



Job Posting

Community Reintegration Advocate

Progress Center for Independent Living is seeking a motivated advocate to assist people with disabilities (consumers) who desire to move out of institutional, segregated settings, into integrated, community-based settings.

The Community Reintegration Advocate will fill a critical role in ensuring people with disabilities who live in nursing homes or other segregated or residential settings have access to resources that offer the opportunity to live independently in the community. The position will require outreach to institutions, recruitment of prospective consumers, assessing consumers, service plan development, follow up with consumers, and compliance with state procedures and reporting requirements. Duties include:

Job Duties

1. Act as advocate on behalf of consumers who wish to transition from institutional to community based settings.
2. Assist designated consumers to establish program eligibility.
3. Assist designated consumers with developing appropriate transition and Independent Living plans.
4. Establish and maintain relationships with institutional discharge planners to assist designated consumers as needed.
5. Assist designated consumers to identify and obtain all needed goods and services per the individual's transition plan.
6. Assist affected consumers to identify and access other appropriate independent living and vocational goals.
7. Provide direct advocacy for, and assist consumers to develop, more effective self-advocacy and other Independent Living skills.
8. Assist designated consumers with identification and development of an appropriate support system within the community.
9. Maintain contact with consumer after transition from the institution to ensure that consumer is successful in the community.
10. Document all activities required for both internal and State mandated purposes.

For 30 years, Progress Center for Independent Living has been the Center for Independent Living (CIL) serving suburban Cook County. Progress Center is a member of the nationwide network of CILs that provide peer support, independent living skills training, information and referral, and advocacy to persons with all types of disabilities regardless of age. Progress Center is also a member of the statewide network of Centers for Independent Living, the Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living (INCIL).

Qualifications:

1. Bachelor's degree preferred. High School diploma required
2. Good oral and written communication and organizational skills
3. Knowledge of community and community resources, as well as philosophy of independent living
4. Ability to interact effectively with and organize consumer groups
5. Experience working with people with disabilities or first-hand experience with a disability
6. Current Driver's License and use of a vehicle
7. Knowledge of DRS/HSP regulations and community resources.
8. Ability to travel independently throughout suburban Cook County.
9. Prior experience living in a nursing home or other institutional setting an asset.

Interested individuals should send a resume and cover letter to garnold@progresscil.org
The job will be posted until the position is filled.