

# What is Independent Living?

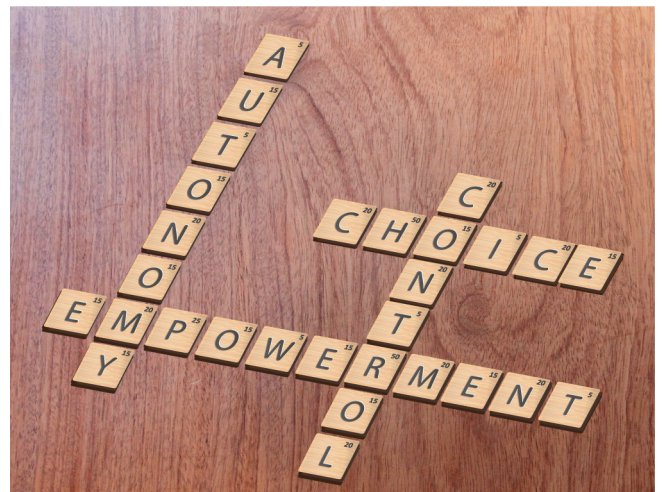
Independent living is a philosophy stating that people with disabilities should have the same civil rights, choices, and control as do people without disabilities. The principles of independent living are in direct contrast to the dependence created by institutionalization, which segregates people with disabilities. The Independent Living Movement seeks to change community attitudes and beliefs, which perpetuate dependence.

# What are Independent Living Services?

Independent Living services provide information and assistance to available resources and services enabling people with disabilities and their families to make informed choices to assist them in their goal of living independently in the community of their choosing.

# What are Centers for Independent Living (CILs?)

New Jersey's CILs are private, nonprofit organizations that work with people with all disabilities to advance their independence. Each center is a self-governing organization, which responds to community needs and takes action to eliminate barriers in each region. Fifty-one percent of the people serving on the CILs' Boards of Directors, as well as a majority of the CILs' staff members, have disabilities. CILs emerged out of the Independent Living Movement and the Civil Rights and Disability Rights movements of the late 1960s/early 1970s under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.



# How can I become involved with DAWN?

DAWN is a membership organization. By becoming a member you are showing your support of the work we do. However, you do not have to be a member to receive our services. If you choose to become a member, you will also have the opportunity to participate in DAWN events at reduced rates, be active in DAWN activities that influence policy issues at the local, state and national levels of government, and more. Dues paying members in good standing also may vote in organizational elections.



# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please help us by joining DAWN Center for Independent Living. Membership runs from October 1st through September 30th of the following year.

- \$20 New/Renewal (one person)
- \$10 Student
- \$35 Family (two or more people in the same family)
- \$100 Business/Professional
- \$500 Lifetime

If you wish to make an additional contribution \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/TTY Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make check payable DAWN Center for Independent Living and mail to:*

**DAWNcil - 66 Ford Road, Suite 121, Denville, NJ 07834-1235**