sound of voice

**Lifetime Voice Calendar Talking Organizer:** Announces pre-recorded reminders for the day. Large 3/4 "numeric, month and function buttons. Record important dates and appointments in your own voice.

**ALNAMAR Home Pill Dispenser:** stores up to a month's worth of medication. Easily mounts on wall or refrigerator. Pills are released into a bottom cup for easy access

**Knork®:** fork/knife combination cuts food with simple rocking motion. The outer tines are beveled like a knife, but not as sharp. The finger platform in the middle of the utensil provides additional leverage

**Covered Spoons:** lid covers approximately 2/3 of spoon to assist with keeping food on spoon

**Two Liter Handle:** this handle makes it easier to pour from two liter bottles

**Versa Tray:** this lap tray has a patented Tip'n Grip non-slip surface that keeps items in place when tray is tilted or bumped. The tray surface is 15 x 11" and includes a raised lip on tray. The pillow bottom of the tray molds to your legs and stabilizes the tray.

**Easi Grip™ Long Reach Trowel and Easi Grip™ Cultivator:** The unique handle design helps prevent injury to hand and wrist. The long reach tool weighs about one pound. Bright yellow handle lets you find the tool that you have put down in the garden or shed.

**Oxo Good Grips Gel-e Trowel:** incorporates a gel material in the tool's soft, non-slip handle. The gel flexes to provide cushioning when digging.

**Add on Handles:** attaché these handles to other tools such as hoes, rakes, mops, brooms, etc. to make less bending and twisting and a more comfortable grip.

**Weighted Writing Pen:** offers control to individuals who have problems holding or handling writing instruments

**Keys –U-See Keyboard:** full size keyboard- yellow keys with black print- easily seen even in low light

**Arm Rests:** attaches to almost any desk or table. Padded leather rest supports your forearm. Pivots and swivels to your ideal position

*This program is part of the WisTech network of Device Loan and Device Demonstration programs. WisTech is funded through a federal grant, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services.*

## Anticipated Implementation of Family Care, by County, 2008 – 2010

County	Planned ADRC Start Date	Planned MCO Start Date
<b>MCO: Community Health Partnership</b>		
Chippewa	Current	5/1/2008 - Implemented
Dunn	Current	6/1/2008 - Implemented
Eau Claire	Current	11/1/2008
Pierce	Current	7/1/2008 - Implemented
St. Croix	Current	9/1/2008 - Implemented
<b>MCO: NorthernBridges</b>		
Barron	Current	3/1/2009
Polk	4/1/2009	4/1/2009
Rusk	Current	5/1/2009
<b>MCO: Western Wisconsin Cares</b>		
Clark	Current	4/1/2009
Pepin	Current	3/1/2009

## Disability Rights Wisconsin Family Care and Partnership Ombudsman Program Now Available

Disability Rights Wisconsin's *Family Care Ombudsman Program* is now available for persons age 18-59. It can provide assistance regarding eligibility, services or other Family Care and Family Care Partnership concerns. The Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care (BOALTC) will continue to provide its ombudsman services to Family Care and Partnership enrollees and potential enrollees age 60 and over.

The Family Care Ombudsman Program offers many services, including:

- Investigating complaints
- Resolving and mediating issues
- Providing information and education on consumer rights
- Assisting in negotiating care plans
- Appealing denials of services or changes in services that clients don't agree with
- Working with enforcement and regulatory agencies

The Family Care Ombudsman Program has staff in DRW's Madison, Milwaukee and Rice Lake offices and is available to advocate for Family Care and Family Care Partnership participants in *any* Wisconsin Family Care county. It can help Family Care and Family Care Partnership enrollees or potential enrollees, their guardians and families with issues such as:

- Development of a Care Plan that supports their goals
- Reduction in Services
- Employment
- Living Arrangement
- Young Adults Moving from School to Adulthood and enrolling in Family Care or Partnership

**Madison:** 608-267-0214; Toll-free: 800-928-8778\*

**Milwaukee:** 414-773-4646; Toll-free: 800-708-3034\*

**Rice Lake:** 715-736-1232; Toll-free: 877-338-3724\*

**TTY for all offices:** 888-758-6049

For more information about Family Care or other disability advocacy issues, please visit our website at: [www.disabilityrightswi.org](http://www.disabilityrightswi.org)

People age 60 or over and applying for or are enrolled in the Family Care or Family Care Partnership and have a question or concern, can contact the Ombudsman Program at the: Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care, 1402 Pankratz Street, Suite 111, Madison, WI 53704-4001, 1-800-815-0015, [boaltc@ltc.state.wi.us](mailto:boaltc@ltc.state.wi.us) There are BOALTC ombudsmen located throughout the state.

## Managed Care Organizations and Aging and Disability Resource Centers Information

### COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

**Eau Claire Office Main Office**  
2240 EastRidge Center  
Eau Claire WI 54701  
1-800-842-1814  
Fax 715-838-2910

### CHIPPEWA COUNTY ADRC

711 N. Bridge Street, Room 118  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729  
**General # 715-726-7777**  
**Fax # 715-738-2589**  
**Toll Free # 888-400-6920**  
**Email [ADRC@co.chippewa.wi.us](mailto:ADRC@co.chippewa.wi.us)**  
**Web [www.co.chippewa.wi.us](http://www.co.chippewa.wi.us)**

### DUNN COUNTY ADRC

808 Main Street, PO Box 470  
Menomonie, WI 54751  
**General # 715-232-4006**  
**Fax # 715-232-5987**

### NORTHERN BRIDGES

15954 Rivers Edge Drive Suite 300  
Hayward, WI 54843  
Phone: 715-934-2266

### BARRON COUNTY ADRC

330 E. LaSalle Ave., Rm. 100  
Barron WI 54812-1572  
**General # 715-537-6225**  
**Fax # 715-537-6237**  
**Toll Free # 888-535-3031**  
**Email [adrc@co.barron.wi.us](mailto:adrc@co.barron.wi.us)**  
**Web [www.co.barron.wi.us/connect.htm](http://www.co.barron.wi.us/connect.htm)**

### RUSK COUNTY ADRC

311 Eastern Miner Ave Suite C-260  
Ladysmith, WI 54848  
**General # 715-532-2176**  
**Fax # 715-532-2280**  
**Toll Free #**  
**Email [lbates@ruskcountywi.us](mailto:lbates@ruskcountywi.us)**

### POLK COUNTY ADRC

**Start Date is 4/1/09**

### EAU CLAIRE COUNTY ADRC

721 Oxford Avenue, Room 1550  
Eau Claire, WI 54703  
**General # 715-839-4735**  
**Fax # 715-839-4866**  
**Toll Free # 1-888-338-4636**  
**Email [adrc@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:adrc@co.eau-claire.wi.us)**

### PIERCE COUNTY ADRC

412 W. Kinne Street, PO Box 540  
Ellsworth, WI 54011  
**General # 715-273-6780**  
**Fax # 715-273-6863**  
**Toll Free # 877-273-0804**  
**Email [khas@co.pierce.wi.us](mailto:khas@co.pierce.wi.us)**  
**Web [www.co.pierce.wi.us](http://www.co.pierce.wi.us)**  
**TTY/TDD/Relay: 715-273-5251**

### ST. CROIX COUNTY ADRC

1101 Carmichael Road  
Hudson, WI 54016  
**General # 715-381-4360**  
**Fax # 715-381-4308**  
**Toll Free # 800-372-2333**  
**Email [bradb@co.saint-croix.wi.us](mailto:bradb@co.saint-croix.wi.us)**  
**Web [www.co.saint-croix.wi.us](http://www.co.saint-croix.wi.us)**

### WESTERN WISCONSIN CARES

La Crosse Office/Headquarters  
1407 Saint Andrew St.  
La Crosse, WI 54603  
Main Desk: 608-785-6266  
Fax: (608) 785-6315

### CLARK COUNTY ADRC

517 Court St Rm. 202  
Neillsville, WI 54456  
**General # 715-743-5166**  
**Toll Free # 866-578-2372**

### PEPIN COUNTY ADRC

740 7<sup>th</sup> Ave W  
Durand, WI 54736  
**General # 715-672-8945**  
**Fax # 715-672-8593**  
**Toll Free # 866-578-2372**  
**Email [phoch@co.pepin.wi.us](mailto:phoch@co.pepin.wi.us)**

## Welcome to New Staff And Board Member

Angela Brenna may be a familiar name to some of you as she completed her Social Work Internship with us last fall. We are happy to welcome her back to CILWW as a Resource Counselor/ Benefits Specialist. Angie is busy with Benefits training and has certainly learned the terrain from here to Madison, where she has been traveling for benefits training. She will be working with consumers on Independent Living Goals and also providing Work Incentive Benefits Analysis services as well.

Geralynn Berg has joined the CILWW Board of Directors. Gerry has a BS in Early childhood, a MS in Curriculum and Instruction and is currently working on a Master's in Psychology. She is on the Family Resource center board, teaches classes, and is active in several volunteer organizations. She stays busy with outdoor activities and spending time with family. Her experience with individuals with a disability makes her a great Advocate and addition to our board.

### For Sale:

Used **Hover-round** \$1,500. with new battery, good condition. Call Judith 715-235-2598  
012009 – 042009

Pride Legend, full-sized **4 wheel electrical scooter**. Works well, color is Viper Blue. Front basket and full lighting package. New two years ago, for \$3000. Asking \$990, or first best offer.

Also new folding, height adjustable, **walker**. \$25 OBO

Call or Leave Message for Greg or Jackie at 715-832-7362 121008-031009

Power **Lift Chair**, used by non-smoker, asking \$75 OBO. Call Art at 715-235-2707. 120208-030209

Pair of **telescopic wheel chair ramps** use with regular van, over house steps, etc.  
good condition, \$400 for the pair Call Kenneth 715-835-3749 112608-022609

4 WHEEL Pronto Sure Step **Wheelchair** (M51). New was over \$5,000, asking price \$2,000. Used short period of time, and only indoors. Call Ann (715) 924-2500 111108-021108

White 2003 **Dodge Caravan** with a **Braun power ramp conversion**. 108,000 miles, asking \$13,000  
Contact Erv at 262-677-1593 for more information. 110608-020609

Electric powered Braun **platform** that lifts wheelchair up to height of 3 or 4 steps, used in garage for entering kitchen. Like new. New about \$8,500, Asking \$4,000. Call Todd after 5 or leave message anytime at 715-458-2464. 102708-012709

Rascal R-5, 4 wheel convertible **Power Chair**, serried R4255, gray, heavy duty, 2004, asking \$1,500.  
Ask for Stephanie 715-962-3845 100608-010609

### Donation:

Funbike, a **handcycle wheelchair attachment**, includes a wheel and hand crank which attaches to a wheelchair to convert it temporarily into a hand-propelled cycle. Call Bonnie or Tom 715-235-5311 for more information. 101409-031409

**1991 Ford Econoline 250 van**, has wheel chair lift, old type that is not workable (it had a mercury vial for lift that has been cut out, and so lift no longer works. There is a wheelchair inside the van that Marty wants to keep, but has no way to get it out. The van is stored with a relative about 35 miles from her. Please call Marty at 715-781-1394 011209-031209

**Shower Chair** good condition Call Art 715-235-2707 111808-021809

# TEPP

## Telecommunications Equipment Purchase Program

...is the way to get  
telephone equipment  
you need at a reasonable  
cost.

Staff at CILWW can assist people throughout the TEPP application and ordering process. Staff can come into a home or workplace to assist with assessing individual needs.

CILWW's Device Loan and Demonstration Program (specialized telephones and communication devices), approved by TEPP, is available for people to try out before a purchase is made to determine what may work best for them.

CILWW staff can also provide follow-up and training on the use and maintenance of equipment.



## Elected Representatives in CILWW Area

State Assembly											
Representative and District	Ann Hraychuck 28	John Murtha 29	Kitty Rhoades 30	Mary Hubler 75	Jeff Wood 67	Kristen Dexter 68	Scott Suder 69	Jeff Smith 93	Charles Danou 91	Mary Williams 87	Mark Radcliffe 92
Barron				x	x						
Chippewa					x		x				
Clark							x				x
Dunn		x						x			
Eau Claire						x	x	x			x
Pepin								x	x		
Pierce		x	x						x		
Polk	x			x							
Rusk					x					x	
St Croix	x	x	x								

State Senate					
Representative and District	Robert Jauch 25	Sheila Harsdorf 10	Russell Decker 29	Pat Kreitlow 23	Kathleen Vinehout 31
Barron	x				
Chippewa				x	
Clark				x	
Dunn					
Eau Claire				x	x
Pepin					x
Pierce		x			x
Polk	x	x			
Rusk			x		
St Croix		x			

US Congress		
Representative and District	Ron Kind 3	David Obey 7
Barron		x
Chippewa		x
Clark	x	
Dunn	x	
Eau Claire	x	
Pepin	x	
Pierce	x	
Polk		x
Rusk		x
St Croix	x	

# White House Sets Agenda for People with Disabilities

January 26, 2009

The new Administration has set up a website already and posted their position on disability issues.

"We must build a world free of unnecessary barriers, stereotypes, and discrimination.... policies must be developed, attitudes must be shaped, and buildings and organizations must be designed to ensure that everyone has a chance to get the education they need and live independently as full citizens in their communities." -- Barack Obama, April 11, 2008

For President Obama's full position statement on disability issues, visit:

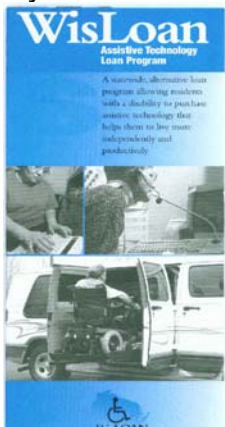
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/disabilities/>

## CILWW MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin, Inc. is to empower persons with a disability to achieve full participation in society. The mission embodies the philosophy that this may be achieved through advocacy and provision of quality consumer controlled service.

## WisLoan and Telework Programs

The WisLoan program offers loans for assistive technology. The loans help people buy equipment such as hearing aids, modified vehicles, wheelchairs and ramps. The program is open to Wisconsin residents of all ages who have a disability. There are no income requirements, and individuals are not required to exhaust personal or public funding. Under the program, banks provide loans at a fixed rate of 5% to qualified borrowers. Loan amounts depend on the item purchased and the ability to repay the loan.



The Wisconsin Telework Loan Program is a statewide, alternative loan program that allows Wisconsin residents with disabilities to purchase computers and other equipment needed to work from home or from other remote sites away from the office, such as work on the road or at a telework center.



Staff at the Center for Independent Living can answer your questions and take applications. For either program, contact CILWW at 800-228-3287 or 715-233-1070. [cilww@cilww.com](mailto:cilww@cilww.com)

## Legislative Advocacy Network (LAN)

To advocate for community change and services, CILWW has set up a Legislative Advocacy Network (LAN). Consumers are encouraged to be involved by being trained and participating in letter writing, e-mail and phone calls. If you want to participate, please call CILWW at 800-228-3287 or 715-233-1070. Or by subscribing at: <http://www.cilww.com/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi/list/cilww> or [lan@cilww.com](mailto:lan@cilww.com)

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	WisTech Loan and Demonstration Program
2	Anticipated Implementation of Family Care
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6	Elected Representatives in CILWW Area
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7	WisLoan and Telework Programs
	Legislative Advocacy Network (LAN)

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