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THE WILS WAY

4th QUARTER 2022

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

All Aboard! The WILS Express Celebrates for their first fully in-person holiday parties in two years!

Chugga chugga choo choo 2022! What a great year for WILS consumer holiday parties; there were smiles for miles!

Warsaw station was stop number one and we had oh so many people stop for some fun!

Sedalia station was stop number two - a new venue.

Warrensburg station was the final stop at number three.

All would agree: the highlight was the BINGO prize shopping spree!

Thank you all for celebrating the holiday season with us!



WILS provides options that can make Independent Living a **choice**. WILS encourages participants to take **control** by setting & accomplishing their own personal goals. Learning to make informed decisions allows participants to **change** from unnecessary dependency to full inclusion in community life.



Deb's Desk

A note from WILS Executive Director

Dear WILS Consumers,

What an amazing round of holiday parties to wrap up 2022! It was great to see everyone sitting around the tables after two years of parking lot parties. It was great to see that your Bingo skills were as sharp as ever.

We are excited that 2023 is here and that you are continuing your journey of living independently with us.

Transportation will be a renewed focus for 2023. We are working to secure new vehicles and drivers to meet growing demand for accessible transportation. We have also turned our current fleet into mobile billboards to better communicate our services. Be watching for updates on

our progress.

I personally want to thank you all for choosing WILS! I am especially proud of our dedicated staff in all areas of our agency.

As always, reach out if we can assist you in any way as you live your best life.



Warmly,
Deb Hobson,
Executive Director

Upcoming events

Details found at W-ILS.org

Fridays 10am - 12pm, Acrylic Painting at WILS Warrensburg

January 19 from 10:30am to 12:30pm, community care day for Johnson county residents at the Warrensburg Community Center.

February - to show we care, we'll be delivering craft themed connect crates. Call 855-945-7929 to request. Limited crates available on a first come, first serve basis.

February 16 from 10:30am to 12:30pm, community care day for Lafayette county residents at the Margaret Grey Community Center in Lexington.

March - Time and date details to be determined.



Bags of cleaning and hygiene products supplied by Jeremiah 29:11 were shared with attendees in Saline county.

WILS also participated in Project Connect events in Johnson and Lafayette counties.

Check the W-ILS.org calendar page for future dates and locations in WILS other service areas.



WILS offered free CLAIM Medicare counseling during open enrollment. WILS IL Benefits Administrator provided information so participants could choose the best Medicare or Medicaid coverage options for their situation. CLAIM counseling empowered participants to exercise their rights and be proactive in health care decisions. Best of all, it saves money because you can consider the value and benefits of each option as it relates to your personal health care and budget needs.

Independence Winners

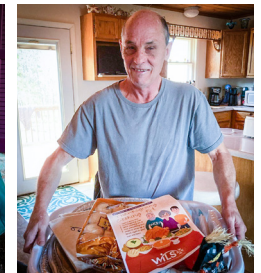
Thanks in part to a grant, COVID vaccine and booster cards qualified participants to enter a "Ramp Up Your Independence with WILS" contest. Drawings were held monthly in April, May, and June 2022 and winners were notified at the end of those months. Each was able to choose an ADA ramp or mobility aid of their choice. Due to manufacturing and materials delays, we are just now able to celebrate all three recipients' newly ramped up independence. Congratulations to Joy, Ellen, and Theresa!



Giving Thanks

"If you are really thankful, what do you do? You share." – W. Clement Stone

We are so very thankful for each and every one of you! Each year, WILS consumers are automatically entered in a drawing for a Thanksgiving meal kit filled with food and other goodies. We loved sharing turkey dinners and fall cheer with our WILS winners! The baskets were made possible with contributions from F & C Bank, Woods Supermarket, Hy-Vee, Jeremiah 29:11, & ALDI.



In October, WILS consumers rode the Katy Trail thanks to the Missouri Parks Association tram tour program. An interpretive guide provided a presentation and history of the Windsor to Green Ridge trail portion and provided commentary on the local natural and cultural history along the trail. It was a beautiful day to enjoy the fall scenery and great company!

WEST-CENTRAL INDEPENDENT LIVING SOLUTIONS

**SAY
Hello!**

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

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