

Fall
2022

CONSUMER APPRECIATION SUPPER

DAKOTA CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Dakota Challenger



Mission Statement:

The Dakota Center for Independent Living believes in empowering people with disabilities by minimizing barriers, advocating for inclusion and promoting consumer choice.

Brian's Life in His Own Words ~

I started at rock bottom by using drugs, being put on probation from the age of 12 and being on my own ever since. Went from off the streets to moving into my own apartment for a year and then moved to another apartment for 6 years. My life in between has been in and out of treatment, a few slipups on my way to recovery. I have never had a driver's license until this year. I've



held down a job for 7 months and with this I saved enough to buy a Dodge truck. I'm still working with programs in recovery and be able to help others, by volunteering at New Freedom which gives me meaning and being able to tell my story. I would like to start my own lawn business, I want to be outside in the open. I live my life clean and sober which is still a struggle but I am doing it. I just want to move on to a bigger and better life for myself.



New Proposal in Congress Would Remove 'Mentally Retarded' From Federal Law

Years after the term "mental retardation" was stripped from many federal statues, numerous references to "mentally retarded" remain. Now, a bipartisan group of lawmakers want to change that.

A bill introduced late last week in the U.S. House of Representatives would replace language that many with disabilities find offensive in more than two-dozen instances in the U.S. Code.

The move comes more than a decade after passage of Rosa's Law, which removed "mental retardation" from federal health, education and labor policy in favor of "intellectual disability", but failed to address references to "mentally retarded".

The new legislation known as the "Words Matter Act" or H.R. 8863, would update laws referencing "mentally retarded" as well as some cases where "mental retardation" remains with the terms "intellectual disability" or "intellectual disabilities" instead.

Go to disabilityscoop for more information on the "Words Matter Act"

Lixsamary Gets Her Driver Permit



Lixsamary recently completed the DCIL Driver Permit Class and is the new owner of not only her driver's permit, but a car to call her own as well! Congratulations, Lixsamary! Here's what she had to say, "Guess who pass her permit test? I did, now I have my permit thanks to you!!"

Nic Got His Driver Permit

Congratulations Nic on obtaining your driver's permit! Nic is a recent graduate of the DCIL Driver Permit Class. Nic and his mom would like to say a big THANK YOU to the staff at ND DOT for providing the accommodations Nic requested.



To learn more about the DCIL Driver Permit Class or some of the accommodations that may be requested when taking the driver permit exam call Carol in Bismarck at 701-222-3636 or Mary Beth in Dickinson at 701-483-4363.



Harlie Got Her Driver Permit

Harlie attended the Dakota Center for Independent Living's Driver Permit Course and successfully got her permit.

Congratulations, Harlie!!



The contents of this newsletter were developed under a grant from the US Department of Health and Human Service, Administration for Community Living. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of HHSC or ACL, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. This newsletter is available in alternative format - upon request.

LOOK AT ME NOW!!



Briar is a 28-year old male that endured a traumatic brain injury during an incident while living in Hawaii. Briar was brought back to North Dakota where he started receiving treatment at Dakota Alpha in Mandan, ND. He was referred to the Money Follows the Person program by the rehab facility after he expressed interest in moving back into the community and getting an apartment.

Briar was successfully able to work with the Money Follows the Person transition team to determine what type of services and apartment he was needing. After several months of looking, the MFP Housing Facilitator was able to find Briar an apartment in Bismarck that he was happy to accept, and he signed the lease on June 1, 2022.

During his time at Dakota Alpha, Briar worked extremely hard with therapy to gain strength and because of that hard work, he was able to move into his apartment on June 16, 2022. Briar received a reclining loveseat, bed, and other household items from the Money Follows the Person program so that he could make his new apartment comfortable and finally have a home to call his own!

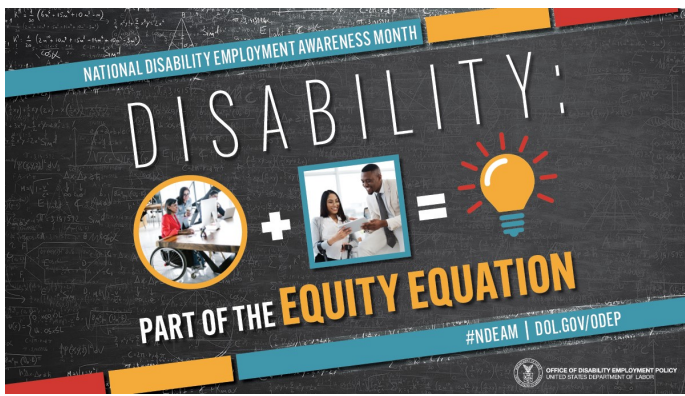


Briar receives services from a QSP agency five times a week and has created a wonderful bond with his caregiver Lena, who has been instrumental in helping him adjust to community living. Briar volunteers at the Dream Center several times a week helping to serve food and clean tables to assist the center in providing much-needed services to the homeless and less fortunate in our community.

Briar is also working with Vocational Rehab and would like to get a job, his GED and a driver's permit.

Briar continues his outpatient therapy and is determined to get stronger each day!





October 2022
CELEBRATE
National Disability
Employment Awareness
Month

The staff from Dakota Center for Independent Living would like to acknowledge all of the businesses in our communities who have provided employment to people with disabilities. This year's theme, "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation", recognizes the important role people with disabilities play in a diverse and inclusive American workforce.

 Watch our Facebook page for more on this.



Wachter
Park
Magical
Moments
Playground

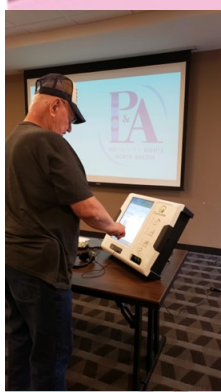
This park in south Bismarck has a wheelchair swing and "Sway Fun" that a wheelchair can also fit on.

Cannonball Senior Center

The ladies in Mott enjoyed Dickinson DCIL giving presentation on services and painting wood jars.



Consumer Appreciation Luncheon Banquet DCIL(Dickinson)



Thank You Hillary for presenting on P&A Services and allowing us to tryout the Express Voting Machine



Community



Our Silent Auction & bake sale fundraising event. Huge thank you to the community for making it a success!

Events



Veterans informational fair



Health and Human Services receives federal grant to expand behavioral health services for children and youth

The state will receive \$3 million per year starting Sept. 30, 2022 through Sept. 30, 2026 to build and expand a comprehensive set of community-based behavioral health services and supports for children and youth with serious emotional disturbances and their families. These include outpatient services, 24-hour crisis emergency services, intensive home-based outreach and case management, intensive day treatment, respite care, recovery support services, and transition from the child/youth services to the adult delivery system.

Are you AWARE?

October:

National Down Syndrome Awareness Month

Blindness Awareness Month

November:

Diabetes Awareness Month

December:

National Human Rights Month

Dec. 3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Dakota Center for Independent Living
3111 East Broadway Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701-222-3636
Toll Free: 1-800-489-5013
Fax: 701-222-0511



DCIL has a satellite office in Dickinson, ND. They can be Reached at: 1-701-483-4363

Find us on **FaceBook** at [Dakota Center for Independent Living](#)

[Website address: dakotacil.org](http://dakotacil.org)

If you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail, please contact CathyJo at DCIL by calling (701) 222-3636.

Also, available in alternative format—upon request.

DCIL was established in 1980

