



Independence Center, Inc.  
6300 East Virginia Beach Boulevard  
Norfolk, Virginia 23502

# Partners In Independence



**Advocacy**

**Peer Mentoring**

**Independent Living  
Skills Training**

**Information and Referral**

**Independence Center, Inc.  
Virginia's First Independent  
Living Center**

**Serving the Disability Community  
in all of South Hampton Roads  
Since 1981**

## Become a Partner in Independence!

**Support** the Endependence Center (ECI) to continue its Important work by committing to support Independent Living each month. Just \$100 per month will help ensure that the Endependence Center can continue to provide advocacy skills training, resource information and direct independent living services across the region (i.e., Peer Mentoring).

The Annual Goal is to bring on **100 Partners in Independence** at the \$100 per month level. This funding will help offset state and local government cuts to the Endependence Center and ensure that our services remain free and available for anyone with a disability.

As a **Partner in Independence** you will receive:

- recognition and reserved seating for two at our Annual Meeting,
- recognition in Endependence Center Monthly Newsletter,
- a link on ECI's Facebook page,
- a link on ECI's website, and other acknowledgements.

## As a person with a disability ...

**I am independent and make my own decisions...**

The Endependence Center's services were founded on the principles of independent living. This means that each person is the best expert on his or her own life, goals, needs and wants.

**When I have a problem, I want to talk to an expert...**

A majority of the staff at the Endependence Center are people living successfully with their own disabilities. This real life experience allows us to mentor others. The Center staff provides support to participants who become self-advocates and savvy about solving the problems that come with a disability.

Each year, the Endependence Center provides support and assistance to more than 1,200 people with disabilities.



**INFORMATION AND REFERRAL**



## ADVOCACY



### I stand up for myself...

The Endependence Center organizes advocacy efforts to ensure that the needs of people with disabilities are addressed locally, at the State level and nationally. We mentor people with disabilities with developing skills to organize, advocate and make their voice heard so that they can represent their own needs and make their government and community work for them.

### I need a home that is right for me...

The Endependence Center works with builders, local housing officials, planners and individual contractors to advocate for the development of affordable, accessible housing options for people with disabilities.

### I can live in my own home, not a nursing facility....

The Endependence Center helps people with disabilities move out of nursing facilities and into real homes with their families and friends nearby. We link people with the supports needed to live successfully and independently in the community.

We also help link people to the supports that help prevent nursing facility admissions in the first place.



## PEER MENTORING

### I can flourish with a good education...

The Endependence Center provides technical assistance and advocacy to ensure that students with disabilities get the education they need to be successful in school and life.



## INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS TRAINING

### I can be employed and productive...

The Endependence Center provides people with disabilities resources, information and support to find and keep a real job. We also help these new workers navigate the maze of work and benefits so that they can be effective at work and get the supports they need to be independent.



If you would like to learn more about the Endependence Center, visit our website at [www.endependence.org](http://www.endependence.org) or call 757-461-8007 v/TDD.

## Yes, I want to be a Partner in Independence!

Visit [www.endependence.org](http://www.endependence.org) and click on **Partners in Independence** or fill out the following information and mail in your commitment. Your contribution to the Endependence Center as a non-profit organization is tax deductible\*.

You will receive written acknowledgement for tax purposes.

<b>Name of Individual, Business or Organization:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Phone Number:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>	
<b>Partner Level of Support:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 or more per month	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,200 or more one time contribution	
Indicate Amount: \$ _____	
<b>Other Amount:</b> \$ _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Per month <input type="checkbox"/> One time contribution	
<b>Method of Payment:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check/Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Cash	
Make payable to Endependence Center	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bank account or credit card via ECI PayPal	
<small>(Visit ECI website to access PayPal)</small>	

\*A 501(c)3 organization – EIN 54-1250288

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[www.endependence.org/pii.html](http://www.endependence.org/pii.html)