



# RESOURCE CENTER

## *for independent living*

Consumer Newsletter • Summer 2022

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KS Voter Registration Application form and the 2022 Friends Group Schedule are between pages 4 & 5.

### Office Closures

September 5 - Labor Day

## Voter Registration in Kansas

**D**o 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 and submit it to your local county election office. You can register online at <https://www.kdor.ks.gov/Apps/VoterReg> or you can complete the Kansas Voter Registration Application in this newsletter. All you need is a State issued ID or driver's license to register. If you need help completing the application, call RCIL at 785-528-3105 and someone will assist you.

If you think you are registered, you can check your registration status by visiting <https://myvoteinfo.voteks.org/voter->

view or by calling your local county election office. If you have moved or changed your name, you will need to update your voter registration with your new location or your new name by completing the Kansas Voter Registration Application form.

Advance voting is available for any registered voters. To receive a ballot in the mail, you must complete an application for an advance ballot and include your driver's license number or a copy of your photo ID. The deadline to submit advance voting applications to your local county election office is July 26, 2022 for the 2022 Primary Election which will

be held on August 2, 2022.



For more information about voting, visit the Kansas Secretary of

State website at [www.votekansas.gov](http://www.votekansas.gov).

## PPE Available!

**R**CIL currently has Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supplies available in each of their offices. The supplies include face masks, hand sanitizers, disinfectant sprays, sanitizing wipes, face shields, non-contact thermometers, and COVID-19 test kits. If you need PPE supplies, call RCIL at 785-528-3105.





## RCIL Directors

Deone Wilson  
*Executive Director*

Mike Pitts  
*Deputy Director*

Becky Brewer  
*Director of Financial  
Management Services*

Adam Burnett  
*Director of Core Services*

Tania Harrington  
*Director of Disability  
Services*

## Alternate Formats

To receive a copy of this newsletter in an alternate format, please call 1.800.580.7245.


## Following A Dream

Randy has been working on a book series for years and is getting closer and closer to a publication date. He is now in the process of editing the first book which can be very tedious. This task can be even more difficult with a vision loss like Randy has. Randy was able to obtain an OrCam My Eye Pro with the assistance of RCIL's low vision and blindness program, iKan-RCIL. When Mandy Smith, Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist, met with Randy she found out he

was interested in a device that would not only help with editing his book but also allow him to read signage while traveling. OrCam is an assistive technology (AT) device that can help a person: read print, identify faces, and identify objects

and products. It works by using a camera that is mounted to a pair of glasses and the person can either touch the device on the side or use hand gestures in front of the camera. Randy is loving the independence this device allows him to have. Randy has used the device to identify money, read books (including his own), read items on his cell phone and tablet, and read medicine bottles. "Overall, I am really happy with it" Randy said about the OrCam.



Pictured: Randy is using the OrCam My Eye Pro to read a book. The OrCam is attached to Randy's glasses on the right side of his face. Randy is pointing at the book to gesture to the device to read that page. 


## SPIL Housing Workgroup

This past year the statewide housing assessment was completed!

The assessment was conducted to find the housing needed for new business to come to Kansas. There isn't enough housing for employees of potential businesses. The SPIL Housing workgroup attended all public hearings and advocated for universal design and an increase in accessible housing. During the last public meeting, Statewide Housing Development Resources Webinar, Ryan Vincent responded to the following question, "Can incentives be offered to housing developers who will go above and beyond the required amount of accessible housing and/or universal design?" by encouraging the developers in the webinar to embrace universal design for the good of entire communities.

In addition to this exciting progress, the SPIL Housing

workgroup worked on advocacy for the Kansas Affordable Housing Tax Credit Act and it has passed. The workgroup is currently preparing to have a booth at the Kansas Housing Conference. They plan to continue to advocate for universal design and accessible housing at the conference. The housing management agencies and developers will be in attendance.

If you are interested in joining the SPIL Housing workgroup or have questions about the workgroup, please contact Macy Collins at the RCIL El Dorado office at 316-322-7853. 

Available  
Accessible  
Affordable



## 2021 Highlights & Donors

Throughout the year of 2021, the Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc. (RCIL) accomplished several great things, including teaching 12 youth on independent living skills during a youth transition training, hosting several Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Anniversary Celebrations, enhancing professional training and continuing education opportunities for staff, making the RCIL Consumer-Directed Handbook available for consumers to use electronically on the RCIL website, partnering with the University of Kansas Institute for Health and Disability Policy Studies, providing personal protective equipment and iPads to consumers, participating in Disability Mentoring Day, and receiving a grant to renovate the parking lot at the Osage City office to increase accessibility and safety for visitors and staff. While the accomplishments described below highlight some of the great things that happened at RCIL, there is great pride in the many accomplishments for 2021 and we are excited to find out the opportunities and challenges RCIL will face in 2022!

### Transition Age Independent Living Skills (TAILS)

In 2021, RCIL partnered with Next Step Academy to provide five presentation sessions to their students with disabilities between the ages of 18-21 years old. The session topics included: Online Safety, Voting Rights and Responsibilities, Employment, Healthy Living, Housing, Healthy Relationships, and RCIL services. Approximately 12 participants and staff attended each session which was presented via Zoom. At the conclusion of the sessions, RCIL surveyed each participant and offered them the opportunity to identify a personal independent living goal and work with an RCIL staff member to develop action steps to achieve it. Six out of nine participants said they increased their knowledge, skills and resources they will need to increase their transition to post-secondary life.



Beth standing at the RCIL booth at the ADA Celebration.

### ADA Anniversary Celebrations

Four in-person RCIL Friends groups hosted an ADA Anniversary Celebration during their July meeting to celebrate the ADA 31st Anniversary. The celebrations were held at the RCIL offices in El Dorado, Emporia, and Osage City and at Magic Circle Apartments in Eureka. Attendees enjoyed a free lunch and were provided information about the ADA. The lunch included hot dogs, chips, cookies, pizzas, and other snacks. The RCIL Friends groups also offered information about RCIL services as well as free personal protective equipment. The El Dorado RCIL Friends group included remarks

from Scott Pechin, the City's Building Official.

The online RCIL Friends group had their ADA Anniversary Celebration via Zoom. The topic was also about the ADA. The group watched a short video



A picture of PPE supplies on a table at the ADA Celebration.

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# 2021 Highlights & Donors

*Continued from page 3*

about the history of the ADA and getting it passed into law, discussed how to file a complaint, and played some ADA trivia.

## ADA Symposium

The ADA National Network held their annual ADA Symposium virtually on August 2-5, 2021. The ADA Symposium is an annual event that provides current information on ADA regulations and guidelines, implementation strategies, and best practices. Core service staff members were able to participate in the virtual conference sessions this year. Several conference sessions were centered around COVID and how the ADA applies to many different aspects of the pandemic. Other sessions discussed legal cases within the last year and their impact on persons with disabilities, technical details and ADA building requirements, housing and employment accommodations, and many others.



A picture of the RCIL Consumer-Directed Handbook.

## RCIL Consumer-Directed Handbook Goes Online!

The RCIL Consumer-Directed Handbook became available on RCIL's website during the summer of 2021 in order to provide tips and tools for consumers to successfully self-direct their Home and Community Based Services. Information in the handbook includes information on: Hiring a Direct Support Worker, AuthentiCare Kansas, Legal and Authorized Representatives, Client Obligation, Background Checks, Financial Management Services Agreements, Consumer's Rights and Responsibilities, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and Confidentiality, Harassment, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation, Medicaid Fraud and Abuse, Emergency Planning and much more. The RCIL Consumer-Directed Handbook is available on the Resources menu at [www.rcilinc.org](http://www.rcilinc.org).

## Community Health Environment Checklist (CHEC)

RCIL again participated in the CHEC program in partnership with the University of Kansas (KU) Institute for Health and Disability Policy Studies (IHDPs). The CHEC program is designed to assess community health agencies and providers about their "usability" rather than simply meeting the access standards of the ADA. The community health agency or provider surveyed receives \$150 for participating and can apply for a \$350 grant through the KU IHDPs to make improvements to identified barriers. In addition, the KU IHDPs reached out specifically to local community health agencies in response to their increased involvement in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Upon completion of the surveys, staff provides the surveys to the KU IHDPs for scoring and feedback. The staff member then receives a report from the KU IHDPs which contains an accessibility "score" and suggestions for improvement by the community health agency or provider. The final step is for staff to present the report and

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## Kansas Voter Registration Instructions

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](http://www.sos.ks.gov).

### 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.

- 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. 10/8/20 tc

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

## Kansas Voter Registration Application

Warning: If you submit a false voter registration application, you may be convicted and sentenced to up to 17 months in prison.



**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	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> 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/YY)	
Birth Date (MM/DD/YY)	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: <input type="radio"/> Democratic <input type="radio"/> Republican <input type="radio"/> Libertarian <input type="radio"/> Not affiliated with a party						
Complete if previously registered (please print)		Previous Name		Previous Residential Address (Street, City, State, Zip, County)		
<b>Signature:</b> 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/YY)		

For office use only: Ward \_\_\_\_\_ Pct. \_\_\_\_\_ School Dist. \_\_\_\_\_ Member Dist. \_\_\_\_\_  
Sen. \_\_\_\_\_ Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ CoComm \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_





SCOTT SCHWAB, SECRETARY OF STATE  
Memorial Hall, 1st Floor  
120 S.W. 10th Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66612-1594



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## County Election Officer

County

, KS

<b>Allen County</b> 1 N. Washington Iola, KS 66749	<b>Coffey County</b> 110 S. 6th St Rm 202 Burlington, KS 66839	<b>Geary County</b> 200 E. 8th St Junction City, KS 66441	<b>Johnson County</b> 2101 E. Kansas City Rd Olathe, KS 66061	<b>Miami County</b> 201 S. Pearl Ste 102 Paola, KS 66071	<b>Pratt County</b> 300 S. Ninescah / Box 885 Pratt, KS 67124	<b>Sherman County</b> 813 Broadway Rm 102 Goodland, KS 67735
<b>Anderson County</b> 100 E. 4th Garrett, KS 66032	<b>Comanche County</b> 201 S. New York / Box 776 Coldwater, KS 67029	<b>Gove County</b> P.O. Box 128 Gove, KS 67736	<b>Kearny County</b> 304 N. Main / Box 86 Lakin, KS 67860	<b>Mitchell County</b> 111 S. Hersey / Box 190 Beloit, KS 67420	<b>Rawlins County</b> 607 Main Atwood, KS 67730	<b>Smith County</b> 218 S. Grant Smith Center, KS 66967
<b>Atchison County</b> 423 N. 5th Atchison, KS 66002	<b>Cowley County</b> 321 E. 10th Ave. Winfield, KS 67156	<b>Graham County</b> 410 N. Pomeroy Hill City, KS 67642	<b>Kingman County</b> 130 N. Spruce Kingman, KS 67068	<b>Montgomery County</b> 217 E. Myrtle / Box 446 Independence, KS 67301	<b>Reno County</b> 125 W. 1st Ave. Hutchinson, KS 67501	<b>Stafford County</b> 209 N. Broadway St John, KS 67576
<b>Barber County</b> 120 E. Washington Medicine Lodge, KS 67104	<b>Crawford County</b> 111 E. Forest / Box 249 Girard, KS 66743-0249	<b>Grant County</b> 108 S. Glenn Ulysses, KS 67880	<b>Kiowa County</b> 211 E. Florida Greensburg, KS 67054	<b>Morris County</b> 501 W. Main Council Grove, KS 66846	<b>Republic County</b> 1815 M. Street Belleville, KS 66935	<b>Stanton County</b> 201 N. Main / Box 190 Johnson, KS 67855
<b>Barton County</b> 1400 Main Rm 202 Great Bend, KS 67530	<b>Decatur County</b> P.O. Box 28 Oberlin, KS 67749	<b>Gray County</b> P.O. Box 487 Cimarron, KS 67835	<b>Labette County</b> 501 Merchant / Box 387 Oswego, KS 67356	<b>Rice County</b> 1025 Morton / Box 1116 Elkhart, KS 67950	<b>Riley County</b> 110 Courthouse Plaza Manhattan, KS 66502	<b>Stevens County</b> 200 E. 6th Hugoton, KS 67951
<b>Bourbon County</b> 210 S. National Tribune, KS 66701	<b>Dickinson County</b> 109 E. First / Box 248 Abilene, KS 67410	<b>Greeley County</b> P.O. Box 277 Tribune, KS 67879	<b>Lane County</b> 144 S. Lane / Box 788 Dighton, KS 67839	<b>Nemaha County</b> 607 Nemaha / Box 186 Seneca, KS 66538	<b>Rooks County</b> 115 N. Walnut Stockton, KS 67669	<b>Sumner County</b> 501 N. Washington Wellington, KS 67152
<b>Brown County</b> 601 Oregon St Hiawatha, KS 66434	<b>Doniphan County</b> P.O. Box 278 Troy, KS 66087	<b>Greenwood County</b> 311 N. Main Eureka, KS 67045	<b>Leavenworth County</b> 300 Walnut Leavenworth, KS 66048	<b>Neosho County</b> 100 S. Main / Box 138 Erie, KS 66733	<b>Thomas County</b> 300 N. Court Ave Colby, KS 67701	
<b>Butler County</b> 205 W. Central El Dorado, KS 67042	<b>Douglas County</b> 1100 Massachusetts St Lawrence, KS 66044	<b>Hamilton County</b> 219 N. Main / Box 1167 Syracuse, KS 67878	<b>Lincoln County</b> 216 E. Lincoln Ave Lincoln, KS 67455	<b>Ness County</b> 202 W. Sycamore Ness City, KS 67560	<b>Rush County</b> 715 Elm / Box 220 LaCrosse, KS 67548	<b>Trego County</b> 216 Main WaKeeney, KS 67672
<b>Chase County</b> Courthouse Sq / Box 529 Cottonwood Falls, KS 66845	<b>Edwards County</b> 312 Massachusetts St Kinsley, KS 67547	<b>Harper County</b> 201 N. Jennings Anthony, KS 67003	<b>Linn County</b> P.O. Box 350 Mound City, KS 66056	<b>Norton County</b> 105 S. Kansas / Box 70 Norton, KS 67654	<b>Russell County</b> 4th & Main / Box 113 Russell, KS 67665	<b>Wabaunsee County</b> 215 Kansas / Box 278 Alma, KS 66401
<b>Chautauqua County</b> 215 N. Chautauqua Sedan, KS 67361	<b>Elk County</b> 127 N. Pine / Box 606 Howard, KS 67349	<b>Harvey County</b> 8th & Main / Box 687 Newton, KS 67114	<b>Logan County</b> 710 W. 2nd Oakley, KS 67748	<b>Osage County</b> 717 Topeka Ave / Box 226 Lyndon, KS 66451-0226	<b>Saline County</b> 300 W. Ash / Box 5040 Salina, KS 67402	<b>Wallace County</b> P.O. Box 70 Sharon Springs, KS 67758
<b>Cherokee County</b> 110 W. Maple / Box 14 Columbus, KS 66725	<b>Ellis County</b> P.O. Box 720 Hays, KS 67601	<b>Haskell County</b> 300 Inman / Box 518 Sublette, KS 67877	<b>Lyon County</b> 430 Commercial Emporia, KS 66801	<b>Osborne County</b> 423 W. Main / Box 160 Osborne, KS 67473	<b>Scott County</b> 303 Court St Scott City, KS 67871	<b>Washington County</b> 214 C St Washington, KS 66968
<b>Cheyenne County</b> 212 E. Wash. / Box 985 St Francis, KS 67756	<b>Ellsworth County</b> 210 N. Kansas Ellsworth, KS 67439	<b>Hodgeman County</b> 500 Main Jetmore, KS 67854	<b>Marion County</b> 200 S. Third, Suite 104 Marion, KS 66861	<b>Ottawa County</b> 307 N. Concord Ste 130 Minneapolis, KS 67467	<b>Sedgwick County</b> 510 N. Main Wichita, KS 67203-3798	<b>Wichita County</b> 206 S. 4th Drawer 968 Leoti, KS 67861
<b>Clark County</b> 913 Highland St / Box 886 Ashland, KS 67831-0886	<b>Finney County</b> 311 N. 9th St., Box M Garden City, KS 67846	<b>Jackson County</b> 400 New York Holton, KS 66436	<b>Marshall County</b> 1201 Broadway Marysville, KS 66508	<b>Pawnee County</b> 715 Broadway Larned, KS 67550	<b>Seward County</b> 515 N. Washington Ste 100 Liberal, KS 67901	<b>Wilson County</b> 615 Madison Fredonia, KS 66736
<b>Clay County</b> 712 Fifth, Suite 102 Clay Center, KS 67432	<b>Ford County</b> 100 Gunsmoke Dodge City, KS 67801	<b>Jefferson County</b> P.O. Box 321 Oskaloosa, KS 66066	<b>McPherson County</b> 117 N. Maple McPherson, KS 67460	<b>Phillips County</b> 301 State St Phillipsburg, KS 67661	<b>Shawnee County</b> 3420 SW Van Buren Topeka, KS 66611	<b>Woodson County</b> 105 W. Rutledge Rm 103 Yates Center, KS 66783
<b>Cloud County</b> 811 Washington Concordia, KS 66901	<b>Franklin County</b> 315 S. Main Ottawa, KS 66067	<b>Jewell County</b> 307 N. Commercial Mankato, KS 66956	<b>Meade County</b> P.O. Box 278 Meade, KS 67864	<b>Pottawatomie County</b> 207 N. 1st / Box 187 Westmoreland, KS 66549	<b>Sheridan County</b> 925 9th St / Box 899 Hoxie, KS 67740	<b>Wyandotte County</b> 850 State Ave Kansas City, KS 66101



# 2022 FRIENDS GROUP SCHEDULE



SERVING KANSANS WITH DISABILITIES

**RCIL Offices are CLOSED on  
September 5, 2022!**

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

El Dorado	Time	Topic
July 20th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	ADA Celebration
Aug 17th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Traveling with a Disability
Sept 21st	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Medicare 101
*Location: RCIL Office 615 1/2 N. Main St., El Dorado, KS 67042		

Iola	Time	Topic
July	Meeting Cancelled	
Aug	Meeting Cancelled	
Sept	Meeting Cancelled	
*Location: Iola Housing Authority—Kitchen 217 N. Washington Ave., Iola, KS 66749		

Emporia	Time	Topic
July 25th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	ADA Celebration
Aug 29th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Beat the Heat
Sept 26th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Fun and Games
*Location: Broadview Towers Apartments 110 W. 6th Ave., Emporia, KS 66801		

Osage City	Time	Topic
July 27th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	ADA Celebration
Aug 24th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	How to Prevent Blood Clots
Sept 21st	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Independent Living History
*Location: Park Place Apartments 207 S. 6th St., Osage City, KS 66523		

Eureka	Time	Topic
July 12th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	ADA Celebration
Aug 16th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Traveling with a Disability
Sept 13th	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Medicare 101
*Location: Magic Circle Apartments 301 Magic Circle Rd., Eureka, KS 67045		

Paola	Time	Topic
July	Meeting Cancelled	
Aug	Meeting Cancelled	
Sept	Meeting Cancelled	
*Location: Timber Ridge Apartment Homes—Clubhouse 908 N. Hospital Dr., Paola, KS 66071		

Ft Scott	Time	Topic
July	Meeting Cancelled	
Aug	Meeting Cancelled	
Sept	Meeting Cancelled	
*Location: Bourbon County Senior Center 26 N. Main St., Fort Scott, KS 66701		

Online Friends	Time	Topic
July 19th	2:00pm - 3:00pm	Vocational Rehabilitation
Aug 16th	2:00pm - 3:00pm	Guardianships & Alternatives
Sept 20th	2:00pm - 3:00pm	Income Based Housing 101
*Location: Zoom - Video Conference by computer or phone		

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!

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 [info@rcilinc.org](mailto:info@rcilinc.org)  
*In cases of inclement weather, please call ahead!*



# 2021 Highlights & Donors

*Continued from page 4*

suggestions to the agency or provider that was surveyed.

RCIL was authorized to perform four of the six surveys that were performed across the state in 2021 and received a \$250 fee for each survey. RCIL performed the CHEC assessment and follow up contacts at the following county health department locations: Eureka (Greenwood), El Dorado (Butler), Cottonwood Falls (Chase), and Council Grove (Morris).

## Personal Protective Equipment and iPad Efforts

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued into 2021, RCIL continued their efforts to distribute personal protective equipment (PPE) to individuals accessing RCIL services. In calendar year 2021, RCIL distributed 717 PPE packages and the packages included face masks, gloves, sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizers, disinfectant sprays, face shields, and infrared non-contact thermometers. The PPE packages were provided to individuals at the nearest RCIL office or by delivery to their home. In addition, RCIL distributed 200 iPads to individuals to increase their access to telehealth services and to reduce social isolation during the pandemic. Funding for both efforts was provided by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS).



A picture of PPE supplies used to give to consumers.

## Disability Mentoring Day Events

The first annual Osage County Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) was held on October 27, 2021. RCIL partnered with the Next Step Academy to identify occupations their youth were interested in learning about. They developed a list of questions to ask those businesses/individuals and finally they hosted a question and answer session. Several local businesses participated in the question and answer session via Zoom or in-person where they could talk about what they do and field additional questions from the students. Approximately nine students and three staff from Next Step Academy participated. The day concluded with a fun video that showed examples of right and wrong ways to apply and interview for a job.

Employment First of Butler County had their annual Disability Mentoring Day event on November 18, 2021 at Butler Community College (BCC). There were 31 students from grades 9-12 that participated. Community partners, para professionals, special education teachers, and parents also participated in the event. The students heard presentations from Vocational Rehabilitation and Aletra Chaney-Profitt, who teaches job prep skills. The students toured the BCC campus and had hands on learning experiences in the welding, automotive, and agriculture labs. The motivational speaker was Carrie Greenwood, programs manager from Kansas Youth Empowerment Academy (KYEA), who shared her own story of success and provided the students with information on how to get involved with KYEA. The day was filled with good food, good company, helpful information, and skills building.

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## 2021 Highlights & Donors

*Continued from page 5*

### Sunderland Foundation Grant to Improve Access, Parking

In December 2021, RCIL received a grant in the amount of \$29,572.00 from the Sunderland Foundation to install new sidewalks and renovate badly deteriorated asphalt parking at the Osage City Office. These funds will cover a new sidewalk and asphalt parking pad along the north side of the building plus the demolition and reconstruction of the old parking pad along the west side of the building. This work will begin in 2022 and will greatly increase accessibility and safety for visitors and staff. RCIL is thankful for the Sunderland Foundation's generosity and support.



A picture of the Osage City office parking lot before renovation.

The Sunderland Foundation was established in 1945 by Lester T. Sunderland, who served as president of the Ash Grove Cement Company for 33 years as a respected leader in his industry. After more than seven decades, the Foundation continues to be led by Lester T's descendants. It has focused on supporting brick and mortar projects, awarding grants to nonprofits in the Kansas City region and other areas.

### Disability Caucus Training Sessions

RCIL direct service staff participated in three virtual training sessions organized by the Kansas Disability Caucus in January 2021. A series of sessions covered the Olmstead Decision 101, and included topics on: 2020 Disability Caucus Executive Summary, Kansas Legislature 101, and Advocating with Your Legislators. Direct service staff received information on advocacy best practices and what Kansans shared during the 2020 Kansas Disability Caucus about issues, challenges and solutions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## Tips for Preventing Heat-Related Illness

**A**re you keeping yourself cool, hydrated, and staying informed about the heat advisories? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 600 people die from the heat in the United States every year. Heat-related death and illness are preventable. Below are some tips for preventing heat-related illness from the CDC website.

#### Stay Cool

- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting

clothing.

- Stay in an air-conditioned place as much as possible. If your home does not have air conditioning, go to the shopping mall or public library for a few hours.
- Try to limit your outdoor activity to when it is coolest such as morning and evening hours. When you are outside, rest often in shady areas.
- If you are not accustomed to working or exercising in a hot environment, start slowly



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## 2021 Highlights & Donors

*Continued from page 6*

**R**CIL serves more than 1,500 individuals through our many programs and services every year. While we receive funding from state and federal grants and waiver programs, many of our programs and services would not be as successful without the continued support of local businesses, organizations and individuals. In 2021, we were able to add new equipment to the Durable Medical Equipment Loan Program and share issues concerning the disability community virtually with community members. These are just a few of the great ways RCIL is able to use donations to serve Kansans with disabilities. We cannot thank our donors enough, but we would like to recognize the many businesses, organizations and individuals who helped make 2021 a successful year for RCIL.

### **General Fund**

Amazon Smile  
Kelli Bowin  
Su Colstrom  
Sandy Griffith  
Charlotte Jacobson

### **Durable Medical Equipment**

American Legion  
Sue Arnold  
Jerry Bailey  
Cathy Fagan  
Rita Ford  
Brett Haynes  
Help House  
Carol Higgins  
Jimmy Hinck  
Patrice Humig  
Ann Lusk

Todd Marten  
James Moore  
Jan Newman  
Gerry O'Connor  
Julie Pearson  
Larry and Janice Smart  
Charlotte Snellings  
Kathy Waldner  
Julia Wilson



### **Equipment Loan Program**

Julie Bevitt  
John Curley  
Terri Dobbs  
Mary Lou Estes  
Clyde Jackson  
Jolene Jenkins  
Martin and Linda Jones  
Ruth Jones  
Joann Long  
Shannon Price

### **Volunteer Program**

Rita Dishon

RCIL had a couple of fundraising opportunities during 2021. RCIL is a member with Amazon Smile Foundation. It allows customers who shop on Amazon Smile to select RCIL or another charity of their choice when purchasing items. RCIL will receive 0.5% donation from Amazon Smile Foundation on any eligible purchases that were chosen to donate to RCIL. RCIL is also a member with Network for Good and posted the link on their website. It provides online fundraising for non-profit organizations. When visitors view the RCIL website they have an opportunity to make financial donations to RCIL through Network for Good.

RCIL accepts monetary donations for their general fund or the fund designated by the donor. RCIL also accepts gently used or new durable medical equipment for the Durable Medical Equipment Loan Program inventory or to give away as needed or requested. Furthermore, RCIL has a Volunteer Program to allow individuals who want to volunteer their time and have a meaningful experience at RCIL.



## Need Help Self-Directing Your Care?

**H**elp is available! The RCIL Consumer-Directed Handbook is on our website!

Some of the information you can find in the RCIL Consumer-Directed Handbook includes:

- ▶ Hiring a Direct Support Worker
  - Tips on advertising, interviewing, what questions you should ask and what questions you cannot ask when interviewing a potential Direct Support Worker (DSW)
- ▶ AuthentiCare Kansas
  - Instructions for Using the AuthentiCare Kansas/ EVV System

- Services and Activity Codes for each waiver
- Frequently Asked Questions for DSWs
- Frequently Asked Questions for Consumers
- ▶ Durable Power of Attorney, Power of Attorney, Guardian, Conservator or Authorized Representative Information
- ▶ Client Obligation
- ▶ Background Checks
- ▶ FMS Agreements
- ▶ Consumer's Rights and Responsibilities
- ▶ HIPAA
- ▶ Confidentiality
- ▶ Harassment
- ▶ Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation

- ▶ Medicaid Fraud and Abuse
- ▶ Emergency Planning

And much, much more!

Go to [www.rcilinc.org](http://www.rcilinc.org) and click on Resources to get the dropdown box and Self-Direction Tools. Not only will you find the RCIL Consumer-Directed Handbook, but also many other useful tips and tools to help you successfully self-direct your services.



If you do not have access to a computer, contact RCIL at 785-528-3105 and information can be provided to you by another method. ☎

## Cowley County Resource Guide

**I**nformation 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 Cowley County.

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



Agency Name	Services	Phone Number
Community Health Center in Cowley County	Family Practice Care, Preventative Services, Immunizations, Dental, Behavioral Health, Diagnostic Services	620-221-3350
Cowley County Housing Authority	Housing, HUD, and Section 8 Rental Assistance	620-442-6063
Eagles Nest	Life Skills & Self-Improvement Services, Parenting & Nutrition Programs, Financial Assistance Services	620-229-8282
Four County Mental Health Center	Counseling Services, Supportive Employment, Peer Recovery Support, Medication Services	620-221-9664
General Public Transportation	Provides transportation for residents who reside in Cowley County	620-221-7020
House of Hope	Homeless Shelter	620-983-6464
Medical Loan Closet of South Central Kansas	Loan Durable Medical Equipment	620-221-2700
South Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging	Friendship Meals, Home Care Services, Legal Services, Section 8 Rental Assistance	620-442-0268



## 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 August 12, 2022 in the following ways:

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

The winning ticket will be drawn on August 15, 2022 and the prize will be mailed to the winner.



✂ Cut Here

### Fill in the Blanks

1. Information about hiring a Direct Support Worker can be found in the RCIL \_\_\_\_\_ Handbook.
2. Stay cool, stay \_\_\_\_\_, and stay informed are some of the tips for preventing heat-related illness.
3. RCIL has \_\_\_\_\_ supplies available in each of their offices.
4. To register to vote you will need to complete and submit the Kansas \_\_\_\_\_ Application form to your local county election office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Preventing Heat-Related Illness Continued

*Continued from page 6*

and pick up the pace gradually.

- Protect yourself from the sun by wearing a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses, and by putting on sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher.
- Cars can quickly heat up to dangerous temperatures, even with a window cracked open. While anyone left in a parked car is at risk of getting a heat stroke or dying.

### Stay Hydrated

- Drink Plenty of Fluids.




*Note: If your doctor limits the amount you drink or has you on water pills, ask your doctor about how much you should drink while the weather is hot.*

- Keep Your Pets Hydrated.

### Stay Informed

- Check your local news for extreme heat alerts and safety tips and to learn about any cooling shelters in your area.
- Learn the signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses and how to treat them.
- Have a friend or relative call to check on you twice a day during a heat wave. Do the same for others.



For more information about extreme heat, visit the CDC website at [www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/heattips.html](http://www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/heattips.html). 

## You Asked for It

### When is the Primary Election?

August 2, 2022

**I missed the deadline to register to vote for the Primary Election. When is the deadline to register to vote for the General Election?**

October 18, 2022

### When is the General Election?

November 8, 2022

### What is Permanent Advanced Voting?

It allows Kansans with a permanent disability to vote in their own home by receiving an advance ballot for every election in the mail. Individuals who are interested will need to complete a form called, "Application for Permanent Advance Voting Status". This form is good for every election you are eligible to vote in. Contact your local RCIL office if you need assistance with the application.

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





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Osage City, KS 66523

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Permit No. 93

## 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](http://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](mailto:info@rcilinc.org).

## 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

### Fax

1.785.528.3665

### Payroll Fax

1.785.528.2938

## 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

### Iola

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

### 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