



disABILITY
LINK
the center for rights & resources

Annual Report FY 2025



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Who We Are

We are the Center for Independent Living that serves the Metro Atlanta Area. We provide services in the following counties: Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dekalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Rockdale Counties and limited services in Butts, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, and Upson Counties.

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

Executive Officers

Board Chair: Jennifer Adamson- Kelly

Vice Chair: Kevin Stringfellow

Treasurer: Etienne Davis

Secretary: Daniel Farr

Members at Large

Veronica Atkins

Darryl Blackwell

Brian Gustason

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Staff

Executive Director—Kim Gibson
Finance Director—Joseph Bryant
Program and Training Manager—Jake Key

Director of Youth IL & P2P Programs—William Thomas
ICWP & Community Health Supervisor—Katrina Parsons
Employment and Career Supervisor—Chrisie Lee
Administrative and Benefits Services Supervisor—James Turner
Quality Assurance and IL Program Coordinator—Tawanda Cargile
Executive Assistance and Development & Operations Coordinator — Cinque Singleton

Note: IL=Independent Living

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Staff Continued

Janitorial and Maintenance— Vibert Lawson
Health and Wellness & Resource ILS—Juanita Anderson
Personnel & Finance Assistant—Felicia Banks
Bookkeeper and Personnel Specialist—Dipu Thakor
Intake, Discharge & Data Management ILS—Teri Beard
Administrative Support Specialist —Cindy Clark
ICWP/Community Health ILS—Shikha Desai
ICWP/Community Health ILS—Felix Eziakor
Housing and Transportation ILS—Sheryl Hales
AT, Deaf-Blind and Housing ILS—Violet Rock
Social Media and Computer Lab ILS—William Head
Independent Living Specialist—Belinda Hodge

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Disability Rights and Advocacy ILS—Einisia Jones
Information Referral & Intake Coordinator—Diane Mckenna
IL and Outreach Specialist—Kendra White
Volunteer Coordinator and ILS—Bex Kish
Youth IL and Peer Support Specialist—Jameson Listermann
Disability Rights and Peer Support Trainer—Ken Mitchell
Disability Rights and Peer Support Advocate—Linda Pogue
Employment and Training Coordinator —Fran Durbin
Community ILS —Renee Shakir
Interns— Nirti Mahapatra, Unique Dixon, Brianna Levels

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Fast Facts

We continued our CDC approved Diabetes Prevention Program alongside our Health and Wellness programs, providing 232 recreational services to consumers to support healthier living.

In collaboration with GVRA, we hosted SenseAbility Day for individuals who are blind or have low vision, providing hands-on experiences with AT and adaptive tools to support independence. Nearly 50 participants attended.

We provided 485 employment and vocational services to support individuals in seeking and gaining employment.

We continued to inform our community about peer support through the provisions of hosting peer support trainings and provided 907 peer support services.

We provided 23,372 information and referral services about information & available local, state & federal resources that promote choice, quality of life, and independent living.

We assisted 540 individuals with housing and/or home modifications to live in the community of their choice.

Fast Facts

We supported 906 individuals in developing advocacy skills. Hosting workshops covering topics and holding "Our Voices, Our Vote" advocacy days at the capital.

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A woman in a black t-shirt and glasses at our doggie day community event. A child with face paint and red pants running with other youth.

We participated and held many events in the community. Some highlights include our Consumer Appreciation Event, Doggie Day events & providing our Neighborhood outreach to distribute Face Masks, Personal care supplies, Voting information, and hand sanitizer.



Picture Description:
Man dressed formally in a light blue shirt, grey vest, and lavender tie, attending our Job Fair.



Picture Description: Man in a vibrant red hoodie smiling, and behind him a group of people at tables who are in attendance at our Consumer Appreciation Event.



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A group of people sit
around a wooden
conference table in an
office setting and smiles
warmly.

Picture Description:
A group of people who
attended our Sensibility
showcase speaking with GVRA.

**We were proud to host over 650
events at our office including peer
support training classes, peer
support groups, educational
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board trainings, volunteer
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Picture
Description: A
Group of
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Meeting with
employers at
our career fair.

Picture
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A group of individuals
Wearing yellow shirts
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FY 2025 Accomplishments

We hosted our annual job fair with 32 employers connecting them with over 157 people with disabilities seeking employment. Over 50 participants received on-site interviews and 5 received employment offers.

We provided 46,414 services to individuals designed to support choice, autonomy, education, employment, social connections, and independence.

During National Voting Weeks, hosted office events to support voter registration and guided 100+ individuals with disabilities through the voting process, advocating for accessible polling places and ballots statewide.

Through the Pathways to Partnership (P2P) grant with GVRA, we expanded services to youth ages 10–14 across six Fulton County schools, providing school-based programs that prepare students for employment and independent living skills.

We held our annual Doggie Day with over 100 participants. This event brings awareness to the different types of service animals, working dogs, and emotional support animals.

We reached over 2,000 individuals through weekly outreach, fairs, and workshops, providing healthcare, rights, and benefits information to underserved and underrepresented communities.

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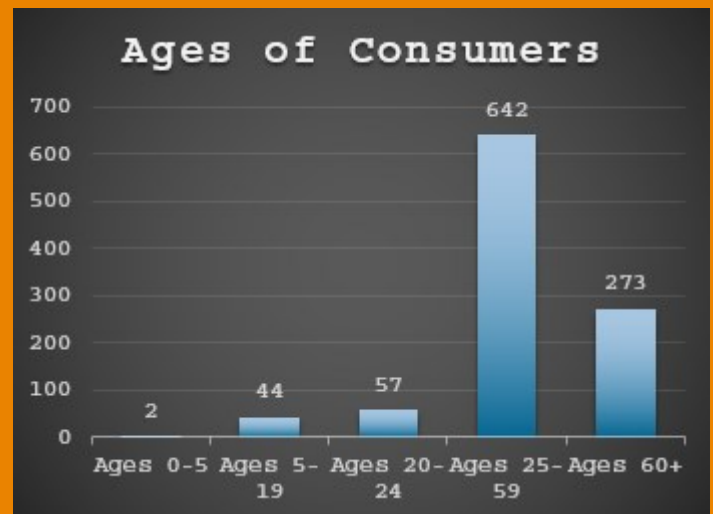
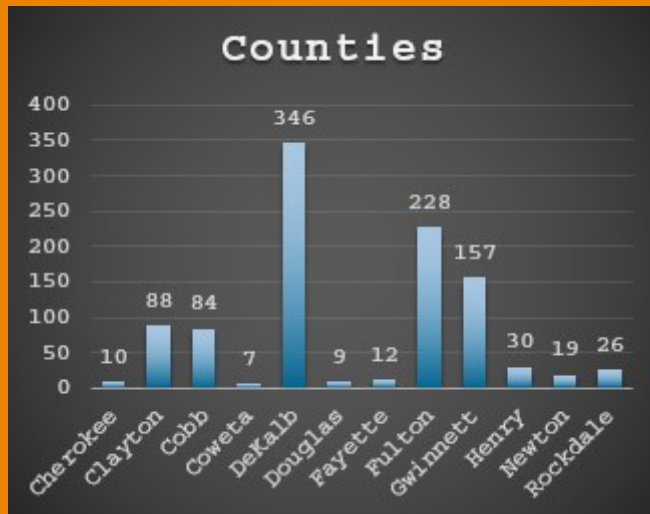
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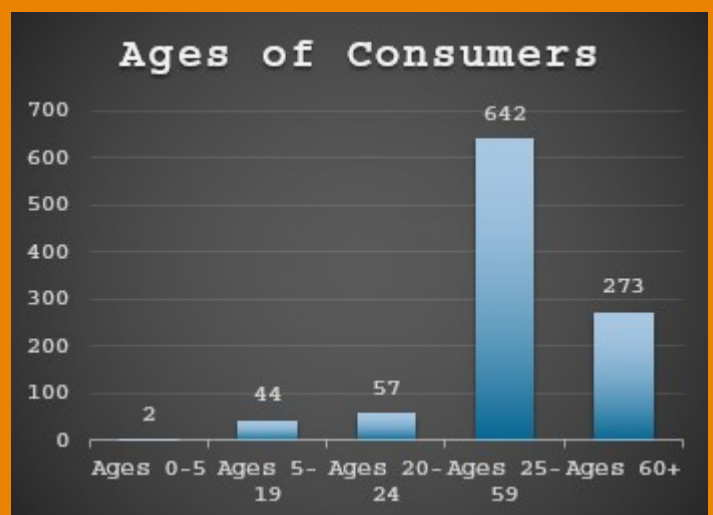
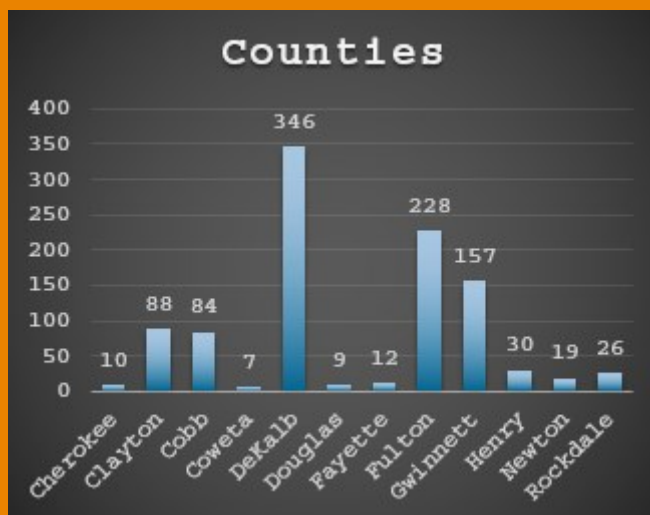
Consumers Served

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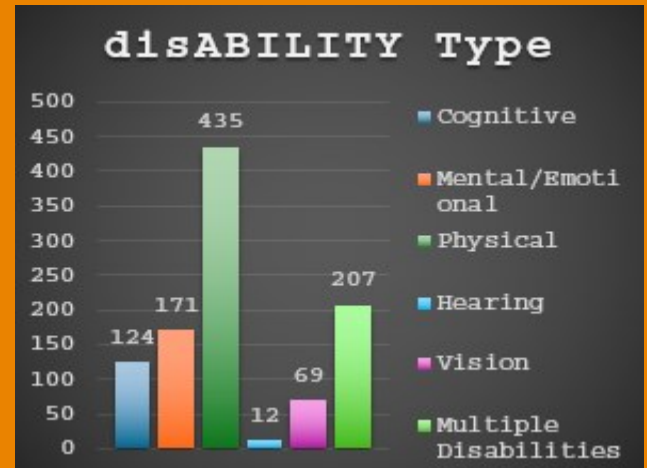
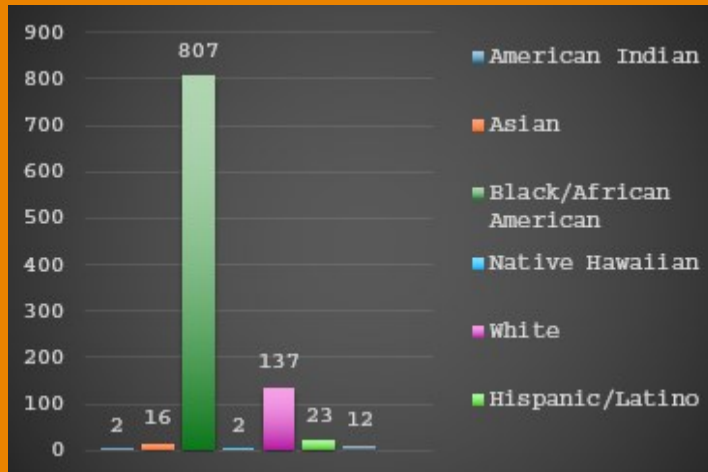
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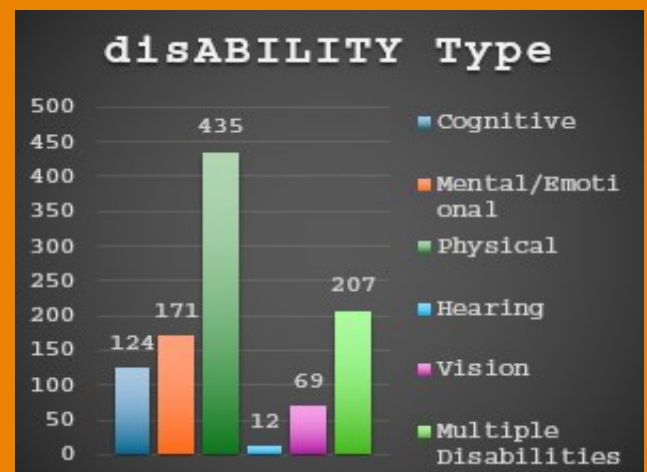
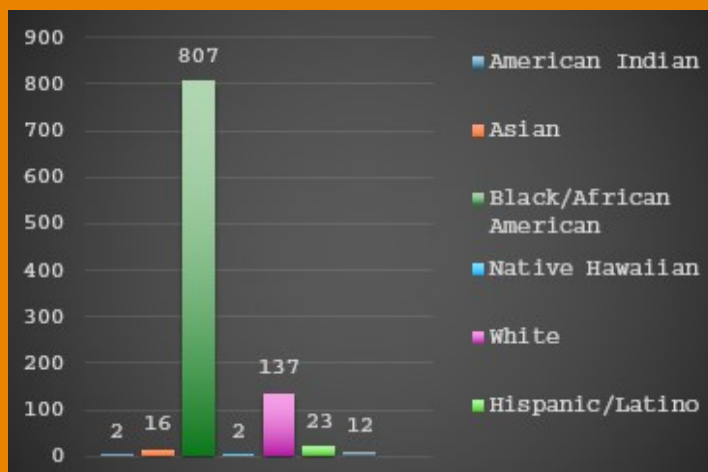
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Consumers are from a variety of cultural and disability backgrounds. We are always expanding our consumer base and increasing the diversity to ensure that all people in our area can receive services in the most accessible environment possible. Below are charts that outline the consumer demographics in the counties we serve.



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Success Story #1

A youth who participated in the summer internship program shared "During my internship, I acquired essential experience championing disability rights and promoting inclusivity. I helped create accessible materials, engaged in outreach projects, and assisted with workshops on independent living skills and employment opportunities. This experience strengthened my professional skills in project management, communication, and community involvement, and deepened my commitment to social justice and accessibility."

Success Story #2

A consumer who wished to leave a nursing home but was initially told by family members and social workers that he could not. The ILS staff supported him in learning his rights and identifying programs that could provide the supports he needed. After navigating the process and advocating for himself, he was able to leave the nursing home after, in his words, "3 long years." While his family was initially apprehensive, they later reported that once the consumer demonstrated self-advocacy, they realized there was no reason to resist his move.

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Success Story #3

A consumer living in a second-floor apartment struggled with a frequently broken elevator, which at times left him effectively trapped in his own home. The unreliable access created safety concerns and limited his ability to fully participate in the community. After connecting with disABILITY LINK, he engaged in peer support and advocacy training to better understand his housing rights and strengthen his self-advocacy skills.

Using the tools and confidence he gained, he successfully advocated against a proposed rent increase and worked with management to secure a transfer to a safe, affordable, and fully accessible first-floor unit. Beyond improving his housing situation, the experience reinforced his independence and sense of control. He shared, "I feel fully independent for the first time in a long time," and expressed confidence that he can advocate for himself in the future.

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Our Community Partners

AAHD	Center For Leadership In Disability
AARP	Center For The Visually Impaired
Accessibility.com	CORE
Aging And Disability Resource Center	Community Friendships Inc.
AmeriGroup	CTEA
ARCIL	Decatur Business Association
Association of Program for Rural Independent Living	DeKalb Chamber Of Commerce
Atlanta Housing Authority	DeKalb WorkForce
Atlanta Legal Aid	Destiny Wealth Solutions
Atlanta Regional Commission	Disability Resource Group
National ADAPT	Disabled American Veterans
Best For Less	Dress for Success
Brain Injury Peer Visitor Association	EEOC
Brain & Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund	Elite Care Health Services
The CDC	Enabled Living
CareSource	Essendant
Center For Financial Independence And Innovation	Express Employment Professionals, Decatur
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Our Community Partners

FEMA	Regions Bank
FODAC	Seniors First of Georgia
Fulton County	Statewide Independent Living Council
Georgia Access	SHOWAbility
Georgia Advocacy Office	SNAP
Georgia DHS	Sonder Health
Georgia Department Of Labor	Technical College Systems of Georgia
GA Council on Developmental Disabilities	The Body Hood
GoodWill	Uber
GVRA	United Way
Integrity Facility Service	Us Aging
Job Corps	VA-VR&E
LIFE Behavioral Consulting	ViewPoint Health
Lubo Fund	Walmart
Lyft	Walgreens
MARTA	Walton Options
Metro Fair Housing	Work Source Dekalb
New Disabled South	Work Source Atlanta
RapiFast Care	

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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



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Join by going to zoom.us and click on join meeting.
Meeting ID is 404-687-8890 & Password is 1901



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