Annual Report
FY 2018
Board Members

Front Row
Tracey
Kevin
Katherine

Back Row
Bridgette
Danny
Dave
Kim
Stacey
Rosemary
Who We Are
We are the Center for Independent Living that serves the Metro Atlanta Area. We provide services to people in the following counties: Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton and Rockdale.

Our Mission
disABILITY LINK is an organization led by and for people with disabilities and promotes choice and full participation in community life.

Board Of Directors
Board Chair – Dave Zilles
Vice Chair – Katherine Seelman
Treasurer – Kevin Stringfellow
Secretary – Rosemary Graham

General Members
Danny Housley
Terresa Ford
Bridgette Suttle
Gary English
Tracey Stokes
Vernitia Shannon
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fast Facts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Provided Information and Referral Services to over 3,874 people</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provided Vocational and Employment Services to over 1068 individuals</td>
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<td>Assisted over 100 individuals to register to vote &amp; Participated in “Your Vote is Your Voice” project</td>
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<td>We held our first disABILITY LINK/AAPD summer internship with 3 interns</td>
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<td>Relocate 14 individuals from an institution</td>
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<td>We provided 10,852 services to people with disabilities</td>
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<td>Held our first EOY LEAPS summer program with 6 graduates</td>
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We provided 10,852 services to people with disabilities
Staff

Executive Director – Kim Gibson
Finance Director – Larry Brown
Assistant Director – Ken Mitchell
Disability Rights & Program Director – Linda Pogue
Employment & Training Program Manager – Fran Durbin
Employment & Training Program Manager – Miriam DeJesus
Nursing Home Transition Program Manager – Renee Shakir
Finance & Administration Manager- Kristal Southern
Office and I&R Lead Supervisor– Darnell Johnson
ICWP Case Manager & Community IL Specialist – Brian Crump
ICWP Case Manager & Community IL Specialist – Felix Eziakor
ICWP Case Manager & Employment Specialist – Katrina Parsons
Staff (cont)

Health & Wellness/Resource Specialist – Juanita Anderson
Computer Lab & Housing IL Specialist – Travis Evans
Volunteer & Administrative Specialist – James Turner
Employment & Training Specialist – Michelle Watkins
Social Media Specialist – William Daniels
Youth Independent Living Specialist – Emily Shaw
Disability Diversity and Inclusion IL Specialist – Veronica Apecena
Disability Rights Apprentice – Angela Pratt
Disability Rights & Youth IL Specialist Apprentice – Garrick Scott
Assistive Technology & Deaf/Blind IL Specialist Intern – Angela Williams
Employment Training Independent Living Specialist Intern – Arnette Elkins
Employment Training Independent Living Specialist Intern – Gwen McCray
The year was full of advocacy, from motivating consumers to vote, to combating negative portrayals of people with disabilities.

Staff & volunteers helping register people to vote

Garrick Scott is leading a discussion on being comfortable with your disability.
We were proud to host many classes, activities and trainings in our office.

Travis Evans hosting his HTML coding class, that’s every Wednesday

Our Annual Family & Friends Picnic with Staff and Friends doing karaoke

Our Annual Consumer Appreciation Party at The Decatur Recreation Center
## FY 2018 Accomplishments

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<th>We Supported 7 youth to attend National Conferences</th>
<th>Selected &amp; Participated in Disability, Diversity and Intersectionality Project with ILRU</th>
<th>Partnered with AAPD to bring the internship program outside of D.C. and expand into Atlanta</th>
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<tr>
<td>We host peer support groups focused on disability, intersectionality and diversity including LGBTQIAP++ disability and IL/BLM “Us Protecting Us”</td>
<td>Held job fair with more than 200 in attendance. Distributed materials on employment to 400 individuals.</td>
<td>We are a field site for social work students with primary selection of students with disabilities. This year we hosted two interns</td>
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disABILITY LINK serves twelve counties in the Metro Atlanta Area. We serve populations that range from young adults to senior citizens. We work to ensure that people with disabilities are in charge of their lives regardless of age or location in the region.
Consumers Served

Consumers are from a variety of cultural and disability backgrounds. We are always expanding our consumer base and increasing the diversity to ensure that all people in our area can receive services in the most accessible environment possible.
A consumer with a Spinal Cord Injury came into the office and upon working with the Assistive Technology Independent Living Specialist shared his desire to be able to independently read. The Assistive Technology Independent Living Specialist worked with him on his goal. He was able to achieve his goal and learned how to read. In addition, while working on his personal goal of reading, he attended different assistive technology workshops and gained information on a breath switch and realized that was something that would assist him in being more independent. He worked with his IL Specialist and was able to get the device at no cost. The consumer reports that learning to read and the used of the device allows him the ability to enjoy one of the simple pleasures that so many get to enjoy.
A consumer who is blind, depended on her daughter to drive her to wherever she needed to go. Her daughter was planning on moving out of the area and the consumer was afraid that she would be stuck in the house. She came into the office and worked with her IL Specialist on a goal of mobility. She practiced using the different systems with the IL Specialist. The consumer is now able to use the different systems and reports that she feels freer than she has in years.
Our Community Partners

- AARP
- Abilities, Inc.
- ADA Legacy project
- AMS vans
- Aging And Disability Resource Center
- AT&T
- Atlanta Housing Authority
- Atlanta Regional Commission
- National ADAPT
- Blue Heron Preserve
- Brain Injury Peer Visitor Association
- Brain & Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund
- The CDC
- Center For Financial Independence And Innovation
- Center For Leadership In Disability
- Center For The Visually Impaired
- Decatur Business Association
- DeKalb Chamber Of Commerce
- DeKalb Rape Crisis Center
- Disability Law & Policy Network
- Disability Resource Group
- Disabled American Veterans
- Dress for Success
- EEOC
- FEMA
- Frazer Center
- Georgia Advocacy Office
- Georgia Council For The Blind
- Georgia DHS
- Georgia Department Of Labor
- Georgia Pacific
Our Community Partners

- GA Council on Developmental Disabilities
- GA Department of Community Affairs
- GA Department of Rehabilitation Services
- GLASS Library
- GA Mental Health Consumer Network
- Georgia Transplant Foundation
- GVRA
- Institute On Human Development And Disability at UGA
- Kroger
- Metro Fair Georgia
- MARTA
- Metropolitan Employment Network Of Atlanta
- National Association Of Blind Veterans
- National Federation of the Blind of GA
- Pedestrians Educating Drivers
- People First Of Georgia
- RESPECT Institute
- Shepherd Center
- Social Security Administration
- St. Jude's Recovery Center
- The Georgia Department Of Community Health
- The Georgia Statewide Independent Living Council
- Toastmasters International
- Tools For Life
- United Way Of Greater Atlanta
- University of Kansas
- University of Montana
- View Point
- Workforce Development
Contact Us
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Tucker, GA 30084

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GA Relay- 711
Fax- 404-687-8298

Social Media
@disABILITY LINK

We are excited to announce that all of our classes held by disABILITY LINK are available through zoom.

Join by going to zoom.us and click on join meeting.
Meeting ID is 404-687-8890