



Fact Sheet About Us

The Southwest Center for Independent Living (SCIL) offers choices and empowerment for people with disabilities and the community in these southwest Missouri counties: Christian, Dallas, Greene, Lawrence, Polk, Stone, Taney and Webster. Founded in 1985, SCIL is a private, non-profit organization with a majority of staff and governing board with disabilities.

SCIL serves all persons with disabilities regardless of sex, age, race, income or disability type. Our main office in Springfield and Branson branch serve a population base of 542,475 people and in the SCIL service area, approximately 14.1% or over 75,000 people are estimated to have at least one disability.

Did you know?

1 in **5** Americans lives with at least one disability

1 in every **15** children ages 5-20 is a youth with a disability

40.5% of Seniors 65 & older are people with disabilities

Sources: 2008 Census, 2008 Cornell University Disability Status Report for Missouri

Choices & Empowerment

All Centers for Independent Living provide four core services to assist people with disabilities to achieve their independent living goals and to live in the least restrictive environment:

Individual & Systems Advocacy | **Information & Referral**
Peer Support | **Independent Living Skills**

SCIL Programs offer additional supports for people with disabilities and community:

- Assistive Technology & Devices**
- Mental Health Counseling**
- Business Access Site Surveys**
- Social Security Benefits Counseling**
- Community Presentations**
- Support Groups**
- Consumer Directed Services (CDS)**
- Transitioning**
- Home Modifications**
- Youth Services**
- In-Home Services**
- Voter Registration**

For more information, please contact us:

VOICE/TTY 417-886-1188 | Toll-Free 800-676-7245 | www.swcil.org
Main Office: 2864 S. Nettleton Ave., Springfield, MO 65807
Branson Branch: 610 S. 6th St., Suite 210, Branson, MO 65616

SCIL is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. All proceeds benefit persons with disabilities.





Challenges

The third largest city in the state, Springfield is the urban medical and shopping hub for the mainly rural southwest Missouri area. These differences make our efforts challenging due to the wide range of needs for access to adequate housing, transportation, technology, health & wellness and employment. The number of people with disabilities and the barriers to living an independent and healthy lifestyle continue to grow..

Disability Statistics

14.1% of Missourians have a disability

52.6% of seniors 75 and older

40.5 % of seniors 65 and older

55.6% have an ambulatory or physical disability

45.0% have difficulty leaving the home

1 in every 15 children ages 5-20 is a youth with disability

44.7% of people with disabilities in Missouri live in non-urbanized rural areas

26.4% of working age people with disabilities live in poverty compared to only **9.5%** of those without a disability

26.4% of working age people with disabilities work full time, compared to **62.2%** of those without a disability

10.6% of people with disabilities have earned a bachelor's degree, compared to **29.0%** of those without a disability

A Majority of Springfield's homeless population have identified along with medical professionals that their homelessness is directly related to their disability:

43% have a chronic health condition

42% have a mental illness

37% have a physical disability

Sources: 2008 Census, 2008 Cornell University Disability Status Report for Missouri. Rural, Research and Training Center on Disability in Rural Community, Missouri, 2007. Community Partnership of the Ozarks Homeless Count Greene County January 2011

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. A disability can be physical, mental, cognitive or sensory as well as permanent or temporary.

SCIL Mission:

To promote a barrier-free environment for all individuals with disabilities through public education and advocacy for social change, and to provide a full range of independent living services which will assist in progressing toward his or her goals for independence.

How You Can Help

Your support can improve the quality of life for yourself or someone you love with a disability. You can help by volunteering with the center, donating cash or in-kind items. Your business and community will benefit by welcoming people with disabilities. Together, we can ensure a diverse and healthy community. However you choose to support SCIL, we appreciate your commitment to our organization.

Please contact us to make a donation, referral or if you need additional information.

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