



THE WILS WAY

MAIN OFFICE - 612 N. Ridgeview Drive, Warrensburg, MO

FOURTH QUARTER 2018

WILS Bridges the Ramp Gap

Imagine you find yourself touring an amazing, sparkly-new home. All of the latest conveniences and amenities are at your fingertips. You never want to leave! Until you do, and that's when you open the door to realize that you are several stories up with no way to access the ground or the world below. Suddenly, you want nothing more than to be able to find a way to safely exit.

Wayne's house is not in a high rise, brand new, or built with any fancy tech, but it is home. It was also the same kind of prison without proper entry or exit that we toured in our imagination, but for Wayne, it was all too real. Wayne had been unable to leave his home without assistance for months when he met Reverend Moody. The Reverend quickly made the connection with WILS and shared the details of Wayne's dire situation with WILS CDS Specialist, Renia.

Renia's 15 years of experience with WILS provided her with the knowledge and ability to assist Wayne. Renia assisted Wayne with the ramp application process, and once submitted, it was approved. Eddie and Bryan, WILS Ramp & Maintenance staff were able to quickly build and install a high-quality ramp for Wayne. Eddie and Bryan said that Wayne was so thrilled with his ramp that he began to show it off to all his neighbors.

Wayne said, "I can't thank WILS enough. I spent about 45 minutes outside yesterday for the first time in around 4 months. I no longer feel trapped. You guys are great!"

Where there's a WILS, there's a way. Know someone like Wayne who could use help finding their way? Learn more about The WILS Way by calling 1-800-236-5175 or visit www.w-ils.org



WILS Ramp Program constructs ADA wheelchair ramps and does other minor home modifications for individuals with disabilities and the elderly in order to make their residences accessible. Unfortunately, there is a limited amount of assistance available for such installations.

If you are interested in making a donation so someone can have safe access to their home, please visit www.w-ils.org or contact WILS Ramp Coordinator at 1-800-236-5175.

From the desk of Deb Hobson, Executive Director

Happy New Year WILS Family!

Wow, here we are in 2019! I would like to give a big thank you to all who attended the holiday parties this year. It was great to see so many smiles and hear the laughter at each location. As the leader of this organization, I especially enjoyed seeing the interactions and expressions of true caring between consumers and WILS staff. I feel very blessed to be part of an organization that employs staff that sincerely care about those they serve. Finally, I hope that your new WILS blanket is keeping you warm and cozy.

The New Year always brings changes. Missouri has voted in a minimum wage increase that will impact some of your attendants. The new minimum wage will be \$8.60 per hour. If you have questions, contact your CDS Specialist.

I will be spending sometime in Jefferson City at the State Capitol during the upcoming months. There are a number of legislative bills that could impact Independent Living that will be debated and discussed by our elected officials. It is imperative that your stories continue to be told so that funding continues. Our work on your behalf is a commitment we will continue to embrace at every opportunity.



With Warmest Regards,
Deb Hobson
Executive Director

What a year!

Left to Right, top to bottom:

1. Liberty Park Pool Party
2. Lost Valley Fish Hatchery, adults
3. MO Sate Fair ACESS Day
4. ADA Celebration
5. Lost Valley Fish Hatchery, kids
6. Oct Peer Support Crafters
7. Sept Peer Support Crafters
8. WWI Museum & Memorial Trip
9. Odessa Scarecrow Contest



Reindeer Games Holiday Recap

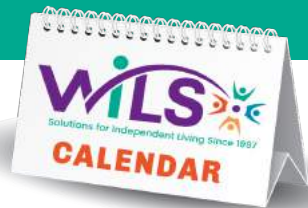


The weather was somewhat frightful, but WILS still served 192 consumers and guests as well as board members and staff at four holiday parties this past December. The “Reindeer Games” themed parties offered activity sheets, a full traditional holiday lunch with dessert, Walmart giftcard and reindeer decor raffle, and of course, everyone’s favorite- BINGO! The WILS Board also graciously gifted consumers with plush throw blankets. Smiles were abundant as guests had a chance to visit and share with one another as well as with WILS staff. A big thank you to all who came to share in the fun. We’re sorry if you missed it, but we hope you can join us at some of our upcoming events!

Upcoming Events

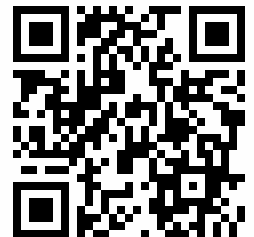
Wednesdays
Jan 16–Feb 20, 2–4pm:
Chronic Disease Self-
Management class at the
Warrensburg WILS.
Cost is FREE.

Thursday Feb 7, 1–3pm: Daum Museum Tour, Sedalia.
Cost is FREE.



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WEST-CENTRAL INDEPENDENT LIVING SOLUTIONS

612 N. Ridgeview Drive
Warrensburg, MO 64093
Phone: 660.422.7883
Fax: 660.422.7895
Toll Free: 800.236.5175
TTY: 660.422.7894

1800 West Main Street
Sedalia, MO 65301
Phone: 660.829.1980
Fax: 660.829.2353
Toll Free: 866.558.5588

210 W. Mason
Odessa, MO 64076
Phone: 816.565.4470
Fax: 660.438.3076
Toll Free: 866.574.8931

255 West Main Street
Warsaw, MO 65355
Phone: 660.223.0001
Fax: 660.438.3076
Toll Free: 888.840.6987

116 West Jefferson Street
Clinton, MO 64735
Phone: 660.383.4745
Fax: 660.383.1097
Toll Free 866.806.5191

Did you know?

West-Central Independent Living Solutions is a non-profit Center for Independent Living that works to help people with disabilities by offering services and programs to help them achieve and maintain their independence. WILS' five core services are information and referral, independent living skills training, advocacy, peer support, and transition.

For individuals, WILS offers supportive programs including accessible ramp construction, low cost accessible transportation, Consumer Directed Services, assistive technology, and help to transition from an institution to independent community living. We can also assist eligible participants to obtain adaptive telephone and computer equipment through Missouri's Telecommunications Access Program. In addition, WILS staff can guide businesses and organizations through the process of performing accessibility surveys and implementing transition plans to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.



www.w-ils.org



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