ENDEPENDENCE CENTER NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2023

YEA! In Full Swing

The ECI Summer Youth Program, Youth Endependent Advocates (YEA!) kicked off on July 10. YEA is halfway through an exciting time learning independent living skills, goal planning, work readiness, and more.

Pictured right: A black and white picture of a female ECI staff member using a wheelchair. Behind her stands a group of teens of all ages with other ECI staff, taken at a community outing.

Note: the monthly Saturday Youth Group will not meet in August.



Highlights from Recent Events:

Sentara Gun Violence Prevention Event

On June 30, ECI staff attended the Annual Gun Violence Prevention event at Sentara Norfolk General to discuss ECI services and meet with doctors, nurses, and hospital staff.

Employment Fair

On July 13, ECI participants attended an Employment Fair at the Hampton Roads Workforce Council. Over 60 job seekers attended.

Portsmouth Department of Social Services

On July 15, ECI staff had the opportunity to share more about ECI services and the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Technology Assistance Program at a Portsmouth Department of Social Services event.



Current participants should be on the lookout for the annual ECI Participant Satisfaction Survey to arrive in their mailboxes in the coming weeks. Your opinion about how ECI works with you on your goals is important. We want to know about your experiences at ECI. Your feedback will help ECI to provide needed services.

AUGUST 2023

Endependence Center, Inc. Events

Held at ECI, 6300 E. Virginia Beach Blvd, Norfolk

- 9th CAC Consumer Advisory Committee 2:00pm 3:30pm
- **WED** The agenda for this meeting is to discuss CAC surveys and results.
- 16th Independent Living Skills Training: What Are Your Goals?
- WED 2:00pm 3:30pm

Goal setting refers to the process of setting specific, attainable targets. Learn why goal setting is so important in life and how to do it.

- 23rd Advocacy Group: ADA, Local Government 2:00pm 3:30pm
- **WED** Earlier this summer the ECI Advocacy Group established a process to review information from local governments about the Americans with Disabilities Act. This August meeting will discuss areas of local government that the Group will focus on. If you have had difficulty accessing a local government program or needed a program modification that was not provided, please join the Group on August 23 to discuss what we might do together to resolve the problem.
- 30th VBthrive Presentation: Coaching & Support 2:00pm 3:30pm
- **WED** If you are a Virginia Beach resident and want to expand your ability to be self-sufficient, this training is for you. VBthrive is a program ECI is partnering with to provide coaching and support to help you reach your goals.

Community & Participant-Led Events

Transportation tickets are NOT provided to attend community events.

- 4th Silent Dinner 5:00pm 8:00pm
- FRI Lynnhaven Mall (701 Lynnhaven Parkway, Virginia Beach)

Southside Silent Dinner is a silent, social, family-friendly event for the deaf community, CODA (Child of Deaf Adult), ASL beginners and students, and others interested in ASL.

- 15th Crazy Buffet & Grill 12 noon 2:30pm
- **TUE** This month's participant-led activity will be held at Crazy Buffet and Grill, located at 1745 Parkview Drive, Chesapeake.
- 20th TOUCH Group: Cookout 11:00am 3:30pm
- SUN Portsmouth City Park (140 City Park Avenue, Portsmouth)

We encourage everyone to come out for our first cookout. Join us for food, games, prizes and conversation. Bring your family and friends! For more information, contact Montrell Rodgers at (757) 238-1293 or vatouch.22@gmail.com.

August 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
These events are not organized by ECI. Bus and paratransit tickets will not be provided by ECI.		1	2	3	Silent Dinner @ Lynnhaven Mall 5:00pm - 8:00pm
6	7	8	9 Consumer Advisory Committee @ ECI 2:00pm - 3:30pm	ECI CLOSED FOR STAFF EVENT	11
13	14	Participant Led Event* @ Crazy Buffet & Grill Chesapeake 12noon - 2:30pm	ILS Training: Goal Setting @ ECI 2:00pm - 3:30pm	17	18
TOUCH Group Picnic* @ Portsmouth City Park 11:00am - 3:30pm	21	22	Advocacy Group ADA & Local Government @ ECI 2:00pm - 3:30pm	24	25
27	28	29	VBthrive Presentation @ ECI 2:00pm - 3:30pm	31	

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Disability Advocacy & Services

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Norfolk, VA Permit No. 102

Endependence Center, Inc.

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Newsletter alternate format: contact (757) 351-1598 or ehoapili@endependence.org Place label here

Schedule Changes

Check the ECI website: www.endependence.org or call (757) 461-8007, option 4

Accommodations

To request accommodations for ECI activities: (757) 351-1586 voice (757) 461-7527 TDD tmanno@endependence.org

Social Media

Facebook: Endependence Center, Inc.-Norfolk, Virginia