**Independent Living of Niagara County** is a consumer or “peer run” agency with opportunities for you to contribute in a variety of ways.

# What Is Independent Living?

Services offered at Independent Living of Niagara County:

* Transition Services
* Developmental Disability Programs
* Independent Living Skills
* Medicaid Service Coordination
* OAHIIO
* Taking Control
* Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
* Care Coordination

# Contribute to Independent Living of Niagara County

Our agency provides a variety of ways

to financially support our mission. Individual contributions through our annual appeal letter, volunteering

at events, and serving through the ILNC Council (see next panel). To get involved, please call our main number at 716-284-4131.

# Council Membership

ILNC has a regional board of directors who monitor, direct, recommend, oversee the budget and assist the Director in achieving the agencies overall goals which includes equality, education and empowerment for people with disabilities.

Join us on



[www.facebook.com/ilniagaracounty](http://www.facebook.com/ilniagaracounty)

Independent Living Centers are 501(c)3,

non-for profit organizations.

To donate to Independent Living of Niagara County go to: [www.wnyil.org/Independent-Living-](http://www.wnyil.org/Independent-Living-)

Niagara-Division or mail to:

746 Portage Rd.

Niagara Falls, NY 14301 (716) 284-4131 (Voice/TDD)

1-855-366-1042 (Toll Free)

(716) 284-3230 (Fax)



Independent Living of Niagara County (ILNC)



**OAHIIO**

“The Good Path”



**Taking Control** Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services

*Education, Empowerment, and Equality for People with Disabilities throughout Niagara County*

# Independent Living of Niagara County

**Our Vision:** Independent Living of Niagara County (ILNC) is a member of the W.N.Y. Independent Living (WNYIL) family of agencies. ILNC serves as a catalyst for individual and systems change, enhancing the quality of life for people

with disabilities while respecting diversity, and promoting choice and alternatives for independent living within our community.

**Our Mission:** ILNC is a multi-cultural, grass roots, peer directed, civil rights organization that provides a full range of assistance, programs and services to enhance the quality of life for all individuals with disabilities.

ILNC is an agency that is directed, monitored, and staffed by people with disabilities to assist people with disabilities to achieve their life goals.

**Our Core Services** include independent living skills, individual and systems advocacy, information and referral, and peer support.

**Services Offered:** ILNC provides Transition Services, Developmental Disability Programs, Independent Living Services, Medicaid Service Coordination, Benefits Advisement, and Family Reimbursement through Office of Persons With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

**OAHIIO:** This “walls free” program includes Independent Living Skills & Family Support.

**Taking Control: Member Directed Personal Assistant Services (CDPAS):** Your members may be eligible for our fiscal intermediary in-home personal assistant services.

The member controls hiring, training, and evaluating their personal care provided by the attendant. For

more information on contracting or questions or concerns, please call: 716-836-0822.

**Services for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing:** This program offers individual and family support, telecommunication technology

information, deaf support groups, education, referral, deaf community outreach and on and off site sign language classes.

**Benefits Advisement:** This program assists individuals with applying for benefits such as SSI and SSD related to his or her disability or diagnosis.

**Addict 2 Addict:** Addict 2 Addict Niagara is a peer support program that offers immediate support to those people who are battling an addiction. We are here to offer experience, identification and linkages to treatment to those people who request assistance. This agency receives funding from the New

York State Office of Mental Health and Niagara County Department of Mental Health.

**Western New York Independent Living, Inc. History:** Born out of the nationwide independent living and civil rights movement, college students with disabilities who were fed-up with discrimination and the lack of access for people with disabilities decided to

create their own opportunities and assist their peers to do the same. In 1979 “The Independents,” a group of students

with disabilities at the State University of New York at Buffalo investigated the independent living movement and

began operating the Western New York Independent Living Project (ILP). The agency was awarded a Federal Title VII grant in 1980 and opened its own facility early in 1981.