

Partnerships



Harness the resources and expertise of local and national disability partners!

Centers for Independent Living



Common Goals >>>

CIL's mission is to assist individuals with disabilities in securing employment and developing independent living and self-advocacy skills, while also providing them with peer support and community-based connections.

Job Corps' mission is to attract eligible young people, teach them the skills they need to become employable and independent, and place them in meaningful jobs or further education.

Connecting >>>

Your local CIL may not be familiar with the Job Corps program!

- Locate your nearest CIL at <http://www.virtualcil.net/cils/>
- Invite a representative from your local CIL to your center to discuss mutual goals & benefits or to provide staff and student training
 - Include students **with disabilities as tour guides!**
- Provide information about CILs to your Job Corps Transition staff.

Background

Stronger together...

Strong partnerships learn to leverage each other's strengths and resources in an overall effort to improve outcomes for their clients.

CILs are excellent partners for building a foundation of supports, services, and resources for people with all types of disabilities. CILs are non-residential places of action and coalition designed and operated by people with disabilities. CILs work with individuals to promote leadership and independence as well as with local communities to remove barriers to independence.

CILs emerged from *The Independent Living Movement* of the 1960s and is founded in the belief that people with disabilities, regardless of the form, have a common history and a culture that advances further when banded together. Independent Living philosophy emphasizes consumer control. **People with disabilities are the best experts on their own needs**, having crucial and valuable perspectives to contribute and deserving of equal opportunity to decide how to live, work, and take part in their communities,

particularly in reference to services that affect their day-to-day lives and access to independence.

Job Corps has been serving young people since 1964 by teaching them skills they need to become employable and independent and places them in meaningful jobs or further education. Job Corps is authorized by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2022. WIOA is designed to help job seekers access employment, education,

**"Nothing about us
without us." -IL
Movement**

training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to

compete in the global economy. CILs are well positioned to support multiple aspects of WIOA implementation at the state and local levels. CILs and Job Corps can leverage their long histories of assisting eligible youth with disabilities to connect to the labor force and become more independent citizens.

CIL's Services

CIL's philosophy is "Boots on the ground. People with disabilities directly serving people with disabilities and communities ..." *Administration for Community Living, CILs Fact Sheet 2023.*

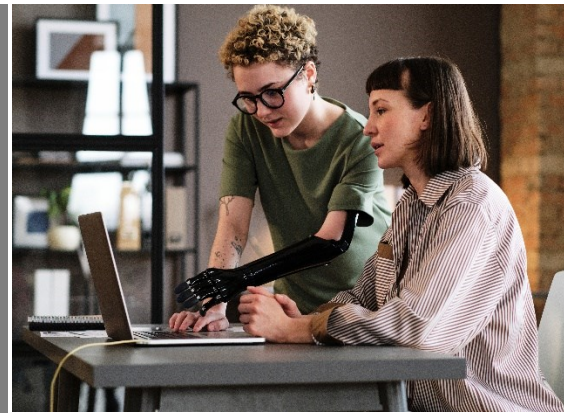
CIL's Services provide:

- Help for young people transitioning to community living as an adult
- Information & referrals to services & practical resources
- Training on IL skills, such as personal care, budgeting, household management, & more
- Peer counseling, support, & mentoring
- Individual & systems advocacy

Depending on the needs of a CIL's community, additional services may be offered such as:

- Job search assistance & training
- Housing searches, modifications, & assistance
- Assistive technology access, training, & support
- Transportation assistance
- Health care navigation
- Eligibility screening & application assistance for Medicaid, Social Security, & more
- Recreation, socialization, & peer groups
- Legal rights education

https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/programs/2023-07/CIL_FactSheet_2023.508.pdf



CILs build on the comprehensive foundation that Job Corps provides.

They provide lifelong support systems and advocacy to enhance the rights and abilities of people with disabilities to actively participate in their communities and to live self-determined lives.

Why Partner? >>>

Job Corps' focus on building independence and employability is a longstanding one and lays the groundwork for agencies such as CILs to build on the skills and attitudes needed for students with disabilities to thrive in and contribute to their communities. The national average of students with disabilities on a center is over 34%; this is a large population of individuals **who may need additional services to assist with developing independence, assistive technology needs, recreation and socialization supports, and other community integration needs, etc. as they participate in and/or prepare to exit the Job Corps program.**

As a component of Placement Readiness, Center Management Teams must collaborate with Career Transition Service Providers. A natural extension of that collaboration is to either connect existing CIL partner representatives with the assigned Career Transition Specialist or facilitate a connection for the student with the local CIL in their future community.

There are over 350 CILs and over 120 Job Corps Centers across the country.

CILs and Job Corps are committed to removing physical, programmatic, and attitudinal barriers for individuals with disabilities.