Consumer Christmas Parties

The holiday season is here! RCIL will have their annual consumer Christmas parties during the month of December. 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 if necessary.

The Christmas parties are being held in conjunction with the December RCIL Friends meetings. There will be fun activities and prizes. Food is provided at all Christmas parties. 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

Osage City - Dec. 15 at the Park Place Apartments 207 S. 6th St. from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Eureka - Dec. 14 at the Magic Circle Apartments in the South Community Room 301 Magic Circle Rd. from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

El Dorado - Dec. 15 at the RCIL Office 615 1/2 N. Main St. from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Emporia - Dec. 20 at the Broadview Towers Apartments 110 W. 6th Ave. from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Online Friends - Dec. 21 by Zoom Video Conference on computer or by phone at 2:00pm.

Emergency Broadband Benefit Saves Cost

RCIL consumer Jerry has been working with an RCIL Independent Living Specialist (ILS) to learn how to use the many different programs and features of an iPad to keep track of appointments, communicate with his friends and family, and other Independent Living skills.

Jerry recently learned about the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) through a newsletter he receives from the Area Agency on Aging. The EBB is a discount applied to the internet bills of consumers who qualify. Jerry tried to follow the instructions to enroll via phone, but after hours on the phone and going in circles...

Continued on page 5
Nominate a Direct Support Worker For RCIL’s DSW of the Year Award

The services Direct Support Workers (DSWs) provide are crucial to the health and independence of Kansans with disabilities that receive Home and Community Based Services (HCBS). RCIL wants to provide an opportunity for HCBS consumers and their families to recognize DSWs for their outstanding service and dedication with a “DSW of the Year” Award. This is your opportunity to nominate a Direct Support Worker that you feel is deserving of this recognition. All nominations will be considered. The RCIL Board of Directors will select a Direct Support Worker for the award and then all other nominees will be entered in a drawing for a prize. The winners will be announced on January 25, 2022.

Deadline: All nominations must be submitted by December 31, 2021. Please submit the following information listed below by email at info@rcilinc.org OR by mail at RCIL P.O. Box 257 Osage City, KS 66523.

1. Your Name:
2. Name of Nominee (Direct Support Worker):
3. What my Direct Support Worker means to me:

 Seeking Youth with Disabilities for KSYLF

The Kansas Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities (KSYLF) is currently searching for motivated young leaders to attend the 21st annual forum held July 11-16, 2022 at Washburn University in Topeka.

The KSYLF is an annual conference serving students with disabilities across the state. During the forum, there will be various sessions that students will learn such as disability history, advocacy, goal setting, leadership, resources, and much more. By the end of the conference, all students will have their own Personal Leadership Plan which will include their future plans and career goals.

All students who are interested in attending the KSYLF must meet the following criteria:
- Be in the 11th or 12th grade as of December 31, 2021. Please note: Students who are in an 18-21 transition program qualify to apply as well.
- Have demonstrated leadership potential or interest in school and the community.

There will be no cost for students who are selected to attend. All lodging, food, and accommodations are paid for through KSYLF funds. Accommodations such as personal care attendants, sign language interpreters, large print or Braille materials, and other accommodations will be provided for those delegates who need them. Interested students must fill out an application that will be reviewed through a competitive selection process. The application deadline for the 2022 KSYLF is December 15, 2021. Contact the Kansas Youth Empowerment Academy (KYEA) at 785-215-6655 to request an application or for more information.
SPIL Outreach Workgroup Update

The Statewide Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) has four areas to focus on to help remove barriers for people with disabilities in Kansas. Those four areas turned into SPIL workgroups and they are Employment, Housing, Outreach, and Transportation. RCIL along with other Centers for Independent Living (CILs) in Kansas and other community partners are working together in each of the workgroups. Each workgroup has their own goals that will bring awareness to, develop, and promote opportunities for people with disabilities. Today we are going to give you updates on the SPIL outreach workgroup.

The SPIL outreach workgroup is currently developing a Center for Independent Living video. The purpose of the video is to spread awareness about what Centers for Independent Living can do for people with disabilities in Kansas. The video will include information on where CILs are located in Kansas and about their independent living services. The workgroup is currently seeking consumer success stories to use in their video. The stories will include how CILs such as RCIL has helped a person with a disability achieve his/her life goals. Examples of life goals are getting a ramp, receiving personal care services in the home, receiving an assistive device, accessible vehicle, and much more. The workgroup will consider any success stories that are written and/or by video. If you have a success story and would like to share your story to the workgroup, contact Beth Burnett at the Osage City office at 785-528-3105.

RCIL is actively involved in all four SPIL workgroups. All workgroups want to invite anyone who is interested to be advocates for people with disabilities by participating in any of the workgroups. If you are interested and want to get involved, contact an Independent Living Specialist at your local RCIL office.

Chase County Resource Guide

Information and Referral (I&R) is a Core Service that RCIL offers to anyone with or without a disability. RCIL staff receive calls from consumers with questions about available community resources in their county. Below are a few resources available in Chase County.

Contact RCIL at 785-528-3105 if you have questions or need assistance to locate resources in your area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency Name</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C4 Food Pantry Chase County</td>
<td>Food Pantry once a month for residents. Friday Food Backpack Program Pre K-12 grade. Must reside in Chase County for both programs.</td>
<td>620-412-3015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chase County General Public Transportation</td>
<td>Provides transportation in Chase County.</td>
<td>620-273-8511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chase County Health Department</td>
<td>Immunizations, Kansas WIC program.</td>
<td>620-273-6377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chase County Medical Clinic</td>
<td>Family Practice, Physicians.</td>
<td>620-273-6131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chase County Old School Development District</td>
<td>The Emergency Food Assistance Program - distribute food the 3rd Wednesday of every month.</td>
<td>620-332-4265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chase County Senior Center</td>
<td>Hot Meals at Center, Meals delivered to homes, Exercise Program, &amp; Recreational Activities.</td>
<td>620-273-8511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Central Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging</td>
<td>Provides Friendship Meals, Homemaker Services, assessment for Home &amp; Community Based Services, and Section 8 Choice Voucher Program.</td>
<td>785-776-9294</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RCIL Consumer Newsletter
# 2022 FRIENDS GROUP SCHEDULE

**RCIL Offices are CLOSED on Dec. 23-24, 2021 and Dec. 31, 2021!**

Due to COVID-19 ALL Friends group meetings are subject to change. PLEASE CALL AHEAD to check the status of your meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>El Dorado</td>
<td>Jan 19th 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Emergency Kits for Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 16th 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Volunteering with Limited Mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 16th 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Foods You Can Grow Indoors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Location: RCIL Office</em></td>
<td>615 1/2 N. Main St., El Dorado, KS 67042</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emporia</td>
<td>Jan 31st 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Crockpot Cooking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 28th 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Crip Camp Movie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 28th 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Self and Community Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Location: Broadview Towers Apartments</em></td>
<td>110 W. 6th Ave., Emporia, KS 66801</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eureka</td>
<td>Jan 11th 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Emergency Kits for Vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 8th 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Volunteering with Limited Mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 8th 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Foods You Can Grow Indoors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Location: Magic Circle Apartments</em></td>
<td>301 Magic Circle Rd., Eureka, KS 67045</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ft Scott</td>
<td>Jan Meeting Cancelled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb Meeting Cancelled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar Meeting Cancelled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Location: Bourbon County Senior Center</em></td>
<td>26 N. Main St., Fort Scott, KS 66701</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iola</td>
<td>Jan Meeting Cancelled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb Meeting Cancelled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar Meeting Cancelled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Location: Iola Housing Authority—Kitchen</em></td>
<td>217 N. Washington Ave., Iola, KS 66749</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Osage City</td>
<td>Jan 26th 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Utilities Assistance Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 23rd 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Arts and Crafts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 23rd 1:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Emergency Preparedness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Location: Park Place Apartments</em></td>
<td>207 S. 6th St., Osage City, KS 66523</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paola</td>
<td>Jan Meeting Cancelled</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb Meeting Cancelled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar Meeting Cancelled</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Location: Timber Ridge Apartment Homes—Clubhouse</em></td>
<td>908 N. Hospital Dr., Paola, KS 66071</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Friends</td>
<td>Jan 18th 2:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>LIEAP Utility Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feb 15th 2:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>CBD Oils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 15th 2:00pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Self and Community Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Location: Zoom – Video Conference by computer or phone</em></td>
<td>For more information about RCIL Friends group or To request accommodations 2 weeks prior to a meeting Contact RCIL at: 1-800-580-7245 or <a href="mailto:info@rcilinc.org">info@rcilinc.org</a> In cases of inclement weather, please call ahead!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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!
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 December 15, 2021 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 December 17, 2021 and the prize will be mailed to the winner.

Fill in the Blanks

1. The deadline to submit the 2022 KSYLF application is ________________.

2. The EBB is a discount applied to the ___________________ bills of consumers who qualify.

3. The Cold Weather Rule is designed to keep your ________________ connected during the winter months even when you are unable to pay your bill in full.

4. The deadline to submit all nominations for RCIL's DSW of the Year Award is ________________.

5. The SPIL Outreach workgroup is currently seeking consumer ___________________ to use in their Center for Independent Living video.

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

Phone Number: ______________________

Emergency Broadband Benefit Continued

Continued from page 1

through the automated menus he contacted his ILS for assistance. Jerry met with his ILS who walked him through the online application on Jerry's iPad.

The day after they completed the application Jerry received approval in his email. When asked how he is more independent Jerry said “this will allow me to put money toward other expenses.” Jerry said he isn’t sure how much money the benefit will save him until he sees the discount on his next bill. He knows though that others could also benefit from the program and Jerry encourages other consumers to “read the articles in newsletters!”

If you would like to learn more about the Emergency Broadband Benefit, or would like assistance applying, contact your local RCIL office or visit www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit.

Does RCIL have face masks, gloves, sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizers, disinfectant sprays, face shields, and non-contact thermometers?

Yes! Those supplies are available at RCIL. To request any of those supplies, call your local RCIL office or call RCIL Osage City office at 785-528-3105.

If you have any questions or need any resources contact an Independent Living Specialist at 1-800-580-7245.
RCIL Home Office

Address
P.O. Box 257
1137 Laing St.
Osage City, KS 66523

Phone
1.785.528.3105 Voice
1.800.580.7245 Toll Free
1.877.929.7655 Payroll Help Desk
1.785.528.3665 Fax

Satellite Offices

El Dorado
615 1/2 N. Main St.
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

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.