Advocate

SPRING 2018

20 Years of Leadership & Dedication

CILWW would like to recognize Tammy Grage for her 20 years of service to the agency. Tammy began working for CILWW in 2008 as bookkeeper. Over the years her position changed as she took on new responsibilities for the agency and is the current Fiscal/Human Resource Director. Tammy also oversees the annual Chippewa Valley Chapter of Fishing Has No Boundaries held at Paradise Shores and serves on the National Fishing Has No Boundaries board of directors.

A few years ago, Tammy was a recipient of the Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers "Relentless



Badger" award for advocacy. She continues to demonstrate daily a commitment to the Independent Living philosophy of respecting choices people with disabilities make, honoring the desire of people with disabilities to exercise control over their own lives and dreams, and ensuring that independent living services are available to any person with any disability of any age regardless of income.

Congratulations Tammy on 20 years of service! Here's to 20 more.

Expanding in Menomonie



CILWW has purchased the lot located to our existing building with plans in motion to add on. Services have expanded from eight staff when housed at UW Stout to a current staff of 36. Plans for ground-breaking are in April with a tentative November/December completion. Please visit our website for continuing updates.

IN THIS ISSUE

IL Days

Peer Specialist Program

Personal Assistant Services

New Freedom Transportation

New Staff

Fishing Has No Boundaries

AT Updates

Upcoming Events

For Sale & Donation



CILWW is a community-based, non-residential, private non-profit agency that is staffed and governed by people with disabilities. Our focus is to empower people in making choices that maintain or increase their independence.

We serve people with disabilities, their families, and the community in which they live. We also work with area businesses and service providers that need assistance responding to the needs of people with disabilities.

Legislative Advocacy Days

On February 28th and March 1st, fourteen staff, one board member, and two consumers all went down to Madison for the annual Independent Living (IL) Days. There was the one day training with workshops on various issues the first day, followed by meeting will all our area legislators the following day. It was another successful IL Days this year with good workshops at the training, and it also provided a great opportunity to network with Independent Living staff from the other eight centers in the state. Many legislators were also receptive to our primary advocacy issue this year, a one-time funding increase and a continued cost of living adjustment in funding for independent living centers in Wisconsin. This year Angela Brenna won the Relentless Badger Award for advocacy from our center, for all the work she did this past year with the advocacy alerts around elimination of the Affordable Care Act and her work with the CCAT group.











Legislative Advocacy Days













Certified Peer Specialist Program

Recently CILWW provided Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) training to staff from Milkweed Connections in Menomonie, that work with the Comprehensive Community Support (CCS) program assisting persons with mental health issues and substance use and co-occurring disorders. The Certified Peer Specialist are persons with lived experience and in recovery who work mentoring for persons with mental health issues, substance use and co-occurring disorders that are enrolled in the CCS program. CILWW provided CPS training in April in Chippewa Fall, and will have another training in Hudson. This is funded by the Department of Human Services.

Make a Difference in someone's life, Become a Certified Peer Specialist!

A Certified Peer Specialist is someone who has a lived experience with mental illness and/or substance use disorder, and has formal training to support recovery.

The Role of the Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) is varied and can take on several forms of support and assistance. Although roles may vary in service agencies, it is generally recognized that Peer Specialists provide the following services to adult consumers with a mental health diagnosis and/or substance use disorder:

- Use personal recovery experience as a tool
- Present recovery information
- Provide information about mental health/substance use disorder resources
- Assist in identifying and supporting consumers in crisis
- Facilitate self-direction and goal setting
- Communicate effectively with other treatment providers
- Create an environment of respect with peers
- Encouragement for peers to construct their own recovery/wellness plans

Interested in becoming a Certified Peer Specialist?

You must successfully complete the state-approved Peer Specialist training and pass the certification exam.

Contact: Chris Richardson:800-228-3287, ext 401 or richardsonc@cilww.com

You can also get additional information about becoming a Certified Peer Specialist at the Wisconsin Peer Specialist Employment Initiative website; http://www.wicps.org

Youth Services

There has been an increase in youth services, with staff providing classes on Self-Advocacy at both the Chippewa Falls and River Falls school districts this spring and plans for classes in the fall as well. We're hoping a proposal to DVR will fund a youth summer program to assist youth transitioning from high school in developing the skills to live independently and achieve their employment goals.

PAS | Personal Assistant Program

CILWW became a Medicaid provider in 1993. When CIL first became a provider our only service was contracting with agencies for Medicaid billing. Since then CIL continues to contract with Adult Family Homes for Medicaid personal care as well as working with self directed consumers utilizing their forward health Medicaid card for personal care services. CIL also contracts with agencies such as IRIS, Counties, and MCO for Supportive Home, Respite and Mentoring services.

Personal Assistance Services

- Medicaid Personal Care
- Supportive Home Care
- Respite/Mentoring
- Registered Nursing
- Medicaid Prior Authorizations & Billing

Why Choose CILWW PAS?

- CIL contracts with AFH's in providing Medicaid billing. This includes obtaining prior authorization, oversight for state and federal requirements, and billing for personal care.
- CIL is a vendor for Wisconsin Medicaid, IRIS, MCO, County CTLS consumers.
- CIL works with Self Directed consumers who are Medicaid eligible-who may or may not have their own Personal/Supportive worker
- CIL can work with member in having a family member or friend to provide those services (some restrictions apply).
- CIL will train & employ that person allowing him/her to be paid for their time. CILWW can also recruit qualified workers.

Agencies/Consumers Currently

- CIL contracts with 22 Adult Family Homes
- CIL has a total of 113 consumers receiving PAS services
- CIL has 96 PAS Care giving Employees



Consumer Story

During a recent new assessment of a consumer in our PAS Department, we found that a consumer was in desperate need of a shower chair. For a very long time, this person had been dangerously getting themselves into and out of the shower.

Shortly after this nursing assessment, we helped this consumer fill out an application for Center for Independent Livings Consumer Development Fund. Due to the consumer's limited ability, our RN Mandie was able to help the consumer compete the application. He was approved in a timely manner. The shower chair was shipped directly to this person's house and their Personal Care Worker was able to successfully put together the chair and they began to use it immediately.

At a recent nurse visit with this consumer, they expressed their joy in having the chair and how much safer their transfers into and out of the shower have been.

New Freedom Transportation



The Center for Independent Living (CIL) has worked very hard to create a national model for its 29 County New Freedom Transportation Program. Two neighboring Independent Living Centers help to recruit volunteer drivers for CIL's program in their service areas shown below.

Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin, Inc.'s 11 county expansion shown in green, began October 2017. The Centers New Freedom Transportation program now covers 27,655 Square Miles (49.31% of WI Sq Mi).

Currently the transportation staff has been working hard to recruit volunteer drivers in the new expansion counties. There are 6 new drivers in Athens, Wausau, Stevens Point and Marshfield. Any referrals for additional drivers will be appreciated. It's difficult to give the rides that are needed in the areas where we don't have drivers yet! Bobbi and Denise have met with many transportation programs to help to coordinate transportation services in the new 11 county area and are confident that in time partnering will be the key to finding the drivers that are needed to help to fill the gaps in existing transportation services!





If you are interested in getting rides through New Freedom Transportation or becoming a driver... call us today! You can call 800-228-3287 for more information.

Welcome New Staff





Pictured From left to right
Samantha Lotts- PAS Support
Bobby Taylor- IL Specialist
Diane Helland- Receptionist
Brandy Flood- Transportation
Jamie McRoberts- PAS RN
Ruth Alf- Transportation
Becca Jones- Transportation

Fishing Has No Boundaries

The Chippewa Valley Chapter of FHNB provides adaptive fishing equipment, demonstrates ways all individuals can enjoy fishing, and empowers individuals to pursue a hobby that may not otherwise be accessible.

"Opening up the great outdoors for people with adaptive needs through the world of fishing"

Who: Anglers with disabilities, friends, family, guests, attendants

What: Adaptive two day fishing event PACKED with fun, fishing, boating, eating! (can attend ½ day, whole day, both days)

When: June 23rd & 24th, 2018

Where: Paradise Shores, Lake Holcombe, Holcombe WI, 26364 County Highway M, Holcombe, WI 54745. For reservations: 715-595-4227 (not included in registration fee) Why: To open the world of adaptive fishing!

Provided: Rods, reels, life vests, adaptive fishing equipment, bait, fish cleaning, boats, pontoons, guides, Saturday evening dinner, and Sunday cookout! You bring the smiles!!!

Join us for a weekend of fun, fishing and camaraderie! No Fishing license or experience needed!

Cost: \$25 for participants. \$15 for guests, family and attendants.

For more information, donating or to register contact Tammy at:

1-800-228-3287v/tty
Or email popple@cilww.com



This grassroots advocacy group meets about disability issues monthly. Everyone is welcome (whether you have a disability or not).

Upcoming dates are: May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, and Sept. 11.

Meetings are on Tuesdays from 5:00 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

At our Eau Claire CIL office location, 2004 Highland Ave., Ste.H (accessible entry is in the back).

After the CCAT meeting, everyone is invited to join the group by walking over to a nearby eating establishment for peer social networking until 8:00 p.m.

Questions?

Contact Kari Ann Nelson at 1-800-228-3287 or nelsonk@cilww.com.

Assistive Technology



Assistive Technology Demonstration & Loan Program

WisTech is Wisconsin's Assistive Technology (AT) program. AT is a device or service that allows people to function as independently as possible at home, school, work, and in the community. CILWW is a regional AT Device and Demonstration Center. CILWW has over 2,000 different AT devices that we can loan and/or demonstrate to people. CILWW staff can bring devices to people's homes, answer questions about devices, loan devices for a short period of time, give vendor and funding resources, and use their experience to help find the most cost-effective options.

Check some items in our Loan Closet:

Descriptions and Photos taken from manufacturer.

Optelec Electronic Magnifier



Continuous magnification of 1.5X to 18X, 8 megapixel High Definition and Auto-Focus camera for sharp/clear image quality, 5-inch High Definition widescreen display, Two ergonomic positions: Closed for on-the-go, or raised screen for perfect angle, 4 times increased field of view compared to traditional electronic hand-held magnifiers, 3 times higher resolution quality in all magnification levels, Patented indirect camera lighting system to eliminate glare when reading glossy materials, Large icon menu to save user settings,16 high contrast viewing modes and adjustable brightness, Snapshot/freeze frame with continuous zoom capability, Portable and lightweight at only 10.4 oz., 3-hour rechargeable battery; large icon battery status, Includes leather carrying case and wrist strap.

Serene Innovations InstaLINK Smart Phone



Receive silent vibration and light notification of calls, texts and popular social media app messages from your cell phone on your wrist. Features: Powerful vibration and discreet flashing lights, Distinct icons for calls, texts, or social media messages, Displays Caller ID of incoming calls, Free app lets you set two types of alarms (8 each): wake-up/daily tasks and medication alerts, 12/24 hour digital clock, Rechargeable battery lasts up to a week, Low battery indicator, Splash-proof watch band fits wrists up to 8", Compatible with iOS and Android devices.



WisLoan offers loans to help people buy assistive technology or equipment such as modified vehicles, wheelchairs, and ramps. 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 interest rate of 6.5% to qualified borrowers. Loan amounts depend on the item and ability to repay.

Telework is a loan program that allows 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.

Frustrated Using the Phone?

Do You or Someone You Know Have Difficulty Using the Phone and Are:



Hard of Hearing? Deaf or Severely Hard of Hearing? Speech Impaired? Mobility/Motion Impaired? Deaf with Low Vision or Blindness? Deaf and Blind?

If the answer is yes, financial assistance may be available for Telecommunication Equipment and/or AT (Assistive Technology) through the TEPP (Telecommunication Equipment Purchase Program). There is no age or income requirement!

Our Independent Living Specialists' role is to assist people with the application process as well as finding the "right" AT. AT could be an amplified and/or captioning (words on screen) phone, neck loop, outgoing speech amplified phone, cell phone ring/text signaler, and/or other AT. To find out more and/or to make a TEPP appointment, please call us at 1-800-228-3287 or email us at cilww@cilww.com

CHECK OUT SOME OF THE NEW TEPP EQUIPMENT!

*Panasonic KX-TGM450S Amplified Phone— Cordless Phone Features Volume Boost up to 50 dB, 6 Tone Settings, 112 dB Ringer with Bright Red LED Light, Speakerphone, Big White Backlit LCD. Talking: Caller I.D., Keypad, 100 Entry Phonebook. Bluetooth Capability, Background Noise Reduction, Amplified Answering Machine, 3 Enlarged Memory Buttons, Expandable to 6 Handsets, 2.5mm Headset/Neckloop Jack, Hearing Aid Compatible, Wall or Desk Mount.



*RCA 1124 Amplified Big Button Caller I.D. Phone- Corded Phone Features Volume Boost up to 40 dB, Visual Ringer, Large Keypad Buttons and Adjustable Tilt Display with Backlight, Caller I.D., 3 One-Touch Speed Dial Buttons, 10 Number Memory, Hearing Aid Compatible, Wall or Desk Mount.



*Serene Innovations HD-70— Is the only Corded Phone that can connect to your Cell Phone Bluetooth. Amplifies both Cell Phone and Landline Calls Volume up to 50+ dB. 5 Tone Settings, Talking: Caller I.D., Call Waiting, Missed Calls. 12 One-Touch Speed Dial Buttons, Speakerphone, 2 Backlit Keypad Color Choices (Blue or Amber), Bright Flashing During Loud Ringing, Battery Backup for Power Outages, Hearing Aid Compatible Audio Jack for neckloops, etc., Q&A Button connects you directly to a Customer Care Representative.



*HomeAware Signaling System— This new fully functional 110dB alarm clock with bed shaker and bright strobe signaling system turns your smartphone into a transmitter and receiver! Be alerted to phone calls (landline, cell, or videophone), texts, doorbell, and other system transmitters within 1000 feet by scrolling the word "CELL", "TEXT", "DOOR", etc. This revolutionary monitoring technology checks your system every 2-3 minutes, 24/7 and even in the event of power failure. The smartphone transmitter (bottom) will send the alert to your smartphone (up to 30 feet) when using the free app. Compatible with Android and iOS operating systems.



^{*}Descriptions & pictures taken from either the manufacturer or Hear WI





Hopefully Spring has sprung by the time you are reading this! Feeling optimistic a few weekends ago, I assembled a small greenhouse in hopes of starting seeds in it to later transfer to my small elevated garden and planters. After all, most of the snow was gone! However, that next weekend, my yard, deck, and elevated garden were covered with several inches of snow again! Much of that snow remains there today- April 9th, but I am hoping Mother Nature will bless us with a longer, later summer for gardening!

I mentioned above I have a small elevated garden. These are especially great for people who can't stand a long time, who use mobility aids (wheelchair, cane, scooter, etc.), or just want to have easier access to care for their plants without getting up and down from the ground and/or having to bend.



Elevated Garden Bed found at amazon.com or Walmart.com for under \$100

Excluding the elevated garden, our non-profit organization has a Loan/ Demonstration Program consisting of over 1,500 assistive technology tools that you can loan to try out for a week or two to decide if it is the "right fit" or "works" for you. This prevents people needing to purchase an item to find this out and if not, needing to return the item (if allowed after use), paying return shipping and handling charges and possibly a restocking charge. After that, you are back to where you began with a need that is still unfulfilled! Our Independent Living Specialists work with people to try to find the right item that meets their needs. Since we are a non-profit organization, we do not sell anything and are not associated with any companies that profit. That makes us unbiased where you purchase it as well as our main goal being to show you what works, or doesn't work for you. If an item "works" for you and you want it, we will let you know where you can purchase it from.

Here is a sample of some gardening tools we have, which can be purchased from Amazon.com (as well as other vendors), unless noted, that I would like to highlight:



~GARDEN KNEELER SEAT (\$35):

Kneel in cushion comfort or turn it over to sit at proper height for gardening chores. Molded-in handles allow for easy transportation.

One time snap lock assembly and sturdy double wall construction.



~RADIUS ERGONOMIC DIGGING SHOVEL (\$45):

High quality fiberglass shaft with heavy duty lightweight carbon steel blade design. Patented ergonomic Natural Radius O-Handle Grip with 4 times the gripping surface of traditional D-Handle tools provides additional leverage while reducing hand and wrist stress.



~TELESCOPING GARDEN TOOLS (\$12+ each):

Lightweight, long handled garden tools designed for use by individuals with upper extremity or mobility disabilities

Made of aluminum alloy, these tools have telescoping handles with positive locking mechanisms, enabling the user to set and lock the handles at the desired length for use while sitting or standing.

The handles feature large, foam-padded grips and a hanging loop.



What: 12th Annual Regional Caregiver Conference "Choosing to Care"

Featuring Keynote Speaker Amy Goyer

When: Friday, September 28, 2018; 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

Where: Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College; 1019 South Knowles, New Richmond, Wiscon-

sin 54017



What: 2018 Self-Determination Conference

More than 600 people each year participate in the conference to learn more about selfdetermination and SDS so they can live independently, be members of their communities, and use public funds efficiently.

When: Monday, October 29th - Wednesday, October 31st

Where: Kalahari 1305 Kalahari Drive; Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin 53965



What: National Beep Ball Association World Series

Beep Baseball is the adaptive version of the traditional game of baseball for the blind and visually impaired. The 2018 World Series of Beep Baseball will include up to 24 teams from around the United States and even Taiwan. The NBBA World Series, an annual tradition since 1976, is the most important event of the Beep Baseball Season.

When: Tuesday, July 31st through Friday, August 3rd with games starting at 8:30am, 11:30am and 2:30pm. Championship game and ceremony will be on August 4th at 10:30am.

Where: 3 different locations in Eau Claire, WI. Bollinger Fields, Eau Claire South Middle School and Eau Claire Soccer Park. The Soccer park will be the main location for the series.

Continued from Kari Ann...



~ADD ON HANDLES FOR TOOLS (\$22 for set of two @Arthritis Supplies.com):

Grip® Line of ergonomic garden tool accessories use the fist grip, The natual way to hold a tool. Attach to your other tools for maximum comfort. Use on hoes, rakes, mops, brooms, vacuum cleaners, and more. Less bending and twisting of your upper body with these handles.

Use two handles on a long shaft tool for most comfort.



~FINGER FREE SNIPS (\$15 @ leevalley.com):

Designed to allow full movement of your fingers while in hand, these Japanese snips leave fingers free for other tasks.

Their ergonomic pistol-grip handles stay comfortably in position, so you don't have to put them down to pluck a weed or tie twine. Just squeeze the thumb-operated top handle to cut, and flick the convenient safety lock to hold the blades closed. The 1-1/8" long high-carbon steel blades have surprisingly good reach for such a compact tool. They cut cleanly and are well suited for tasks such as deadheading, harvesting flowers and cutting twine.

For Sale & Donation Page

2016 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT plus

Black top edition Red in color, with Joey Lift and added a bug shield Only 6,500 miles! \$25,900 OBO

Contact: Nate @ 715-434-1335 or 715-651-3949

Quantum Motorized Wheelchair:

\$1,200 New barely used, very durable high quality power chair from the Scooter Store.

Contact: Dan 715-790-3877 or 715-236-7111

Jazzy 1650 Motorized Chair (large man chair):

\$2,500 24.5" seat with adjustable arms that move out, was brand new on March 2, 2016 with battery charger and manual

Contact: Mike @ 715-894-0059

Jazzy 614HD Heavy-duty Wheelchair/Electric Scooter:

\$1,000 450 lb. weight capacity, red, easy rear access to batteries, enhanced traction, removable arm-

Contact: Deanna snow@yahoo.com or 715-790-9492

Jazzy GT Select Power Motorized Chair:

New was over \$6,000 - Has leg extensions, used for approximately 2 hours, red/burgundy color, brand new batteries \$800 OBO

Contact: Jeri @715-552-1238 or 715-271-3348

Motorized Chair:

\$2,000 Used one time

Contact: Randi @ 715-210-0404

Electric Wheelchair:

\$450 OBO - Made by Revo Contact: Dan @715-695-3890

Golden Companion 2 Scooter:

\$200 OBO

Contact Dave @ 715-308-6642

C300 Power Chair:

\$2,000 with two extra head attachments plus one new already attached to chair. All adjustable, newly installed batteries, comes with 4 Rojo cushions (need air)

Contact: Mrs. Schrieber @715-651-5049

Wheelchair Lift:

\$125 OBO

Fits the back of the car

Contact: Tina @ 651-666-0565

Sit-to-Stand:

(Manual but like A Hoyer Lift) With slings

\$350 OBO

Contact: Jill (715) 723-7926

Hoyer Lift:

\$100 OBO

Contact: Jill (715) 723-7926

Large-sized Motorized Wheelchair:

Best offer

Contact: Tina @ 651-666-0565

Bariatric Motorized Wheelchair:

\$1,000 OBO 22-24" seat, hardly used, tilts, with charger prefers that it goes to a veteran. Contact: Lori @715-338-2504

Electric Wheelchair:

Includes spare battery \$300

Contact: Dottie @ (715) 832-8192

Manual Hospital Bed:

\$75 OBO

Contact: Jo @ (715) 286-5182

Transfer Chair:

Has smaller wheels \$100 OBO Contact: Merry @ 715-386-3119

Parallel Bars:

Adjustable Height \$300 OBO

Contact: Darlene @ 715-560-1544

Moen White Grab Bars:

size 9" \$5.00

Contact: Mrs. Schrieber @715-651-5049

Bed Grab Bar:

\$50 in excellent condition originally sells for \$100. It has straps to secure to box spring.

Contact: Steve @ 715-832-1747

Transfer Bench/Shower Chair:

Invacare lightly used transfer bench shower chair with back. Sells for \$129 new, \$65 Contact: Steve @ 715-832-1747

Two Wheelchair Batteries:

12-volt Universal gel type \$100/pair OBO

Contact: Tom @715-651-0942

Walker:

\$10 OBO

Contact: Mary @715-235-6924

Wanted:

PhysioStep LXT:

Recumbent Linear Step Cross Trainer

Contact: Diane @ (715) 762-4986 or (715) 492 -1947

Lift Chair:

Contact: Jenny @ (715) 895-9564

Power Lift Chair:

Contact: Jeff @ (715) 877-2504

For Donation:

Hearing Aid Batteries:

Duracell 312 48 batteries per box Contact: Joelene @ 715-514-4200 Ext. 307

CPAP Machine:

Contact: Dawn @ 715-450-3471

Multiple Books on Tape:

Cassettes for someone with vision loss Includes: Materese Countdown-Robert Ludlum, Beyond All Reason -Amy Lee, Four Blind Mice - James Patterson, The Brethren-John Grisham, The Testament – John Grisham and many more for pleasure reading. Picture available of entire box

Contact: KariAnn @ 715-514-4200 Ext. 305

Invacare power wheel chair:

It is about 24" wide between the arms and about 24" deep.

Contact: Carol @ 715-939-2136

Electric Hospital Bed:

Contact: Jim @ (715) 419-2171

Blue Queen-sized Mat Table:

Contact: Kathy @ (715) 239-0306

Hover Round:

It needs work but prefers it goes to veteran

Contact: Lori @715-338-2504

Toilet Riser:

Contact: Amanda @715-233-1070 Ext. 206



CILWW manages a For Sale/Donation list for AT, medical equipment, etc. If you want to sell an item or you want to get on the email list, please contact Joelene at jsmith@cilww.com or 800-228-3287 ext 307.

Center for Independent Living 2920 Schneider Ave SE Menomonie, WI 54751

Consumer address



Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin, Inc.

MAIN OFFICE

* 2920 Schneider Ave SE Menomonie, WI 54751 Fax 715.233.1083

BRANCH OFFICES

- * 2004 Highland Ave. Suite H Eau Claire, WI 54701 Fax: 715.514.2465
- * 312 W Knapp Street Ste 1 Rice Lake, WI 54868 Fax: 715.736.0265

EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS with disabilities

The Advocate is available upon request in various formats including Braille, large print, e-mail notice, computer disk and audiotape. Our website also displays a text version of our most current version issue. If you are receiving more than one copy of the Advocate or wish to be removed from the mail list please call our Menomonie office. If you are currently on our Advocate mailing list and have Internet access please consider being notified by e-mail and contact cilww@cilww.com.





