

ENDEPENDENCE CENTER NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024



Pictured above: A white house with a driveway. A wheelchair-accessible ramp leads from the driveway to the front door.

April is Fair Housing Month

Vantoria Clay, ECI's Housing Advocacy Coordinator, will present on the Federal Fair Housing Law at this month's Advocacy Group on Wednesday, April 24 at 2:00pm. Topics to cover include illegal practices in the sale and rental of housing, disability protections, and the complaint process. Please bring your questions.

ECI Partners with disAbility Law Center of Virginia for Voting Rights Presentation

On April 9 at 10:00am at ECI, the disAbility Law Center of Virginia will present on voting rights for individuals with disabilities. Some key considerations include: legal protections, accessibility at polling places, accessible voting materials, and assistance and accommodations.

After the presentation, people with disabilities can request a private 30-minute consultation with the disAbility Law Center of Virginia about voting rights. To schedule a 30-minute consultation, please email Joliefawn.Liddell@dclcv.org. To request disability accommodations, please contact tmanno@endependence.org or 757-351-1586.



Pictured above: a ballot and voting sticker are handed to a man standing next to a person using a wheelchair.

Upcoming Open House Workshops for Public Health Organizations

ECI will host a free, hour-long open house workshop for public health organizations to discuss ECI services, the Independent Living philosophy, effective communication techniques for interacting with people with disabilities, access in medical settings and T.A.P., transitioning from nursing facilities, and housing, and to provide networking opportunities.

In April, the workshop will be held on April 25 at 4:00pm – 5:00pm at ECI. No prior registration required. For questions, contact Benjamin White at 757-351-1583 or bwhite@endependence.org.

April 2024

Endeppendence Center, Inc. Events

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

9th TUE **Voting Rights for Persons with Disabilities** 10:00am – 11:00am
See page 1 for details.

10th WED **Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC)** 2:00pm – 3:30pm
Agenda is to recap Independent Living Day.

17th WED **Independent Living Skills Training**
What is On Your Plate or In Your Cup? 2:00pm – 3:30pm
Come and find out how the choices on your plate or in your cup can be impacting your health and discuss how and where to find ways of making your food and drink choices part of a preventative healthcare plan.

24th WED **Advocacy Group** 2:00pm – 3:30pm
This month's topic is Fair Housing. See page 1 for details.

27th SAT **Youth Independent Living Skills Training** 1:30pm – 3:00pm
Transportation/Driving

30th TUE **Independent Living Skills Training on Podcasts**
What's Bugging You? 3:00pm – 4:30pm
This month, we'll write the podcast and prepare it for recording.

Community Events

Transportation tickets are NOT provided to attend community events.




5th FRI **Silent Dinner** 5:30pm – 8:00pm
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.

13th SAT **ASL Hangout** 5:00pm – 9:00pm
Ozzlefinch Beers and Blending (81 Patch Road, Fort Monroe)
The ASL Hangout goal is to bring deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing people together to socialize and expand the ASL/deaf community. All users of sign language, any level, are welcome!

16th TUE **Participant-Led Event** 12noon – 2:30pm
Norfolk Premium Outlets (1600 Premium Outlets Blvd., Norfolk)
This event is organized by participants.

27th SAT **TOUCH Group** 12:30pm – 2:30pm
Pin Boys at the Beach (1577 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach)
Come and enjoy fun, food and friendly competition among your peers! The T.O.U.C.H would like to announce its 2nd annual bowling event. Bowling spots will be limited, please RSVP or contact for more details with Montrell Rodgers or April Harrington (phone: (757)-238-1293, (757)-828-9702 or email: vatouch.22@gmail.com)

April 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>National Fair Housing Month</p>	1	2	3	4	5 Silent Dinner* @ Lynnhaven Mall 5:30pm – 8:00pm	6
7	8	9 dLCV Presentation @ ECI 10:00am – 11:00am	10 Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) @ ECI 2:00pm – 3:30pm	11 ECI CLOSED 12noon – 2:00pm FOR STAFF MEETING	12	13 ASL Hangout* @ Ozzlefinch Beers and Blending 5:00pm – 9:00pm
14	15 	16 Participant-Led Event* @ Norfolk Premium Outlets 12noon – 2:30pm	17 ILS Training “What’s On Your Plate and In Your Cup?” @ ECI 2:00pm – 3:30pm	18	19	20
21	22 	23	24 Advocacy Group @ ECI 2:00pm - 3:30pm	25 Public Health Open House @ ECI 4:00pm – 5:00pm	26	27 Youth ILS Training @ ECI 2:00pm – 3:30pm TOUCH Group @ ECI 11:00am – 1:00pm
28	29	30 ILS Training: “What’s Bugging You?” @ ECI 3:00pm – 4:30pm	*These events are not organized by ECI. Bus and paratransit tickets will not be provided by ECI.			



Disability Advocacy & Services

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ehoapili@endependence.org

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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
tmano@endependence.org

Social Media

Facebook: Endeppendence
Center, Inc.-Norfolk, Virginia