



# Advancing Advocacy Best Practices

46th Annual Indiana Consortium  
Conference, Indianapolis 2019

accessABILITY

# Meet the Presenter



**Allison Bishop**  
Outreach  
Coordinator



**What does disability mean to you?**



# accessABILITY, Center for Independent Living

OUR MISSION

Building Advocates and Inclusive Communities



# Centers for Independent Living (CILs)

A CIL must be a consumer-controlled, community-based, cross-disability, **non-residential**, private non-profit agency designed and operated within a local community by individuals with disabilities.

All Indiana Centers serve individuals of any age and at no cost





# CIL Core Services

Centers are mandated to provide independent living core services but don't offer a "menu" of services; Needs, goals, dreams and desires are NOT services. Centers understand this better than anyone. As such, Center staff work directly beside their peers with disabilities, not for them, utilizing the core services as a means to empower their peers to be their own best advocate and become active engaged members of their communities.

- Information & Referral
  - Peer Support
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Individual & Systems Advocacy
  - Youth Transition
  - Institutional Transition
- Diversion from an Institution



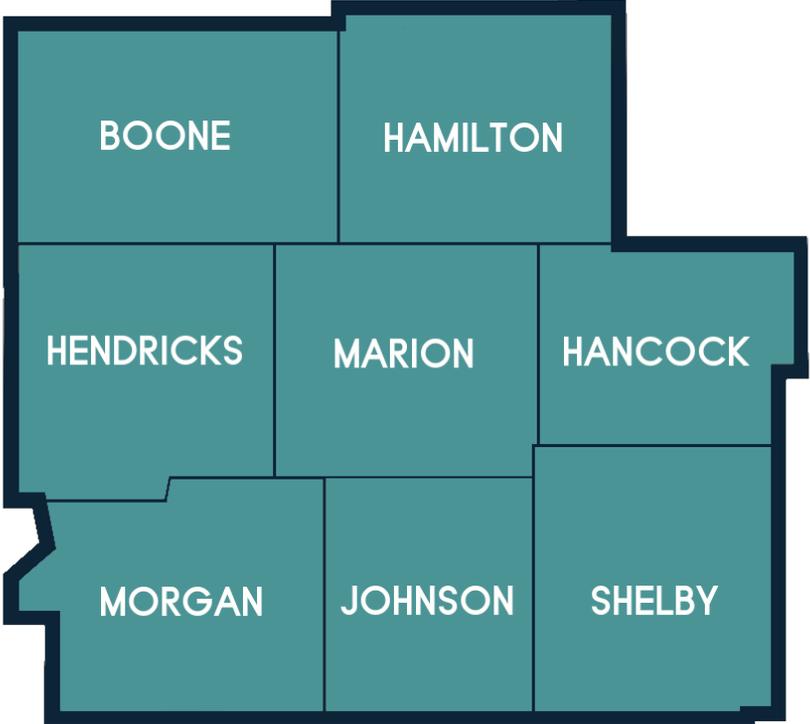
# Additional Services/Supports

CILs may provide additional services and supports beyond the core services. Typically, these are based on the needs of the service area a Center serves.

accessABILITY also provides:

- Older Blind and Visually Impaired (OBVI) Services
  - Low Vision Support Groups
  - Youth Advisory Council
- Latino and Refugee Outreach
- Housing Search Workshops

# Where We Serve





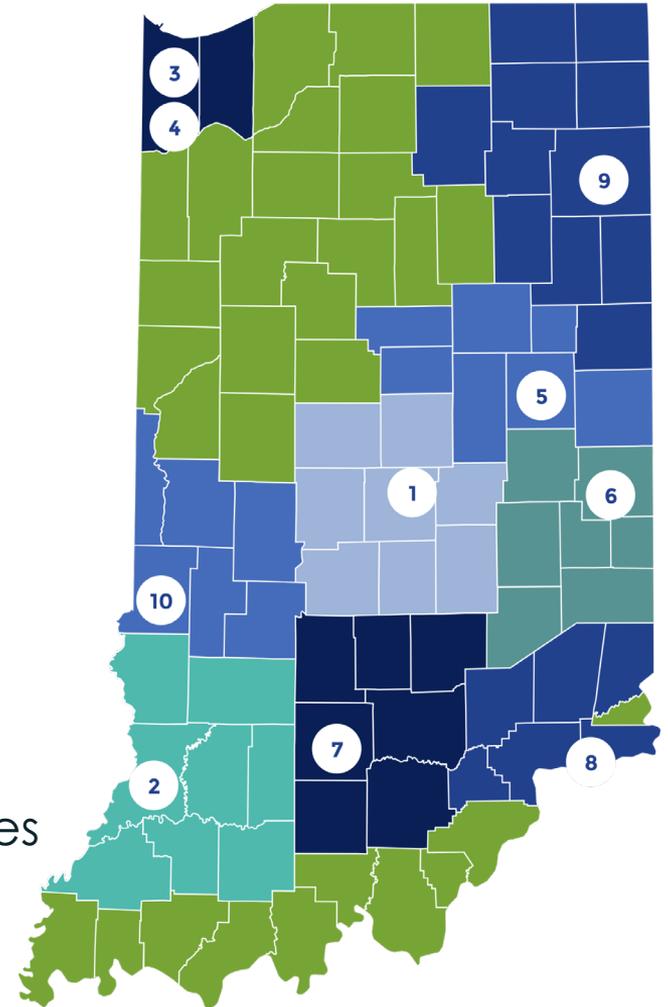
# Who We Serve

- 19% of IN population are People with Disabilities, or 900,000 people
- Approx. 300,000 individuals within our 8 county service area
- We hope to serve even more consumers in 2019

# Indiana Centers

1. accessABILITY
2. ATTIC
3. Everybody Counts
4. Everybody Counts (North)
5. Future Choices
6. ILCEIN
7. SICIL
8. SIILC
9. The League
10. The WILL Center

Visit [www.insilc.org](http://www.insilc.org) for counties and CIL contact information



# Ground Rules

Does anyone need any accommodations?



# Attitudinal Barriers



People First  
Language

- Put the **PERSON** before the **DISABILITY**
- Use the words **HAS**, **USES**, or **PERSON WITH**
- **Exceptions:** Deaf Community, Some People with Autism, etc.

When unsure, just ask!

# Visible & Invisible





# Point-Counter Point

## 4 Step Advocacy Plan

1. Purpose
2. People
3. Persuasion
4. Performance

# Sheltered Workshop vs. Supported Employment



# Plastic Straws





# Plastic Straws

## Pros and Cons



# 3 REASONS PLASTIC STRAWS SUCK



They harm marine wildlife & ecosystems



They expose us to unhealthy toxic chemicals



Used for minutes, here for centuries, piling up daily

# 3 WAYS TO STOP SUCKING PLASTIC



Skip the straw & sip your drink



Switch to reusable steel, glass or bamboo straws



Use paper straws instead\*



Please pause the campaign until a suitable solution for disabled customers can be found

# JUST SAY **NO** TO STRAWS!

## THE U.S. CONSUMES 500 MILLION STRAWS A DAY.<sup>2</sup>

End to end, straws used **DAILY** in the United States could circle the planet more than two-and-a-half times.



## That's over 182 BILLION straws a year!



ReThink Disposable is a program of Clean Water Action and Clean Water Fund conducted in partnership with local businesses and government agencies. Generous support is provided by public and private funders. To learn more about the program, its partners and funders, visit [www.rethinkdisposable.org](http://www.rethinkdisposable.org).



# MANY DISABLED PEOPLE NEED PLASTIC STRAWS TO DRINK, EAT, TAKE MEDICATIONS, ETC. HERE'S HOW CURRENT ALTERNATIVE, REUSABLE OPTIONS ARE A HARM TO US.

	<b>CHOKING HAZARD</b>	<b>INJURY RISK</b>	<b>NOT POSITIONABLE</b>	<b>COSTLY FOR CONSUMER</b>	<b>NOT HIGH-TEMP SAFE</b>
<b>Metal</b>		✓	✓	✓	
<b>Bamboo</b>		✓	✓	✓	
<b>Glass</b>		✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Silicone</b>			✓	✓	
<b>Acrylic</b>		✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Paper</b>	✓		✓		✓
<b>Pasta</b>	✓	✓	✓		✓
<b>Single-use</b>					

by @sarahbreanep

\*Pressure to create bio-degradable straw options that are safe for the environment AND for all disabled people should fall upon manufacturer, NOT marginalized disabled consumers.

\*Once we accept the necessity of plastic straws, we can work together on other environmental initiatives that are effective, inclusive and accessible.

# Accessible Parking





**SAVE MY  
SPOT**

You've put me  
in a bit of a **tight spot!**

These blue stripes give me the space I need to  
deploy my wheelchair ramp. Without that extra space,  
I'm stuck. Please remember this next time!



Learn more at [braunability.com/savemyspot](http://braunability.com/savemyspot) 507103



# Reasonable Accommodation



In situations where it is not clear the dog is a service animal, only ask the following questions.

1. Is the **dog** a **service** animal required because of a disability?
2. What **work** or **task** has the dog been trained to perform?

**You MAY NOT ask these questions if the need for a service dog is obvious.**

Owners and their service animals do not require any markings or papers to verify

# Current Barriers in Our Community

- **Housing**
  - Affordable and accessible
  - Population growing
  - Aging population
- **Transportation**
  - Affordable and accessible
  - Not enough



**DON'T BE  
SILENT**





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**Toll Free:** (866) 794-7245

**Email:** [info@abilityindiana.org](mailto:info@abilityindiana.org)

**Website:** [www.abilityindiana.org](http://www.abilityindiana.org)  
**Facebook:** [www.fb.com/abilityindiana](http://www.fb.com/abilityindiana)

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