When Worlds Collide: Co-Locating a Victim Service Program in a Center for Independent Living

Brandy Macaluso, Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc.
Sharon D’Eusanio, Victim Services and Disabilities Consultant
GUESS THE DISABILITY GAME!
FREDDY MERCURY OF QUEEN
STEVIE WONDER
DAN ACKROYD
HARRISON FORD
JOHN MELLANCAMP
ROCK HUDSON
RICK ALLEN OF DEF LEOPARD
STEPHEN HAWKING
DAMON WAYANS
CHARLETON HESTON
RICHARD PRYOR
WALT DISNEY
ALBERT EINSTEIN
MICHAEL J. FOX (2)

PARKINSON’S DISEASE
FREDDY MERCURY OF QUEEN (2)

AIDS
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (2)

POLIO
DAN ACKROYD (2)

ASBERGER’S
TOURETTE’S
SYNDROME
HUGO WEAVING (2)

EPILEPSY
HARRISON FORD (2)

DEPRESSION
JOHN MELLANCAMP (2)

SPINA BIFIDA
ALICE COOPER (2)

SEVERE ALLERGIES
ROCK HUDSON (2)

AIDS
RICK ALLEN OF DEF LEOPARD (2)

AMPUTEE
BILLY BOB THORTON (2)

OBSESSIVE
COMPULSIVE
DISORDER
STEPHEN HAWKING (2)

ALS OR LOU GERHIG’S DISEASE
DAMON WAYANS (2)

CONGENITAL DISABILITY: CLUB FOOT
CHARLETON HESTON (2)

ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE
RICHARD PRYOR (2)

MULTIPLE SCHLEROSIS
WALT DISNEY (2)

LEARNING DISABILITY
WINSTON CHURCHILL (2)

SPEECH
DISABILITY
ALBERT EINSTEIN (2)

ASPERGER’S
DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY
LEARNING DISABILITY
SHARON D’EUSANIO’S PORTION OF THE PRESENTATION
THE HISTORY OF THE CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Photo of: Child’s hand sitting on adult’s hand, Woman sitting in wheelchair with her arms up in the air celebrating the Independent Living Movement, CILO’S MISSION: Promoting Independence for People with Disabilities
INDEPENDENT LIVING MOVEMENT

- 1850 - Deaf local organizations
- 1880 - National Association for the Deaf
- 1930s - League of the Physically Handicapped
- 1940s - Paralyzed Veterans of America.
INDEPENDENT LIVING MOVEMENT (2)

- 1960s and 1970s Civil Rights Movements
  - African American Movement
  - Women’s Movement
  - Disability Movement

- 1972 - 1st “Center for Independent Living” in Berkeley, California formed by Ed Roberts and the Rolling Quads.

- Physically Disabled Students Program (PDSP).
WHO IS ED ROBERTS?

• University of California (UC) at Berkeley
  – Students took note and developed progressive movements to benefit various causes.
  – Ed Roberts was hesitated admission due to his severe disability.

• University’s Official Statement at the time:
  – ”We've Tried Cripples Before and It Didn't Work“

Photo of: Ed Roberts
Credited as "The Father of Independent Living"
1/23/1939—3/14/1995
PHYSICALLY DISABLED STUDENTS PROGRAM

• People with Disabilities are the experts on disabilities!

• People with disabilities should be integrated into the community!

• Advocacy organization not a social service agency!

• 1970s, the CIL founded the Disability Law Resource Center
TRADITIONAL MEDICAL REHABILITATION MODEL

• Focus on what is “wrong” with the person with a disability

• Efforts to "fix what is broken."

• Identified as having one or more impairment(s) that limit choices regarding participation in community life

• Misconception that disability itself is the issue not societal barriers that limit those with a disability are the fault
INDEPENDENT LIVING PHILOSOPHY

The Independent Living (IL) philosophy is very different from the traditional medical rehabilitation model.

• Core values
• Goals for empowerment and self-determination
• Goals for communities
• Ultimate Desired Outcome—self-determination and full community participation for persons with all disabilities
CORE VALUES OF THE CILS

• Dignity
• Peer support
• Consumer control
• Civil rights
• Integration
• Equal access
• Advocacy
ABOUT US
WHO DO WE SERVE?

Any individual with a disability

Any age

Any disability type
DISABILITY TYPES

• Physical
• Mental/Emotional
• Cognitive
• Developmental/Intellectual
• Deaf/Hard of Hearing
• Blind/Visual Impairment
• Severe Medical/Hidden
FOUR CORE SERVICES

Advocacy
Independent Living Skills
Peer Counseling/Support Groups
Information and Referral Services

Fifth Core Service (Optional):
Nursing Home Transition
OUR AGENCY IS...

Consumer-Driven

Consumer-Controlled

Consumer-Oriented
AUXILIARY PROGRAMS FOR CILO

- Disabled Veterans Program
- Business Leadership Network
  - ALERT Program
- Emergency Assistance Program
  - Voter’s Access Program
- Social Security Disability/SSI Benefit Services
- Educational Advocacy and Transition Services
  - Glades Tri-City Services
  - Treasure Coast Services
- Nursing Home Transition Services
- Training and Technical Assistance Program
- Architectural Survey and Accessibility Studies
CONTACT

Brandy Macaluso, MSW
Coordinator of Victim Services

Coalition for Independent Living Options, Inc.
6800 Forest Hill Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33413

(561) 966-4288