INFORMATION & REFERRAL

The Resource Specialist maintains a library of information and referral sources for people with disabilities and their family members. Resources include but are not limited to:

- Food Pantries / Legal Services
- Recreational Services / Support Groups
- Home Modifications

ADA COMPLIANCE/BARRIER REMOVAL

The Center has staff trained to evaluate accessibility in homes, workplaces, and places of public accommodation such as businesses and governmental offices. Individuals experiencing access problems are encouraged to contact the Center for the following services:

- Surveys to insure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in both the public and private sectors
- Mediation and advocacy to resolve reported violations to the ADA
- Consultation about home modifications to enhance accessibility

For More Information Contact

Westchester Disabled On the Move, Inc.
984 North Broadway, Suite L-01
Yonkers, New York 10701
Voice/TDD: 914.968.4717
Fax: 914.968.6137
WESTCHESTER DISABLED ON THE MOVE, INC.

Westchester Disabled on the Move, Inc., is a not-for-profit community based organization. It is a non-residential center for people with disabilities. WDOMI is part of a national network of Independent Living Centers dedicated to independence and equal rights for individuals with disabilities.

Westchester Disabled on the Move, Inc., is staffed and governed primarily by people with disabilities. The programs and services of WDOMI are free to consumers with disabilities and their families. WDOMI does not discriminate based on age, sex, disability, race or ethnicity, sexual orientation or religion.

FUNDING

Westchester Disabled on the Move, Inc., receives funding from the New York State Education Department. Additional funding comes from private individuals, companies and foundations that support the independent living philosophy.

BENEFITS & HOUSING

Unique to this Center is the Housing Advocacy Program. The primary purposes are to:

• Assist consumers with locating affordable housing opportunities
• Assist consumers in filling out applications and dealing with housing professionals
• Assist consumers to appropriately find resources (medical doctors, community helping agencies, etc.) that will help them to adjust to living in a new apartment and/or a new community

The Benefits Advocate assists consumers to get government and other benefits and services:

• By assisting them to appropriately fill out benefit applications
• By advocating with various benefits professionals to assist consumers to get various benefits

EMPLOYMENT RELATED PROGRAMS

Independent Living Centers are committed to assisting people with disabilities when they wish to become employed. Our programs are designed to remove the barriers to employment and to assist individuals to develop and implement realistic plans.
A. BENEFITS PLANNING ASSISTANCE & OUTREACH

The Benefits Specialist assists consumers to navigate the Social Security Benefits System by:

• Providing presentations to consumers and professionals on Work Incentives
• Educating working people with disabilities on the Medicaid Buy-In Program
• Providing individual benefits advisement to consumers and their family members
• Assisting consumers to write a Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS)

B. OTHER EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

WDOMI also works with community based employment agencies to enhance their capacity to serve people with disabilities. For instance, the Disability Program Navigator (DPN) under contract with the Yonkers Employment Center assists people with disabilities with obtaining and retaining gainful employment to obtain self-sufficiency.

Some of the services that are available:

• Employment referral/information and training services available through the local One-Stop Employment Center
• Individual assessment to determine appropriate job referral
• Step-by-Step job search assistance utilizing computerized job listings
• Free access to accessible computers, phones and fax machines

C. “LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL” TRANSITION PROGRAM

This program assists students with disabilities and their families with access to services and programs for students to achieve a successful transition from high school to adult life. The program provides educational opportunities, advocacy, counseling/advisement and information and referral regarding various programs and services within the community.

• In-school classroom presentations for special education students
• Counseling/advisement and advocacy for individual students and their families
• Annual informational transition conference for students, families and professionals
• Educational workshops for students, families and professionals
• Support/educational group for parents of special education students
NURSING HOME TRANSITION & DIVERSION PROGRAM

This program promotes choices for consumers at risk of unwanted nursing home placement. It also seeks to reintegrate nursing home residents safely into the community at large. WDOMI assists seniors and people with disabilities in Westchester County to avoid unwanted nursing home placement.

- Provide information about individual rights, community services, equipment, accessibility, and much more. We understand the complex long term care system and can give you the information you need to make informed decisions about long term care.
- Help you to determine what services and supports are the right ones to meet your needs. We’ll let you know what services are available so that you can choose which service will best meet your needs. If you want, we can assist you in obtaining the service.
- Assist people in getting the benefits and services they are entitled to. We teach people to be self advocates who know their rights. We advocate for people to return home with the community support services they need.
- Assist consumers to have greater control over the services they need including participation in Consumer Directed Personal Assistance.

We firmly believe that you should have the right to choose what services you want and where to receive them.

SYSTEMS ADVOCACY

The Systems Advocate engages people with disabilities to participate in those activities that will facilitate change or impact public policy in the interests of the disability community. This includes contacting and visiting local, state and federal policy makers regarding issues of concern; registering to vote; and being aware of current policy issues. The Center is part of a statewide systems advocacy coalition with many Independent Living Centers throughout New York State.

PEER & PERSONAL COUNSELING SERVICES

These core services, which are non-diagnostic in nature, are intended to provide a supportive environment for the consumer and/or their family members. These services address:

- Difficulty in adjusting to one’s disability
- Assisting family members to understand their disabled relative’s experience
- Assisting the community to understand the social response to people with disabilities
- The Center also provides support groups to assist people with disabilities