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# THE WILS WAY

4th QUARTER 2019

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

## WILS serves up holiday cheer at consumer parties in four counties.

West-Central Independent Living Solutions served almost 300 consumers and guests at holiday parties across four counties in December.

WILS holiday parties are a time to celebrate and show appreciation for WILS consumers. We are thankful for the trust that you put in us and we are grateful for the chance to serve you on your independence journey.

While these parties are always a hit, it was never more true than this year. We were able to celebrate with more consumers than ever and it was amazing!

The big draw is always the

bingo games and this year's prizes didn't disappoint. Many consumers walked away with small appliances such as microwaves, coffee makers, and crockpots. Others were able to cash in their tickets for warm blankets or spa therapy



like heated back massagers and foot spas.

One attendee said, "I would like to thank all the

caseworkers, caregivers, and the staff members for all your hard work you all put into these events. You are truly wonderful people. May you have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year's." --JoAnne

You don't have to wait until next December to join us again. You can join us each month for craft day or on one of the many peer support trips throughout the year.





**As winter weather approaches, please be mindful that office hours may change and events may be cancelled or rescheduled due to inclement weather. Go to THEWILSWAY on Facebook to like and follow for updates.**

1/16- West counties craft day  
1/23- East counties craft day  
1/30- Nelson-Atkins Museum

2/4- Super BOWling at UCM  
2/20- West counties craft day  
2/27- East counties craft day

3/19- West counties craft day  
3/26- East counties craft day

**Look for more events on [www.W-ILS.org](http://www.W-ILS.org) calendar page or for more info, call 800-236-5175.**

## Deb's Desk

### *A note from WILS Executive Director*

Happy New Year!

We are excited to be part of your quest for independence in 2020. So much was accomplished in 2019 at WILS; it will be tough act to follow as we move into 2020. By now, your attendants should be enjoying their pay raises. In addition, everyone should be settling into using the new time keeping system. Thank you for your diligence in completing paperwork and training.

During January and February, I will be spending more time in Jefferson City with our state lawmakers. This is becoming more and more important to our mission as an Independent Living Center. There are dozens of bills that have been prefiled that could impact the services we provide. I will keep you posted on new developments as the session proceeds.

Now I would like to ask all of you for assistance. We have been working so hard at WILS to provide quality experiences

brought to you by authentic staff that really do care about you. Unfortunately, in spite of our efforts, I do believe we remain a best kept secret. Please help us get the word out regarding all of our programs and services. If you interact with others with disabilities, please refer them to us. If you know people looking for part-time employment as an attendant, direct them to the closest WILS office. Get to know what is on our web page [www.w-ils.org](http://www.w-ils.org) and help us grow!



Warmly,

Deb Hobson,  
Executive Director

## New attendant pay scale updates

As of December 23, 2019, **WILS CDS Payroll department has processed 412 wage increases.** We love that WILS consumers are able to reward their attendants' hard work with tangible thanks and appreciation! Consumers, if you want to fill out a salary increase form for your attendant, call 800-236-5175. If you are a consumer or an attendant who would like to share how WILS services/your job and this pay increase have blessed you, please email your success story to [info@w-ils.org](mailto:info@w-ils.org) or take a written statement to the WILS office nearest you by February 14th for a chance to win a \$25 gift card.





## Did you know?

### Assistive Tech can keep you AT home.

Live more independently at home! WILS offers assistive technology demo rooms in both the Warrensburg and Sedalia offices. You can try devices before you get them to explore what will work best for you. You may even discover assistive technology that you didn't know you needed. Call to set up a personalized AT demo at the WILS office nearest you.

## Winter Wisdom

### AT HOME

When temps drop outside, it's time to take action inside to stay warm, cozy, & safe!

- Protect your pipes- run water
- Clear 3ft around space heaters
- Use carbon monoxide alarms
- Weather-strip windows & doors

### IN YOUR VEHICLE

Hazards such as heavy snow, black ice, fog, and high winds can reduce visibility and impair driving.

- Stock an emergency kit
- Check lights & tire pressure
- Clear windows of ice & snow
- Slow down

### OUTDOORS

The weather outside may be frightful, but sometimes you just have to adventure out.

- Dress in multiple thin layers
- Cover your head & hands
- Sprinkle salt on walkways
- Use caution when shoveling

### PETS

Keep your fur-babies happy & healthy all winter long.

- Provide shelter or windbreaks
- Prevent frozen drinking water
- Check paws
- Monitor for unusual behavior

## Power Outage Food Safety Tips



## Winter Vehicle Emergency Kit

**First-Aid Kit**

**Windshield Washer Fluid**

**Kitty Litter or Sand**

**Food and Water**

**Duct Tape**

**Flashlight**

**Blankets**

**Winter Coat**

**Hat and Gloves**

**Snow Shovel**



# WEST-CENTRAL INDEPENDENT LIVING SOLUTIONS

WILS is a consumer driven, non-residential, 501(c)3 nonprofit resource center serving people with disabilities in Benton, Henry, Johnson, Lafayette, Pettis, & Saline counties.

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[www.w-ils.org](http://www.w-ils.org)



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