



THE WILS WAY

WILS provides options that can make independent living a **choice**. WILS encourages participants to take **control** by setting and 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 Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the beautiful fall weather. As we embrace the crisp air, vibrant foliage, and the cozy embrace of sweaters, we're reminded of the unique charm that autumn brings. It's also a perfect time to update you on the exciting happenings at WILS.

First and foremost, I want to encourage you to visit our website at w-ils.org to stay in the loop about our upcoming activities. The website is regularly updated to provide you with all the information you need to fully engage with our community.

But what's exciting is what lies just around the corner - our famous holiday parties! These celebrations are a highlight of the year, and we're working diligently to make them even more memorable this time around. We'll have awesome snacks, festive decorations, and plenty of Bingo to make the holiday season truly special.

Remember, our website is the hub for all the latest information, so bookmark it and visit often. We're always open to suggestions, feedback, and contributions, so please feel free to reach out to us if you have ideas or insights to share.

Thank you for being an essential part of our community, and we look forward to celebrating this wonderful season with you at our upcoming holiday parties. Stay tuned, stay connected, and most importantly, stay well.

Warmly,
Deb Hobson, Executive Director

Upcoming Events

- Acrylic painting Fridays at WILS in Warrensburg, 10am - 12pm
- Nov 3, 6, & 7 DIY Crafting events at WILS offices from 10am - 11am
- Nov 15 AT Demo center Open House in Sedalia from 1pm - 2pm
- Dec 5, 7, & 12 WILS holiday parties from 1pm - 3pm

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"I'm extremely happy having WILS. It's nice having a program like this who cares about people and wants to help them succeed and be prepared for things. Thank you!" - Letha

Outdoors Without Limits

Peer Support

WILS Outdoors Without Limits event exemplified community inclusivity, providing an opportunity for individuals with disabilities to connect with the outdoors and each other. Nearly 100 participants were able to experience the thrill of reeling in their first catch, discover their inner archer as they took aim with a bow and arrow, and practice their precision and aim during target practice. As we look back at the event, we're reminded of the power of coming together, trying new things, and creating memories that last a lifetime. A special thanks to our partners at MDC, Stealth Gobblers, and Warrensburg Parks and Rec!

Thanks to the ADA

Independent Living

July 26 marked the anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). WILS offered consumers the opportunity to access and explore their community at some fantastic locations, fostering inclusivity and celebrating the progress we've made since the ADA became law. Participants utilized WILS accessible transportation to dive into community inclusion at Liberty Park Pool in Pettis county, strike up fun at the Union Bowling Center in Johnson county, and take in the theatrical delights of 'State Fair' at the Lyceum Theater in Saline county. As we look back at the ADA's 33 years, we recognize the significant strides made in promoting accessibility and inclusivity for individuals with disabilities. These events allowed us to celebrate the progress we've made while acknowledging the work that remains.



**"I don't
know
the last
time I
had this
much
fun"**

- Kenneth D



IL Skills



Back to School: A Bucket List Trip

What an incredible day it was at our Back to School event! We are thrilled to report that attendees not only had the chance to learn something new but also to act like a kid again and simply enjoy the day to the fullest. From hands-on training to access the internet to learning how to make the most of internet discounts, everyone had the opportunity to enhance their digital skills. It was a reminder that education can be fun, and it's never too late to acquire new skills and knowledge. Learning and exploring is for everyone!

IL Skills



Digital Safety with MO AT

In an era where staying connected and navigating the digital landscape has become increasingly important, Missouri Assistive Technology has taken a significant step towards ensuring that seniors and Missourians with disabilities have the opportunity to bridge the digital divide. Thanks to the MO Goes Tech grant from KC Digital Drive, MOAT recently sponsored three computer classes aimed at empowering these individuals with the digital skills they need to thrive in today's world.

Independent Living



Healthier You - Vaccine Access

As advocates for health, wellness, and community support, our team at WILS has been making waves in various healthcare access initiatives. In collaboration with the University of Central Missouri, WILS volunteers played a pivotal role in UCM's International Student Healthcare Access Day. Our team helped international students access essential services and welcomed them to the community. Other key partnerships: HCC, Johnson County Health Department, and Saline county back to school events.

CELEBRATIONS OF JOY *and Health*

DEC 5 AT 1PM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
WARRENSBURG

DEC 7 AT 1PM
1ST UNITED METHODIST
SEDALIA

DEC 12 AT 1PM
ST. ANN
WARSAW



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BEST DAY EVER



Brenda was unable to safely exit her home until WILS was able to provide a ramp. When Brenda was asked how the ramp was working for her, she said, "Awesome! I now can leave my house and get the mail and do whatever I want to do! I cannot thank you guys enough."

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