



disABILITY
LINK
the center for rights & resources

**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

We held our first disABILITY LINK/AAPD summer internship with 3 interns

Fast Facts

Provided Information and Referral Services to over 3,874 people

Relocate 14 individuals from an institution

We provided 10,852 services to people with disabilities

Provided Vocational and Employment Services to over 1068 individuals

Held our first EOY LEAPS summer program with 6 graduates

Fast Facts

Assisted over 100 individuals to register to vote & Participated in "Your Vote is Your Voice" project

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

Staff & Rev Up Georgia at The Georgia State Capitol



Garrick Scott is leading a discussion on being comfortable with your disability.



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

We were proud to host many classes, activities and trainings in our office.



Our Annual Consumer Appreciation Party at The Decatur Recreation Center



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

FY 2018 Accomplishments

We Supported 7 youth to attend National Conferences

Selected & Participated in Disability, Diversity and Intersectionality Project with ILRU

Partnered with AAPD to bring the internship program outside of D.C. and expand into Atlanta

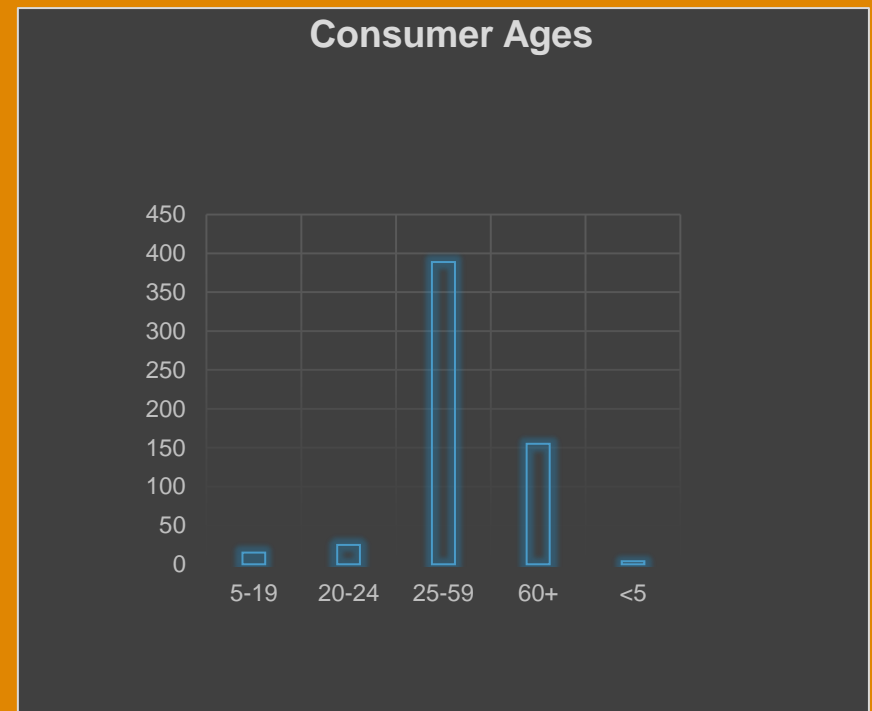
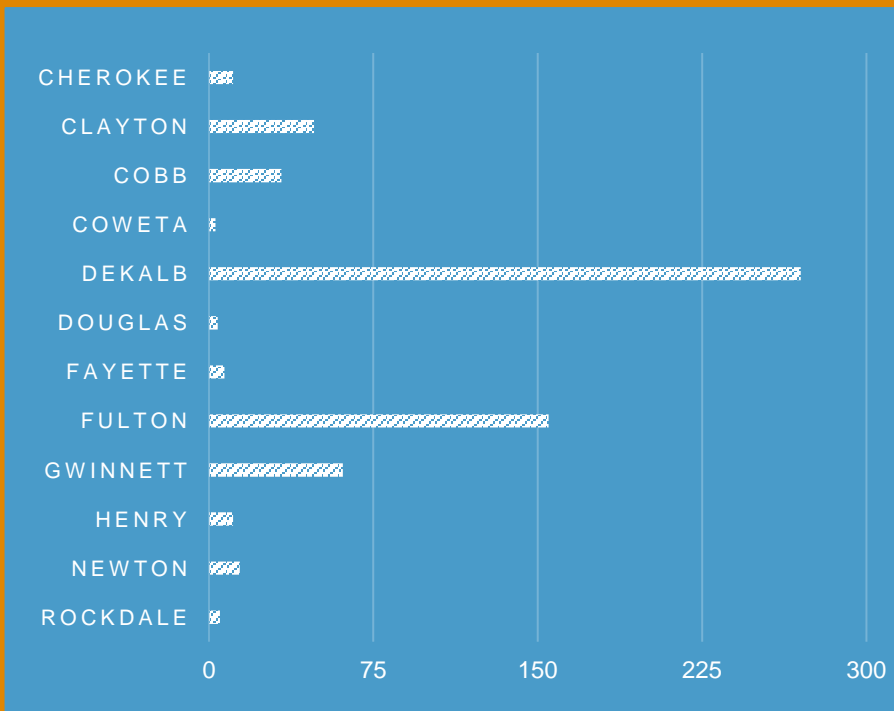
We host peer support groups focused on disability, intersectionality and diversity including LGBTQIAP++ disability and IL/BLM "Us Protecting Us

Held job fair with more than 200 in attendance. Distributed materials on employment to 400 individuals.

We are a field site for social work students with primary selection of students with disabilities. This year we hosted two interns

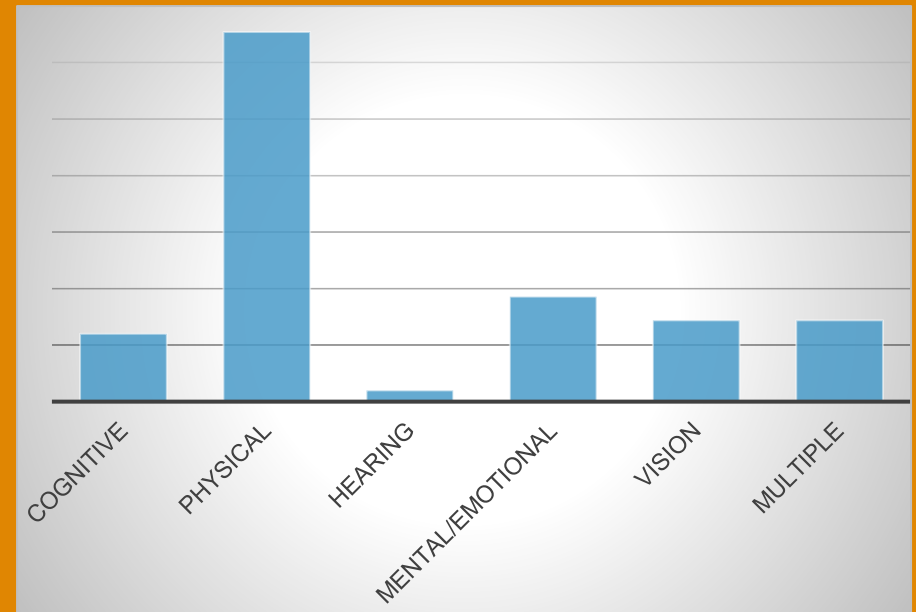
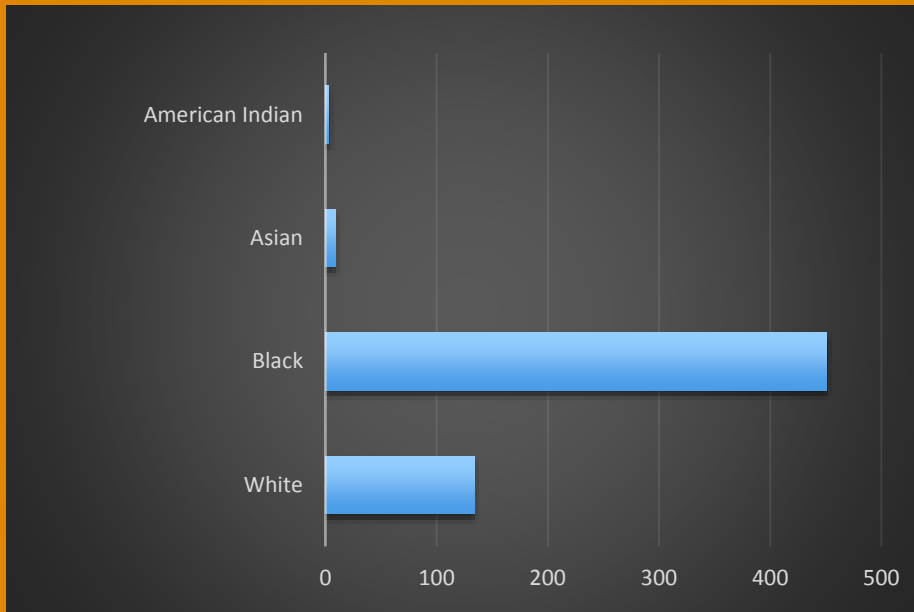
Consumers Served

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.



Disability Type

Success Story #1

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.

Success Story #2

A consumer who is blind, depended on her daughter to drive her to where ever 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 consumers now is 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

Physical Address:
1901 Montreal Road
Suite 102
Tucker, GA 30084

Voice- 404-687-8890
Video- 404-381-8117
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

