

Annual Report

2009 - 2010



Will-Grundy

CENTER *for*
INDEPENDENT
LIVING

Sharing Resources, Improving Lives



Mission:

As people with disabilities and their advocates, the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living strives for equality and empowerment of persons with disabilities in the Will and Grundy County areas. We inform persons with disabilities of their rights, educate them about their responsibilities, provide support services, promote advocacy, and raise community awareness about disability issues.

Staff

- Pam Heavens, *Executive Director*
- Festus Fabilola, *Program Manager*
- Carol Warunek, *Office Manager*
- Mary Tisdale, *Independent Living Advocate*
- Debbie Tarrant, *Independent Living Advocate*
- Kelly McKenzie, *Personal Assistant Advocate*
- Laura Zieger, *Community Reintegration Advocate*
- Tijuana Sanders, *Community Reintegration Advocate*
- Olivia Cruickshank, *Community Reintegration Aide*
- Maria Cristina Hansen, *Hispanic Outreach Advocate*
- Marie Malfatti, *Clerical Aide*
- Shoma Vachachira, *Administrative Assistant*
- Cailin Rooney, *Administrative Assistant*

Board of Directors

- Denise Winfrey, *President*
- Val Rand, *Vice President*
- Donald L. Cordano, *Treasurer*
- Charles Fuqua, *Secretary*
- John Stanton, *Delegate at Large*
- Bob Smith
- Jim Albritton
- Tim Brintnall
- Rhonda Price
- Vincent Foster, Sr.
- Steve Hicks
- Jacky Beato
- Brent Newman
- Nancy Pohlman
- MaryAnn Pinkney
- Lynn McLaughlin
- Leslie Sutton
- Paul Lagomarcino

Sharing Resources, Improving Lives

In Program Year 2009-2010, the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living provided information and referral to a total of 2,135 disabled individuals.

Additionally, more than 120 people with disabilities received direct, individualized service from staff, whether through development of an Independent Living Plan, peer counseling, advocacy, home modifications, life skills training, or other customized support program.

Core Consumer Services: Resources + Knowledge = Independence

Staff empower consumers to help themselves

- Information and Referral
- Independent Living Skills Training and Enhancement
- Individual Advocacy
- Systems Advocacy

Specialized Services provided at no charge to consumers include:

- Amplified Telephone Distribution - Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation
- Assistive Technology Children's Grant Program
- Community Reintegration Program
- Computer Courses
- Deaf Services
- Disability Law Series, Disability Forum
- Educational Outreach
- Fair Housing Information and Referrals
- Financial Education Training
- Hispanic Outreach/Translation
- Individualized Education Plan (IEP) support
- Interpreter Referral – sign language
- Legislative Internship Program
- Low Vision Loan Program
- Parent Support
- Personal Assistant Coordination and Registry
- Sign Language Classes
- Transition Training for post high school adults
- Video Relay Service
- Voter Registration
- Volunteer Corps
- Workshops on wide range of topics
- Youth Support

What Makes Us Most Proud:

Highlights of Program Year 2009-2010

Amplified Telephones

The Center served as a distributor of free amplified telephones provided by the Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation (ITAC). With strong media and community outreach at events throughout its service region, the Center provided a total of 278 individuals experiencing hearing loss with phones that increased their ability to communicate with family, friends and caregivers.

Independent Living Skills Training

A wide range of information and resources were provided to hundreds of consumers with disabilities by way of the Center's diverse and customized programs. Day in and day out, the Center's staff answers calls, responds to email requests for information, welcomes and meets with disabled persons – of all types and all ages. Whether regular or new consumers, many soon find themselves participating in the educational outreach programs presented by the Center, including but not limited to: Financial Education, Computer Courses, Transportation Training, Nutrition Counseling, Legislative Forums, and benefitting from the unique peer support our staff offers.

Community Reintegration

A total of 11 disabled adults moved out of nursing facilities into their own residences with support from the Center's most popular program. This program saves individual dignity and increases independence, while saving the State of Illinois approximately 40% of the cost of institutionalization.

Disability Mentoring Day

During this annual job shadowing event in October, the Center – a local coordinator for more than a dozen years – worked to match 45 high school students with disabilities with workplace mentors from the region. Pharmacists, computer technicians, veterinarians, automotive specialists, childcare providers, retail supervisors, restaurant managers, artists, floral designers, meteorologists, public servants and elected officials were some of the more popular careers which were explored during this great program.

Annual Meeting Celebrating CIL's 20 Years of Service

A celebratory setting greeted the 90+ guests – consumers, supporters and elected officials – who took time to join with CIL staff and board during the Annual Meeting held in November. As the event commemorated the Center's 20th year of service, special memories were made with presentations to long-time staff, and a special tribute to Executive Director Pam Heavens, also marking her 20th year at the helm.

Disability Forum Commemorates ADA Anniversary in Grundy County

This one-stop workshop of resources included: securing disability benefits, preparing for emergencies, obtaining loans for home modifications, advocating for a disabled student, using accessible voting equipment, understanding the ADA, and learning what our Center provides.

Disability Law Series - Summer, 2010

The Center prides itself on being a leading regional resource on disability related issues – to individuals, organizations, governments, elected officials and businesses. This annual Series offered the latest from top experts on issues related to federal, state and local disability laws, including: Illinois Environmental Barriers Act; Rehab Act & Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights; Illinois Rehabilitation Act; Voting Accessibility Act; Fair Housing Act and Amendments; and, of course, the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act.

Noteworthy Numbers on Consumer Services

Our staff prides itself on being a reliable, widely-respected resource to people with disabilities; in addition, family members, healthcare providers, agency partners, municipalities, elected officials and the public at large – from both Counties in our service region – benefit from our support and expertise on disability issues.

<p>2,235 Total number of individuals receiving Information and Referral (I&R). By far, I&Rs continue to be Center’s most widely accessed service. Rounding out the top 5 services, in addition to I&R: Staff taught consumers how to enhance their independent living skills (88), receive Peer Counseling (44), Orientation and Management (47), and access Home Modifications and Housing assistance (31).</p>	<p>Gender</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td style="text-align: right;">50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td style="text-align: right;">71</td> </tr> </table> <p>Race</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Caucasian</td> <td style="text-align: right;">75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>African American</td> <td style="text-align: right;">36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hispanic</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Multiple Races</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pacific Islands</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> </table>	Female	50	Male	71	Caucasian	75	African American	36	Hispanic	7	Multiple Races	2	Pacific Islands	1
Female	50														
Male	71														
Caucasian	75														
African American	36														
Hispanic	7														
Multiple Races	2														
Pacific Islands	1														
<p>361 Number of consumers who received assistive technology from the Center</p>	<p>Age</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Under 5</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5-19</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20-24</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25-59</td> <td style="text-align: right;">97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60+</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10</td> </tr> </table>	Under 5	0	5-19	7	20-24	7	25-59	97	60+	10				
Under 5	0														
5-19	7														
20-24	7														
25-59	97														
60+	10														
<p>92 Number of consumers who were able to access healthcare services with CIL support</p>															
<p>57 Number of consumers who obtained previously unavailable access to transportation</p>															
<p>121 Consumers receiving Direct Services, where disabled persons with case files work regularly and closely with staff throughout the year to identify and meet goals, enhance independent living skills, and receive ongoing support. Of those, the following numbers offer an overview of consumers serviced.</p>															

Top Priorities:

Serve Consumers, Collaborate and always, always Advocate

Center Hosts Health Fair

In March, 2010, our local Center was one of dozens statewide which supported a U.S. Centers for Disease Control initiative to provide flu shots to persons with disabilities. The Will-Grundy Center hosted a free Health Fair, at the Renaissance Center in downtown Joliet. The event's offerings included: flu shots by the Will County Health Department; blood pressure and vision screenings by the University of St. Francis Health and Wellness Center; demonstrations of amplified telephones distributed by the Center through the Illinois Telecommunications Assistance Corporation; and hearing screenings by Prairieland Audiology. Nearly 60 individuals – including youth, adults, seniors and veterans – took advantage of this program and were very pleased to have participated.

Legislative Internship Serves as Civics Refresher Course

With great thanks to CIL Independent Living Advocate Mary Tisdale with support from Debbie Tarrant, who coordinates this program annually, the 2010 Legislative Internship Series was jam-packed with valuable information and guest instructors this year. The 12-week, free educational session featured a tremendous range of presenters who generously shared their expertise. Whether they were representing the U.S. House of Representatives, the Illinois House and Senate, Will County or City of Joliet Government, each shared a wealth of information on key issues: the U.S. Constitution; Branches of Government; How a Bill Becomes a Law; Effective Advocacy; City Government; and Accessible Voting.

The 2009 program also included: workshops on Internet training to research and access government sites and program information; a course on communicating with legislators, featuring role-playing to assist participants in preparation for upcoming visits; developing effective correspondence to communicate with federal, state and local legislators. Whether at the high school level, adults or seniors, students learned how to be more effective advocates, and how governments and their representatives, as well as citizens, participate in the democratic process:

CIL Staff Promotes Free Amplified Telephones

Free phones! Get your free amplified telephones! Knowing the need is great and the equipment is popular, the Center went far and wide to promote the availability of free amplified telephones – provided by the Illinois Telecommunications Assistance Corporation, or ITAC. Staff attended numerous community fairs, health expos and senior services events. The Will County Sheriff's Department, Joliet Junior College, Lockport Park District, The Timbers of Shorewood, Grundy County Chamber of Commerce, among others, held resource fairs to connect area public service organizations with those who can benefit.



WGCIL Joins Forces with Illinois Partners for Human Service and Participates in "Imagine Illinois" Project

Collaboration is key. And nowhere is that more evident than the current state of advocacy throughout the State. In 2010, the Will-Grundy CIL signed on with a consortium of fellow human service providers, more than 200 agencies strong. The goal of Illinois Partners for Human Service: to raise the volume of voices speaking out on behalf of agencies and those they serve to Illinois' elected officials.

The Center's fall Candidate Forum and attendance at quarterly conferences are one way we can ensure that disability rights gets and stays in the forefront of the equation as difficult budget decisions are made.

In an effort to improve community response to women with disabilities who experience sexual violence, the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living participated in a local collaboration with the "Imagine Illinois" project. The one year project, which began in Spring, was spearheaded by the Illinois Department of Human Services and funded through the Department of Justice Office for Violence Against Women.

WGCIL DONORS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2009-2010

Whether through Memorial Donations, Holiday Appeal, Annual Meeting or the annual Summer Serenade dinner, the following is a list of individual, organizational and corporate donors from Program Year 2009-2010. Quite simply, it is the generosity of those listed below which allowed our Center to accomplish its mission.

\$10,000+

James E. Hearn
Charitable Foundation

\$1,001-5,000

Bill Michas
David and Cynthia June
Jack Heavens
Remco Medical
First Midwest Bank
Caterpillar, Inc.
Northern Illinois Steel Supply Co.
"D" Construction

\$501-1,000

Provena St. Joseph Medical Center
Wadsworth Golf Charities
D'Arcy Motors
Val and Bobbi Rand
Rich DeGrush

\$101-500

Jim Albritton
Rev. Jim and Nancy Allen
Paul Blatti
Betty Davito
Ed Dollinger
Nancy Schultz Voots
Bob Smith
Denise Winfrey
Elizabeth Paradowski
Laverne Brown
Cynthia and Shawn Bass
Sharon Dames
Anonymous
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Tarizzo
Akiko Fleming
Deb Condotti
Bill Brucher
Donald L. Cordano
Joseph Belman
Russ and Laurie Weglarz
Jan and Tom Quillman
Arthur Nyc
Mike and Tina Huber
Chris and Jack Book
Pam Heavens
June McLuckie
MaryAnn Pinkney
Jackie Beato
Nancy Pohlman
Paul Lagomarcino
Mary Ann Egger
Leslie Sutton
Joan and Jack Rogers
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Kilbride

\$101-500 (cont.)

Vincent Foster Sr.
Bernie Madoch
M/M Jim Roof
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Wilhelmi
Judy and Gary Bebar
Bob and Maria Hansen
Lauren Galloway
Stanton Architects
Exxon Mobil
Silver Cross Hospital
Coal Bin Self Storage
Friends of Careen Gordon
Contractors Assoc. of Will-Grundy Counties
Friends of A.J. Wilhelmi
Senesac & Lennon CPA
For the Good of It
First Community Bank
NuMark Credit Union
Grundy Development Corp.
DeGleus & Klaffer
South Suburban Housing Center

\$51-100

Rose Mancuso
Mary Ann Pinkney
Karen Pinkney
Leonard Heinz
Ray Lyons
Tony Arellano
David Cumbo
Steve Hicks
Mary Tisdale
Michael W. Hanson
Lela Haldorson
Mr. and Mrs. Basil Crutchfield
Senator Toi Hutchison
Valeria Wilmette
Rep. Jack McGuire
Three Rivers Assoc. of Realtors
Morris Hospital
Hanson and Hanson
Easter Seals
Prairie Trail Credit Union
Reeves Funeral Home

\$0-50

Jenn Cain
Beth Ann May
Betty Martis
Greg Bucciarelli
Carol Warunek
Joseph Young
Laverne Baudino
June McLuckie
Joan Blaine
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Bukes
Eleanor Fulton
Harold Holsinger
Mike Hennessy
Richard Shega
Susie Barber
Vincent Foster Sr.
Charles Fuqua
Lynn McLaughlin
Dave Lennon
Joseph Chess
Frank and Laverne Washburn
Dr. Patricia Miller
Pete Piazza Jr.
Danny Smith
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Morimoto
Friends of Anthony DeLuca
Kim Coker
Darlene Tepper
Dorris Price
Elouise McCloyn
Marie Malfatti
Larry Hunter
Doris Bertani
Rhonda Davis
Carol Bates
Mike Lord
Festus Fabilola
Robert Inman
Laurence Hollatz
Deb Tarrant
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Book Sr.
Mary Riley
Alan Zordan
Exelon
Advanced Hearing Systems

In-Kind Donations:

Fast Printing of Joliet
Graphic Papers of Joliet
BGI Advertising
Knjiga Intelligent Communications, Inc.
Harrah's Casino/Hotel Joliet
Ted Lega
NICOR

SENESAC & LENNON, LTD.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS | PERSONAL FINANCIAL SPECIALISTS

Stephen A. Senesac, CPA/PFS

David D. Lennon, CPA/PFS

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

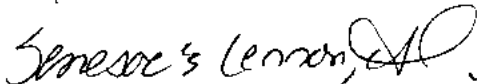
The Board of Directors
Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living (a non-profit organization) as of June 30, 2010 and 2009, and the related statement of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Due to space limitations within the annual report, management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures ordinarily included in a complete set of financial statements. Additionally, the Organization has omitted the Statement of Cash Flows for the years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009. Presentation of such a statement summarizes the Organization's operating, investing, and financing activities, and is recognized by generally accepted accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the omissions explained in the preceding paragraph, the statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living at June 30, 2010 and 2009, and the results of its activity for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



September 30, 2010

333 North Hammes Ave. • Joliet, Illinois 60435

Phone: 815-725-7070 • Fax: 815-725-7388

WILL-GRUNDY CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY
Years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009

	June 30, <u>2010</u>	June 30, <u>2009</u>
Revenues and other support:		
Federal and state grants	\$ 656,554	\$ 651,934
Other grants	77,489	84,312
Fund-raising and contributions	52,846	66,596
Fees for services	10,940	12,708
Investment returns	36,041	(52,743)
Other	1,572	2,863
Total revenue and other support	<u>835,442</u>	<u>765,670</u>
Expenses:		
Program services	638,940	659,393
Management and general	147,335	155,264
Fundraising	5,401	6,149
Total expenses	<u>791,676</u>	<u>820,806</u>
Change in net assets	43,766	(55,136)
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>692,136</u>	<u>747,272</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 735,902</u>	<u>\$ 692,136</u>

WILL-GRUNDY CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
June 30, 2010 and 2009

	June 30, <u>2010</u>	June 30, <u>2009</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Current:		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2)	\$ 269,451	\$ 325,207
Investments (Note 2)	238,877	207,338
Prepaid expenses	6,772	6,602
Grants receivable (Note 3)	108,466	36,507
Total current assets	<u>623,566</u>	<u>575,654</u>
Property and equipment - net (Note 4)	139,069	159,646
Deposits and other	<u>1,600</u>	<u>1,600</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 764,235</u>	<u>\$ 736,900</u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
Current:		
Accounts payable	\$ 10,965	\$ 14,812
Accrued liabilities (Note 5)	12,420	9,753
Deferred revenue	4,948	20,199
Total current liabilities	<u>28,333</u>	<u>44,764</u>
Long-term debt	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>28,333</u>	<u>44,764</u>
Unrestricted net assets	<u>735,902</u>	<u>692,136</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 764,235</u>	<u>\$ 736,900</u>



The Center's Community Reintegration Advocate, Laura Zeiger, joins with a consumer, Richard Wepsiec, to gather nearly 200 pounds of canned goods and non-perishable food items. The goods were donated by staff members and consumers during the Center's 2009 Holiday Open House and delivered to Morningstar Mission in time for Christmas.



Volunteer of the Year Rhonda Price joins CIL Board President Denise Winfrey at the 2009 Annual Meeting. Rhonda addressed to share her appreciation for the staff, and encourage others by reminding them "it is not what we have, but who we are...we can always make a difference for someone else."



On behalf of State Representative Tom Cross, Lee Ann Goodson delivered a plaque to Executive Director Pam Heavens in commemoration of her 20 years of service as the Center's Executive Director.



Mary Tisdale, an Independent Living Coordinator at the Center, was pleased to introduce long-time consumer and friend David Cumbo, who spoke of his participation in a wide range of programs, such as Legislative Internship and Transportation Training, to name a few.



After expressing an interest in pharmacology, Lincoln-Way West student Alyssa Parente was welcomed by mentoring Pharmacy Technicians at CVS Pharmacy who offered hands-on job training during the mutually-beneficial Disability Mentoring Day experience last fall.



Frankfort Mayor Jim Holland shared his job responsibilities -- and his office, with career explorer and Lincoln-Way student Robert Meyers during Disability Mentoring Day 2009. The Center coordinates DMD annually with area high schools and workplace mentors, who work together in the true spirit of "sharing resources, improving lives."



Board member Brent Newman, of the Grundy County Housing Authority, and current Grundy County Outreach Coordinator, Deb Hennigan, enjoy supporting CIL events.



Board Members Bob Smith and Denise Winfrey flank the happy Cash Raffle Prize Winners.



CIL Board Member and Treasurer Don Cordano and his wife, Sue, were joined by event sponsors Sharon and James Hearn.



Mr. & Mrs. Duane Krieger enjoyed the evening.



Those Big Band Tunes and wonderful dancers made Serenade special!



Representing First Midwest Bank were loyal CIL supporters Jim and Kim Roof.



Long-time Summer Serenade sponsor Remco Medical was represented by owner George Block with his wife Regina.

***Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living,
now with two regional offices!***

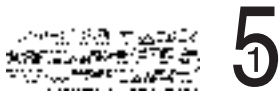
Will County office
2415 West Jefferson
Joliet, IL 60435
Phone: 815/729-0162
TTY: 815/729-2085

Grundy County office
1700 Newton Place
in Saratoga Tower
Morris, IL 60450
Phone/TTY: 815/614-6460

VRS/VP: 815/768-2582
www.Will-GrundyCIL.org

Visit, call, or log on to learn more about us.

The WGCIL is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization which operates solely on grants and contributions. We appreciate and welcome ongoing support. Contact the Executive Director to discuss annual giving and program sponsorship.



A proud partnering agency of the United Way, and active member of the Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living, our Center's volunteer Board of Directors and staff are comprised of a majority of individuals with disabilities. This offers a unique element of peer support and, we feel, deepens the impact our effort to be a tremendous resource to persons with disabilities of all ages and types, as well as to the community at large.

Operating solely on grants and contributions, the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living appreciates and welcomes ongoing support from individuals, corporations and foundations. Contact the Executive Director to discuss annual giving and program sponsorship opportunities.

*Save the date and plan to participate in
the Center's annual fundraising event:*

SUMMER SERENADE 2011

to be held Saturday, August 13
at Harrah's Casino Joliet.