

DAWN CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

“EXPANDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE WITHIN THE
DISABILITY NETWORKS INITIATIVE”

HOSTED BY
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WITH

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Centers for Independent Living

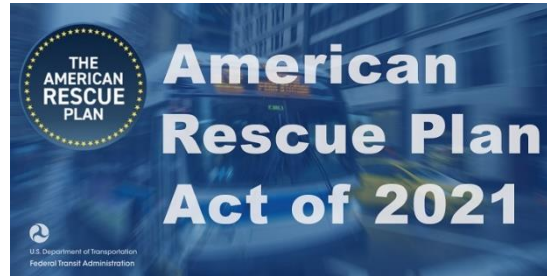
- Centers for Independent Living (CILs) are grassroots, advocacy-driven community-based organizations run by and for people with disabilities.
- The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (as amended) included provision for the funding of Centers for Independent Living.
- CIL's promote the Independent Living philosophy which states that people with disabilities should have the same civil rights, choices and control as do people without disabilities.
- Independent Living is about choice!
- There are 12 CIL's in NJ each serving specific geographic areas.
<https://www.njsilc.org/centers-for-independent-living-by-county.html>
- DAWN Center for Independent Living serves Morris, Sussex and Warren counties.
- All Centers provide individual and systems advocacy, information and referral, peer support, independent living skills training and transition.



MISSION/VISION

Mission: Providing support to persons with disabilities throughout their lifespan so they can achieve their highest level of independence in their community.

Vision: People with disabilities will have equal opportunities to fully participate in all aspects of community life, to live independently and to achieve economic self-sufficiency.



- DAWN Center for Independent Living is one of 12 CIL's in the state of NJ chosen by the Administration on Community Living to participate in the *Expanding the Public Health Workforce within the Aging and Disability Networks*.
- The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) provided funding via the aging and disability networks (networks that play an essential role in public health) to recruit, hire, and train public health workers to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and prepare for future public health challenges utilizing the existing aging and disability networks.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

Centers for Independent Living, as trusted members of their communities and providers of services that support older adults and people with disabilities in every community across the country, play an essential role in public health. Our networks provide a variety of services that directly support public health, such as health and wellness education and information, counseling, case management and assistance with accessing health care services, including COVID-19 vaccinations.

With more than 50 years of experience and unmatched knowledge of the unique needs of older adults and people with disabilities, the aging and disability networks are critical partners with the public health system, providing technical assistance and guidance on meeting the unique needs of older adults and people with disabilities.



SURGEON GENERAL'S CALL TO ACTION



The U.S. Surgeon General's Call to Action to Improve the Health and Wellness of Persons with Disabilities is **“built on the need to promote accessible, comprehensive health care that enables persons with disabilities to have a full life in the community with integrated services, consistent with the President's New Freedom Initiative. Persons with disabilities must have accessible, available and appropriate health care and wellness promotion services.**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Improve the Health and Wellness of Persons with Disabilities. US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General, 2005

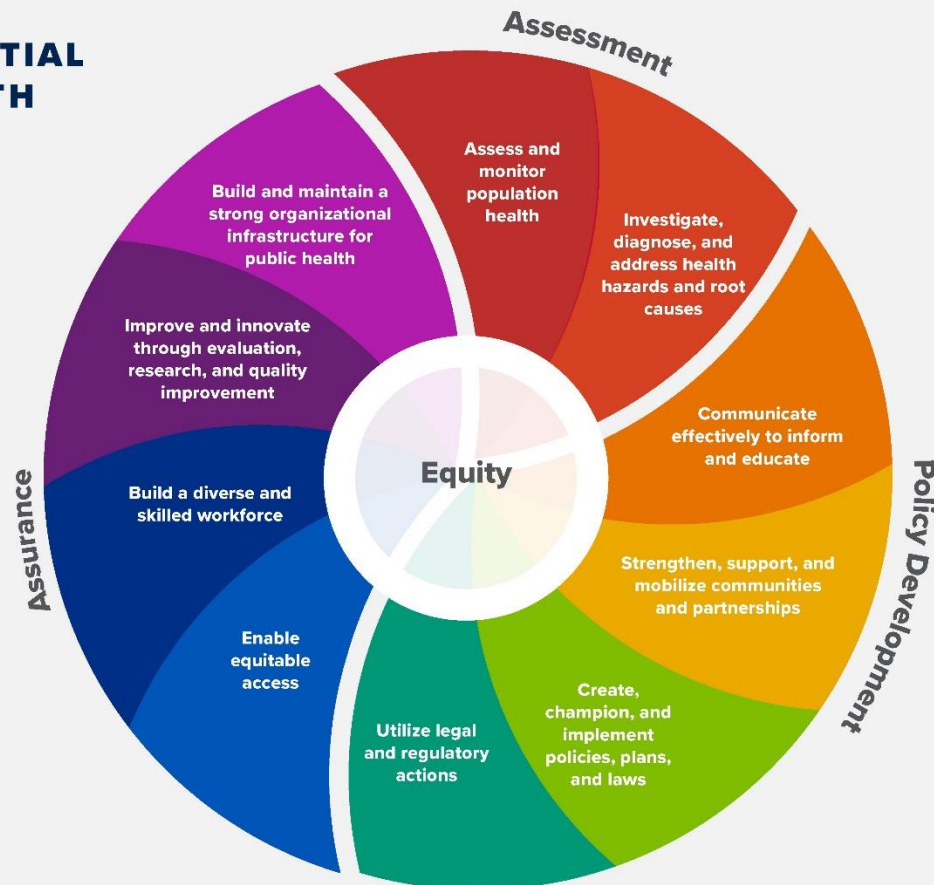


EQUITY AT THE CENTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

To protect and promote the health of all people in all communities

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities. To achieve optimal health for all, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and services that enable good health and seek to remove obstacles and systemic and structural barriers, such as poverty, racism, gender discrimination, and other forms of oppression, that have resulted in health inequities. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve good health and well-being.





BUILDING BRIDGES TO BREAK DOWN BARRIERS

Health Equity is at the center of the Morris, Sussex, and Warren County Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPs).

www.njhealthmatters.org



Building bridges between Public Health and Human Services helps to address the social determinants of health. Positive outcomes are possible with cross sector collaboration.



MAKING CONNECTIONS

- individuals in the community
- human and disabilities services professionals
- caregivers
- public health workers

We aim to get community members connected to their municipalities and local health departments where they live and work.

We promote inclusion of individuals with disabilities and functional limitations in community health promotion, education screenings and vaccination clinics, and emergency preparedness.

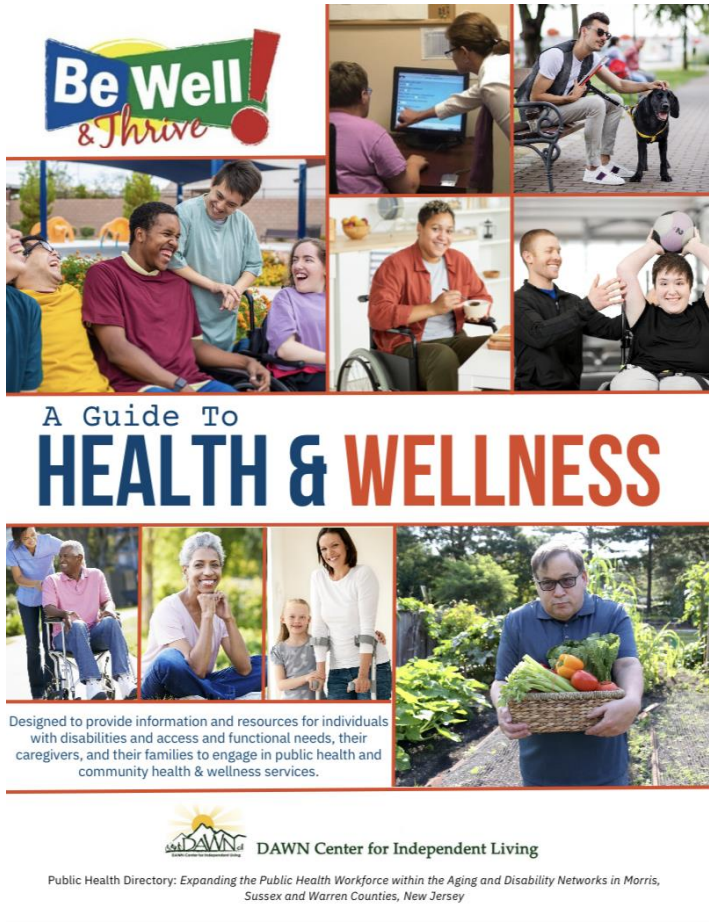


Public Health[®]
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

In May 2023, DAWNcil will host three 1- hour training webinars for public health workers in an effort to prevent, prepare for, and respond to future health challenges of individuals with disabilities.

These activities will provide a framework for public health to develop cultural competency skills to protect and promote the health of people with disabilities and older adults.

GET CONNECTED TO LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH & COMMUNITY RESOURCES



A Call to Action

Lifestyle and Health

Primary Care and Screenings

Mental Health Matters

**Protect Yourself and Others From
Germs**

Public Health

Health Departments

Human Services and Social Support

A link to download this Guide is on www.dawncil.org

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH US

This **anonymous** survey will help us understand the greatest needs of people with disabilities and functional limitations accessing local public health services. Please complete by May 1, 2023.

<https://bit.ly/41e173W>

