RCIL Going Forward

When KanCare begins on January 1, 2013, the Resource Center for Independent Living (RCIL) won’t be providing Targeted Case Management (TCM) however, none of their other services will change. RCIL has signed contracts with all three Managed Care Organizations so consumers will be able to continue to use RCIL as a Financial Management Services (FMS) self-directed personal services provider for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS).

RCIL is a payroll provider across Kansas and their payroll department is bigger and better than ever, serving individuals using the HCBS physical disability, frail and elderly, traumatic brain injury, technology assisted, and developmental disability waivers and for Senior Care Act affiliated agencies.

RCIL also offers a private pay payroll service called RC@Home. This program gives people with disabilities the flexibility and control of self-directed care without the hassle of managing payroll, workers compensation, and unemployment insurance. Through this program, RCIL assists individuals to develop and coordinate their own plan for services, including hiring personal care attendants. RC@Home is an excellent alternative for people with disabilities who don’t qualify for or are waiting to receive HCBS services.

RCIL offers its Core Services for people who live in Allen, Anderson, Bourbon, Butler, Chase, Coffey, Cowley, Elk, Greenwood, Linn, Lyon, Marion, Miami, Morris, and Osage counties.

Core Services include Advocacy, Peer Counseling, Deinstitutionalization, Independent Living Skills Training, and Information and Referral. These services are generally provided by Independent Living Specialists. In addition to these core services, RCIL provides a variety of other services that enhance the choice of individuals with disabilities to live independently. These other services range from Blind and Low Vision Services, Braille Translation, Build-A-Ramp Program, Community Education, Durable Medical Equipment Loan program, Northeast Kansas Access Site for Assistive Technology of Kansas (ATK)/Kansas Equipment Exchange (KEE), and PEER Program.

If you have questions or would like more information about RCIL services, feel free to contact RCIL at 1-800-580-7245. For more information about KanCare go to page 2 of this newsletter.
KanCare

KanCare is right around the corner. It is scheduled to begin on January 1, 2013. All Medicaid-eligible Kansans will be moved into managed care. Each Medicaid consumer should have received a letter and KanCare enrollment packet during the last 2 weeks in November. If a consumer didn’t receive it, he/she will need to call KanCare Consumer Assistance at 1-866-305-5147 to request a packet. The packet will indicate which Managed Care Organization (MCO) he/she has been assigned to. The three KanCare health plans are Amerigroup of Kansas, Inc., Sunflower State Health Plan, and United Healthcare of the Midwest. Consumers have the opportunity to switch to another health plan by the end of December 2012. When KanCare starts on January 1, 2013 consumers will have until April 4, 2013 to choose a different health plan if they want to. After April 4th, consumers will be locked into their KanCare health plan until the next enrollment period. Consumers can change providers (doctors, pharmacists, etc.) at any time and they will have a chance every year to choose a different health plan.

When consumers are deciding which KanCare health plan is best for them, they need to ask themselves the following questions:
- Which plan is my doctor in?
- Which plan is my hospital in?
- Which plan are my other health care providers in?
- Which plan has extra (value-added) services that would benefit me and my family?
- Do I meet the requirements to get the extra services that I would like? If consumers need help deciding which KanCare health plan would be best for them, there are a few places they can go. Consumers can call the KanCare Consumer Assistance at 1-866-305-5147, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) at 1-855-200-2372 or go to the KanCare website at www.kancare.ks.gov.

If a consumer decides to switch health plans there are three ways they can do it. They can enroll online at https://www.kmap-state-ks.us/hcp/member, complete the enrollment form in their packet and return it in the envelope provided, or call the Enrollment Center at 1-866-305-5147 (TDD/TTY 1-800-766-3777), from 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday. Consumers can change their plan during the enrollment period from now until April 4, 2012. After April 4th, the plan will be locked until the next enrollment period.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) provided KanCare educational meetings at various places across Kansas over the last several months. They will be providing open enrollment information during a webinar on December 14, 2012 from 10:00am to 12:00pm. For consumers that were unable to attend their nearest enrollment tour in-person during the week of November 26-29. Consumers can go to www.kancare.ks.gov for more information about the Webinar.
Consumer Christmas Parties

It's that time of year again! The holidays are around the corner. Everyone is busy preparing their delicious foods and buying gifts to give their family and friends. Other annual events include the RCIL consumer Christmas parties!

Below is a listing of the dates and locations of the parties. Pick the event you would like to attend and RSVP to the RCIL office hosting that event at least one week prior. Please be sure to request special accommodations when you RSVP.

The Christmas parties are being held in-conjunction with the December RCIL Friends meetings. There will be fun activities and foods provided. If you have questions or would like more information, feel free to contact your local RCIL office.

RCIL staff would like to wish you a Happy Holiday Season and safe travels.

Christmas Parties Schedule

Emporia - Dec. 10 at the RCIL Office (215 W. 6th Ave. Suite 208) from 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Fort Scott - Dec. 12 at the High Rise Apartments (315 Scott Ave.) from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Osage City - Dec. 12 at the Park Place Apartments (207 S. 6th St.) from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Paola - Dec. 14 at the Paola Senior Center (121 W. Wea St.) from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Eureka - Dec. 18 at the Magic Circle in the South Community Room (301 Magic Circle Rd.) from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Iola - Dec. 18 at the Townhouse Apartments (217 N Washington Ave) from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Topeka - Dec. 18 at the Capital City Bingo (2050 SE 30th St.) from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

El Dorado - Dec. 19 at the RCIL Office (615 1/2 N. Main) from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

RCIL Emporia Office has Moved!

RCIL Emporia office has changed their location to 215 West 6th Avenue, Suite 208 which is in Emporia Humanitarian Center. The Emporia Humanitarian Center was formerly known as Lowther South Intermediate School and is located two blocks from west of Commercial Street on 6th Avenue.

The phone number 620-342-1648 and fax number 620-342-1821 are still the same but office hours have changed to Monday through Wednesday 12:00pm to 4:00pm and by appointment.

RCIL is excited to network with other agencies in the Emporia Humanitarian Center including Kansas Assistive Technology Cooperative, Kansas Children’s Services League, Flinthsills Technology College and Kindermusik.

Feel free to stop by and see us!

NetPals Discontinued

RCIL recently discontinued their NetPals. If you want to continue to receive emails about events, resources and advocacy updates you can call 1-800-580-7245 or email info@rcilinc.org to make that request. Another alternative to stay connected with RCIL is to visit their website periodically at www.rcilinc.org or you can visit their RCIL page on facebook and/or twitter.
# Friends Group Schedule

To save on costs we will no longer be sending out postcard invitations. Please save this page!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>El Dorado</td>
<td>Jan 23rd 1pm</td>
<td>LIEAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 27th 1pm</td>
<td>Estate Planning, Creating a Will</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 27th 1pm</td>
<td>Emergency Preparedness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emporia</td>
<td>Jan 28th 1:30pm</td>
<td>LIEAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 25th 1:30pm</td>
<td>Weatherization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 25th 1:30pm</td>
<td>Emergency Preparedness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eureka</td>
<td>Jan 22nd 10am</td>
<td>LIEAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 26th 1pm</td>
<td>Estate Planning, Creating a Will</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mar 26th 1pm</td>
<td>Emergency Preparedness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ft Scott</td>
<td>Jan 9th 1pm</td>
<td>Living Wills &amp; Valentine’s Cards</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 13th 1pm</td>
<td>Living with Muscular Dystrophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Osage City</td>
<td>Jan 9th 1pm</td>
<td>End of Life 101 Wills, Funerals, etc.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Feb 13th 1pm</td>
<td>Diabetes Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 13th 1pm</td>
<td>Emergency Preparedness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Some groups play bingo, join the fun by bringing a small, wrapped gift along. Everyone is welcome, a gift is **NOT** required to play! Call your local office for more information.

In cases of inclement weather, please call ahead!

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<thead>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paola</td>
<td>Jan 11th 1pm</td>
<td>New Years Resolutions. Keep them Simple, Safe, Sensible, and set yourself up for Success!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 8th 1pm</td>
<td>Community Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 8th 1pm</td>
<td>Eating Healthy on a Budget—Thrifty &amp; Tasty!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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If you have questions about KanCare please call KanCare Consumer Assistance at 1-866-305-5147.

**Happy New Year!**

**Special Accommodations**
Please contact us 2 weeks prior to a meeting to request accommodations.

For more information and locations please call or email us:
1-800-580-7245
info@rcilinc.org

Friends are groups of individuals who have, or have experienced, a disability. We meet monthly to share & learn about disability related topics, to advocate for change in our communities, and to have fun!

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Kansas Association of Centers for Independent Living

The Kansas Association of Centers for Independent Living (KACIL) provides a powerful framework so that member Centers for Independent Living (CILs) excel in advocacy and services ensuring that all Kansans with disabilities have opportunities for independent living and enjoy their civil and human rights. KACIL also represent 10 CILs across Kansas. The Resource Center for Independent Living (RCIL) is one of the 10 CILs in Kansas. Centers provide services to people with disabilities of all ages. They also provide assistance to businesses and all other entities in the community to assist them in offering services to people with disabilities. Furthermore, they advocate at a state and national level for the rights of all people with disabilities to live in the communities of their choice.

KACIL recently announced that Rosie Cooper was hired as its Executive Director effective November 16, 2012. Rosie previously worked for RCIL as its Director of Independent Living Programs and Services for over 10 years. She is very passionate about disability issues. Rosie's leadership will help keep KACIL as leader in the Independent Living movement in Kansas by supporting the civil rights of Kansans with disabilities to live in the least restrictive environment of their choice. Rosie will also represent CILs by working on legislative issues that promote access to programs and services provided by the Centers.

The Kansas Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)

LIEAP is a federally funded program that helps qualifying households pay a portion of their home energy costs by providing a one-time per year benefit. The 2013 application period for LIEAP is second week of January through end of March.

In order to qualify, applicants must meet the following requirements:
1. An adult living at the address must be personally responsible for purchasing heating costs incurred at the current residence, payable either to the landlord or to the fuel vendor.
2. Applicants must demonstrate a recent history of payments toward purchase of the primary heating company.
3. The combined gross income (before deductions) of all persons living at the address may not exceed 130% of the federal poverty level.
4. Benefit levels vary according to household income, number of persons living at the address, type of dwelling, type of heating fuel, and utility rates. Please contact your local RCIL office or Department for Children and Families (DCF) office for more information.

You Asked for It

What is Project DESERVE?
Project DESERVE helps pay the Westar Energy electric bills of people with a disability (children or adults meeting Social Security disability criteria) and older adults (people 60 years or older). Eligible households may receive one-time annual payments of up to $100 to be applied toward their Westar Energy electric bills. If you think you might be eligible for one of the ways Project DESERVE can help, please contact the American Red Cross at 316-219-4000 or call Westar Energy at 1-800-383-1183.

What is KanCare Consumer Assistance Phone Number?
866-305-5147. They can answer general questions and accept requests to change KanCare health plans.

Contact the Information & Referral Specialist at 1.800.580.7245 if you have any questions or need any resources.
Moved?
If you've moved or changed your phone number, name, or email address, call 1.800.580.7245 so we can keep in contact with you!

We're on the Web!
Visit us at: rcilinc.org
Find us on:

NetPals Discontinued:
To continue to receive emails about events, resources and advocacy updates call 1.800.580.7245 or email info@rcilinc.org.

RCIL Home Office
Address
P.O. Box 257
1137 Laing
Osage City, KS 66523
Phone
785.528.3105 Voice
800.580.7245 Toll Free
785.528.3106 TDD
Fax
785.528.3665

Satellite Offices
El Dorado
615 1/2 N. Main
El Dorado, KS 67042
316.322.7853
Iola
726 W. Patterson Ave.
Iola, KS 66749
620.365.8144
Topeka
519 SW 37th St.
Topeka, KS 66611
785.267.1717

Emporia
215 W. 6th Ave. Suite 208
Emporia, KS 66801
620.342.1648
Ottawa
233 W. 23rd St.
Ottawa, KS 66067
785.242.1805

South Central KS
785.220.6002 Julie
785.220.4863 Stephanie

Also Serving Southeast KS
620.856.5144 Jane
620.856.5239 Fax