In This Issue
How to Protect Yourself from Scams........1
SPIL Workgroup: Housing..........................1
Voter Registration in Kansas............................2
Tips on Hiring a Direct Support Worker...........3
2019 RCIL Friends Group Schedule...............4
Enter For Your Chance to WIN a FREE Prize!...........5
You Asked for It..................................5
Voter registration form is between pages 2 and 3.
Health Insurance Coverage Options for Kansans with Disabilities flyer is between pages 4 and 5.

Office Closures
Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day
Nov. 28 & 29 - Thanksgiving
Dec 24 & 25 - Christmas

Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc. – Established September 21, 1984
Celebrating 35 Years of Advocacy and Supporting Independent Living Choices for Kansans with Disabilities

How to Protect Yourself from Scams

Scams can happen anywhere. It can occur by mail, phone, email, or on the internet. According to the Scam Awareness article on the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Social Security Administration (SSA) website, there are 3 tips on how to protect yourself from scams.

The first tip is Understand the Threats. Fraudsters use several forms of impersonation, advance fee, and phishing schemes. They might contact you and claim to be from SSA, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), or another government agency and request your information. They might claim that you have won the lottery or become eligible for an investment if you pay an upfront fee. They might design emails or text messages that look legitimate and request your immediate response. Be aware of these types of schemes, so you can identify them and guard against them.

Continued on page 3

SPIL Workgroup: Housing

The Statewide Independent Living Council of Kansas (SILCK) is a not-for-profit corporation, governed by a Board of Directors. The Council, in conjunction with the Centers for Independent Living, is responsible for the development of the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL). The SILCK is also responsible for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating the implementation of the State Plan.

The state plan has been broken down into four vital workgroups to focus on the most important barriers facing people with disabilities. These groups include: Outreach, Transportation, Employment, and Housing. In this article we would like to share updates about the Housing workgroup. This workgroup has a representative from most of the Centers for Independent Living across Kansas.

The workgroup has two goals they are working on and they are:

Goal 1 - Encourage people with disabilities and CIL staff to participate with local, regional, and state organizations to promote and advocate for affordable, accessible, integrated housing.

Continued on page 2
Voter Registration in Kansas

Do you want to participate in Kansas elections? If your answer is yes, read the list below to determine if you are eligible to register to vote in Kansas. This list is also on the Kansas Voter Registration Application.

- be a U.S. citizen and a resident of the state of Kansas.
- have reached the age of 18 years before the next election.
- have received final discharge from imprisonment, parole, or conditional release if convicted of a felony.
- have abandoned your former residence and/or name.

To register to vote you will need to complete the Kansas Voter Registration Application form. A copy of the form is in this newsletter. You can complete the form and mail it to your local county courthouse. There is a list of all of the county courthouse addresses in Kansas on the back of the form.

If you are already registered to vote but you had a name change, or moved to a different address, or wanted to change your party affiliation for voting you must complete the Kansas Voter Registration Application form in order to vote at the next election.

If you need help completing the Kansas Voter Registration Application form, feel free to contact your local RCIL office and someone will assist you.

---

SPIL Workgroup: Housing Continued

*Continued from page 1*

Goal 2 - Identify housing information, resources, and training opportunities for workgroup members to share with local advocates.

Since the implementation of this group we have focused greatly on attending meetings with housing stakeholders present for the purpose of providing education as to what people with disabilities need and the barriers we face when trying to find accessible, affordable housing. We also share information regarding rights, reasonable accommodations, and reasonable modifications. We encourage universal design in housing development and offer support to consumers who need to file a housing complaint, seek education regarding their housing rights, or who would like to learn how to advocate for housing that is truly needed in the community. We also attend housing conferences that have developers, housing management, and property owners in attendance to foster partnership, educate, advocate and provide resource information to assist in making housing more accessible and affordable for those living with a disability. In addition to those efforts we make a point to attend Kansas Housing Resource Corporation public hearings to make sure the voices of people with disabilities are heard when financial decisions are being made regarding housing funding that is coming into Kansas and how those funds should be allocated.

If you are interested in joining the housing workgroup, or have questions, please feel free to contact Macy Collins at the El Dorado Office at 316-322-7853.
Kansas Voter Registration Instructions

You can use this application to:

- register to vote in Kansas
- change your name, address, or affiliation with a political party

To register to vote, you must:

- be a U.S. citizen and a resident of the state of Kansas.
- have reached the age of 18 years before the next election.
- have received final discharge from imprisonment, parole, or conditional release if convicted of a felony.
- have abandoned your former residence and/or name.

How to register to vote:

- Return your completed application to your county. Addresses are on the back of this application. Your county election officer will mail you a notice when your application has been processed.

For further information, contact the Office of the Secretary of State, 1-800-262-VOTE (8683) V/TTY. This form is available at www.sos.ks.gov.

- Voter registration closes 21 days before any election. In order to be eligible to vote in that election, your application must be postmarked on or before that date.
- If you decline to register to vote, that fact will remain confidential and will be used for voter registration purposes only. If you do register to vote, the office where you apply will be kept confidential and will be used for voter registration purposes only.
- If this form is incomplete, it may be rejected.

Identification number requirements

Enter your current Kansas driver's license number or nondriver's identification card number. If you do not have either one, enter the last four digits of your Social Security number. If you do not have any of these numbers, write "none" in the box. The number will be used for administrative purposes only and will not be disclosed to the public. K.S.A. 25-2309

Rev. 1/15/19 to

Print in blue or black ink, fold on the center line, seal, and return.

Kansas Voter Registration Application

Qualifications: If you mark "no" in response to either Question 1 or 2, do not complete this form.
1. Are you a citizen of the United States of America? ○ Yes ○ No
2. Will you be 18 years of age on or before Election Day? ○ Yes ○ No

Last Name (please print)         First Name  Middle  Jr./Sr./II/III  ○ Male  ○ Female
Residential Address (include apt. or space number)  City  County  Zip
Mailing Address (if different than residential address)  City  Zip  Date Residence Established (MM/DD/YYYY)
Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY)  Daytime Phone Number (if available)  Naturalization Number (if applicable)  Driver's License Number or Last 4 Social Security (see instructions)

Party Affiliation: Choose one of the following: ○ Democratic  ○ Republican  ○ Libertarian  ○ Not affiliated with a party
Complete if previously registered (please print)  Previous Name  Previous Residential Address (Street, City, State, Zip, County)
Signature: I swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the United States and a Kansas resident, that I will be 18 years old before the next election, that if convicted of a felony, I have had my civil rights restored, that I have abandoned my former residence and/or other name, and that I have told the truth on this application.
Signature  Date (MM/DD/YYYY)


Warning: If you submit a false voter registration application, you may be convicted and sentenced to up to 17 months in prison.
Tips on Hiring a Direct Support Worker

Getting off to a good start when hiring a new Direct Support Worker (DSW) helps ensure a successful relationship in receiving the services you need to remain independent in your own home.

If you have someone that you have interviewed and may want to hire, listed below are some important steps you should complete:

1. Ask for work references
   - Request the names and contact information for individuals or companies for whom the applicant has recently worked

2. Contact the work references
   - Call or contact the applicant’s work references
     - It is easier and faster to telephone the work references but many employers require a written request with a signed Release of Information by the applicant before providing any information.
   - Ask the previous employer(s):
     - Would you hire this person again?
     - Was this person reliable? Were they on time?
     - Did they perform the tasks they were hired to do?
     - They said they worked for you from ____ to ____ (dates)? Is this information correct?
   - The applicant may ask you not to contact his/her current employer. Please respect this and ask the applicant for another employment reference for you to contact.

3. Ensure the applicant understands the duties and requirements of the job.
   - Be specific in explaining exactly what your job requires. Examples of what you expect or might require:
     - Reliability and confidentiality are essential
     - Physical requirements (Do you require lifting, transferring, wheelchair maneuvering)

Continued on page 5

How to Protect Yourself from Scams Continued

Continued from page 1

The second tip is Exercise caution. In general, no government agency or reputable company will call or email you unexpectedly and request your personal information, or request advance fees for services in the form of wire transfers or gift cards. Build a habit of verifying the identity of anyone who asks for your personal information over the phone, and say you will respond through the entity’s customer service channels. If anyone pressures you to provide information or money over the phone, it’s a scam and you should just hang up.

The third tip is Secure your information. Store your Social Security card in a secure location; avoid carrying it with you. Shred documents that list personal information such as your Social Security number and banking information. Avoid opening emails from unknown sources or clicking on suspicious hyperlinks. Equip your computing devices with strong anti-virus software and maintain strong passwords. Regularly check your credit reports for suspicious activity.

If you receive any suspicious activity or communications claiming to be from the SSA, call the Social Security Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271.
2019 FRIENDS GROUP SCHEDULE

RCIL Offices are CLOSED on Nov. 11, Nov. 28 & 29, and Dec. 24 & 25 2019!

El Dorado

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>1pm Telecommunications Access Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>20th</td>
<td>1pm Operation Red File</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>1pm Consumer Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Location: RCIL Office
615 1/2 N. Main, El Dorado, KS 67042

Emporia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>28th</td>
<td>1:30pm Emporia Arts Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>1:30pm Service Dogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>1:30pm Consumer Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Location: Broadview Towers Apartments
110 W. 6th Ave., Emporia, KS 66801

Eureka

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>1pm Telecommunications Access Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>26th</td>
<td>1pm Operation Red File</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>17th</td>
<td>1pm Consumer Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Location: Magic Circle Apartments
301 Magic Circle Rd., Eureka, KS 67045

Ft Scott

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>11th</td>
<td>12:30pm - 2:30pm Self-Direction Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>8th</td>
<td>12:30pm - 2:30pm Recycling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>13th</td>
<td>12:30pm - 2:30pm Consumer Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Location: Bourbon County Senior Center
26 N. Main St., Fort Scott, KS 66701

Advocacy Project is a project to make a change in your local community to accommodate people with disabilities. Are you interested to get involved and to make a difference in your community? Attend your local Friends group for more information!

In cases of inclement weather, please call ahead!

Iola

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>1pm Holiday Hobbies/Crafts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>26th</td>
<td>1pm Cell phone/tablet safety and help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>17th</td>
<td>1pm Consumer Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Location: Iola Housing Authority
217 N. Washington Ave., Iola, KS 66749

Osage City

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td>1pm Health Insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>13th</td>
<td>1pm Build Your Own First Aid Kit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>11th</td>
<td>1pm Consumer Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Location: Park Place Apartments
207 S. 6th St., Osage City, KS 66523

Paola

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>25th</td>
<td>1pm Cell phone/tablet safety and help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>1pm Self-Direction Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>27th</td>
<td>1pm Consumer Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Location: Timber Ridge Apartment Homes (in the office building)
908 N. Hospital Dr., Paola, KS 66071

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
Health Insurance and Coverage Options for Kansans with Disabilities

Finding health insurance that fits your needs and is affordable can be challenging. Many options are available and exploring them is a good idea. Since the Affordable Care Act, sometimes known as the ACA or Obamacare, took effect insurance plans must cover treatment for all pre-existing conditions, which are health problems a person already has such as diabetes or cancer. Before the ACA, most disabilities and health conditions were considered pre-existing conditions and therefore people with disabilities often had trouble getting health insurance. The ACA eliminated annual and lifetime limits on health insurance and required insurance plans (including Medicare and Medicaid) to always cover certain services—known as essential health benefits, like lab tests, emergency services and prescription drugs. (https://www.healthcare.gov/coverage/what-marketplace-plans-cover).

This fact sheet provides some information and resources on ways you can get health insurance. You will need to consider these options because each has its own eligibility rules and costs.

Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance
Health insurance offered through your or a family member’s employer is a common way people get coverage. The type, quality and cost of employer-sponsored insurance (ESI) can vary greatly, and some ESI are more expensive for you or are not offered at all for people who work less than full-time. ESI coverage must include the essential health benefits required by the ACA. Ask your employer’s human resources department about what coverage is offered.

Marketplace Health Insurance
The ACA established the health insurance “Marketplace” for American citizens to purchase affordable health insurance on their own. The costs of these insurance plans are based on income, with subsidies available for people with lower incomes. Marketplace plans must include “essential health benefits.” People who have Medicare are not eligible for Marketplace coverage, and people who have Medicaid cannot receive subsidies to purchase health insurance through the Marketplace.

- To explore your options in the Marketplace, go to: http://healthcare.gov or call 1-800-318-2596 (TTY: 1-855-889-4325)

Medicare
Medicare is a federal health insurance program for people who are over the age of 65 and/or younger people with disabilities who receive Social Security Disability Income. Medicare Part A covers hospitalization, Medicare Part B covers doctor visits and outpatient services like lab tests, and Medicare Part D covers prescription drugs. Medicare Part C is optional private coverage that individuals can choose to provide Part A and Part B services. Medicare also has supplemental plans that can be purchased for additional monthly premiums to help cover some out-of-pocket costs. To be eligible for Medicare if you are under age 65, you must go through a Social Security disability determination.

- To find out if you are eligible for Medicare, go to: https://www.medicare.gov/eligibilitypremiumcalc/#eligibility or call 1-800-Medicare
- To apply for Medicare, go to: https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/
Medicaid
Medicaid is a state-based, public health insurance program for people with disabilities and/or those who have low income. If you receive Social Security Income, you usually also qualify for Medicaid, known as KanCare in Kansas. KanCare is administered by three managed care organizations. Each year, enrollees can choose which managed care organization they have for their coverage.

- KanCare enrollees with disabilities who work can still keep Medicaid through a program called "Working Healthy." [http://www.kdhks.gov/hcf/workinghealthy/index.htm](http://www.kdhks.gov/hcf/workinghealthy/index.htm)
- To apply for Kansas Medicaid/KanCare you can call 1-800-792-4884 or go to: [https://cssp.kees.ks.gov/apsspss/](https://cssp.kees.ks.gov/apsspss/)
- For more information regarding Kansas Medicaid, see: [https://www.kancare.ks.gov/kancare-ombudsman-office/resources](https://www.kancare.ks.gov/kancare-ombudsman-office/resources) or talk to a local Center for Independent Living.
- If you are currently receiving Kansas Medicaid and have questions or concerns you can contact the KanCare ombudsman by calling 1-855-643-8180 or emailing KanCare.Ombudsman@ks.gov
- KanCare Fact Sheets are available at: [https://www.kancare.ks.gov/consumers/program-factsheets](https://www.kancare.ks.gov/consumers/program-factsheets)

Coverage for Dental, Vision, Personal Assistance Services (PAS)
The essential health benefits required by the ACA do not include these services, but some ESI plans may choose to cover them. Traditional Medicare does not generally cover dental or PAS services, but does provide some vision coverage. Currently, Kansas Medicaid (KanCare) covers limited dental services such as cleanings, fillings, and dental emergencies. Personal assistance services (PAS) are available to those who have Kansas Medicaid, but the amount of PAS varies by waiver and individual level of care needs as assessed by the program. KanCare vision coverage varies depending on which managed care organization one selects.

Additional Resources You May Find Helpful
- Kansas Insurance Department: Call 800-432-2484 or visit [https://www.ksinsurance.org/](https://www.ksinsurance.org/)

---

For More Information:
Noelle Kurth, DHP Program Evaluator
pixie@ku.edu
The University of Kansas
Institute for Health and Disability Policy Studies
1000 Sunnyside Ave.
Lawrence, KS 66045
Phone: 785-864-7046
Web: ihdps.ku.edu/dandhkcansas

This fact sheet was supported by Grant/Cooperative Agreement Number DD000006 from CDC, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health Branch. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC, NCBDDD, Disability and Health Branch.
Enter For Your Chance to WIN a FREE Prize!

To be entered into a drawing for a FREE prize, complete the quiz below and turn it in to RCIL by October 17, 2019 in the following ways:

• By mail: RCIL P.O. Box 257 Osage City, KS 66523
• OR e-mailing your answers to info@rcilinc.org

The winning ticket will be drawn on October 18, 2019 and the prize will be mailed to the winner on the same day.

---------------------------------------------------------------

Fill in the Blanks

1. ________________ is a federal health insurance program for people who are over the age of 65 and/or younger people with disabilities who receive Social Security Disability Income.

2. Disability Mentoring Day focuses on ________________ for people with disabilities.

3. If you moved to a different address you must complete the Kansas ________________ Application form in order to vote at the next election.

4. If you have someone that you have interviewed and may want to hire, you should ask for ________________ contact the work references, and ensure the applicant understands the duties and requirements of the job.

5. If anyone pressures you to provide information or money over the phone, it’s a scam and you should ________________

Name: __________________________
Address: __________________________
Phone Number: __________________________

Tips on Hiring a DSW Continued

Continued from page 3

vering, lifting/moving of equipment?)

• Housekeeping, meal preparation, laundry (can they cook, physically do housekeeping and laundry?)

• Valid Driver’s License (will you need someone to drive you to shop, errands, etc.)?

• Transportation to Medicaid covered appointments is supposed to be provided by your MCO

These are just a few of the processes you should follow when hiring a new DSW. For more information and assistance on hiring, managing and terminating your DSWs, please contact RCIL’s Information and Assistance Coordinator, Mandy Kline at 785-528-3105.

RCIL Consumer Newsletter
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: www.rcilinc.org
Find us on:  

HIPAA Privacy Notice
RCIL's Notice of Privacy Practices based on the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is available in every RCIL office and on the RCIL website at http://rcilinc.org/resources. You can request a copy of the notice at anytime by contacting RCIL at 1.800.580.7245 or info@rcilinc.org.

RCIL Home Office
Address: P.O. Box 257
1137 Laing
Osage City, KS 66523

Phone: 1.785.528.3105 Voice
1.800.580.7245 Toll Free
1.877.929.7655 Payroll Help Desk

Fax: 1.785.528.3665
Payroll Fax: 1.785.528.2938

Satellite Offices
El Dorado
615 1/2 N. Main
El Dorado, KS 67042
1.316.322.7853 Voice
1.800.960.7853 Toll Free
1.316.322.7888 Fax

Emporia
215 W. 6th Ave., Suite 201
Emporia, KS 66801
1.620.342.1648 Voice
1.888.261.4024 Toll Free
1.620.342.1821 Fax

Iola
104 S. Washington Ave.
Iola, KS 66749
1.620.365.8144 Voice
1.877.944.8144 Toll Free
1.620.365.7726 Fax

Topeka
1507 SW 21st St., Suite 203
Topeka, KS 66604
1.785.267.1717 Voice
1.877.719.1717 Toll Free
1.785.267.1711 Fax