

AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2024 · VOL. 4



Photo: Sailboat in the bay at sunset.

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From our ACIL family to yours...

Happy August! As summer winds down to a close this month, we hope you will join us for a workshop or activity. Art Is In The Making is meeting twice this month and Yoga is offered at no cost every Thursday in August. Also, visit page 11 for details on our new collaboration with the Noyes Museum of Art. Join us for a variety of creative classes with our community partners throughout the Atlantic County!



Atlantic Center for Independent Living

160 S. PITNEY RD., UNITS 3 & 4, GALLOWAY, NJ 08205 PHONE: (609)748-ABLE (2253) | ATLANTICCIL.ORG

Our Mission

Atlantic Center for Independent Living, Inc. is a center that assists individuals with disabilities to live and work as independently as possible.

Our core services include:

Information & Referral

Information about & referrals to services and organizations that can help you achieve your independence.

Advocacy

Staff assist individuals with personal issues to advocate for what they need. Systems advocacy identifies issues that affect others within the community and develop strategies to bring about systems change.

Peer Support

We believe that individuals experiencing the same issues (peers) are in the best position to support one another dealing with similar experiences.

Life Skills Training

Services are designed to assist you in gaining the skills necessary to live independently in your community.

Transition Services

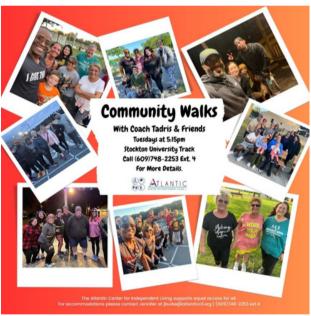
Youth: Our youth services provide support and guidance to students transitioning from school to adult life with a strong emphasis on employment. Seniors: Atlantic staff can assist seniors living with disabilities to ensure they are receiving benefits and services designed to ensure the greatest independence possible with the goal of remaining within their communities.



Community Spotlight









NFB South Jersey Shore Chapter



10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Next Meeting: August 17th

Ocean City Library, 1735 Simpson Ave. (17th St. Entrance)

For more information contact: President Ed Garcia at 650-759-0470 Please visit: https://www.nfbnj.org/chapters/south-jersey-shore-chapter/

Our Stonies



Photo: Wanda Habersham

Wanda Habersham is a strong and determined woman. She lives with nerve damage, neuropthay, and chronic pain, yet makes herself of service to others. Wanda is a dedicated member of her church where she volunteers to feed those experiencing homelessness, support those living with disabilities, and connect people in her community with resources.

In 2010 Wanda experienced an on the job physical attack that led her down an ongoing road to recovery. Her injuries required surgery that left her paralized form the waist down. Eventually she was presented with a medical intervention that would bring back some mobilty. Wanda now lives with a spinal stimulator that allows her to walk again. Wanda expressed, "I am taking advantage that I am independent and can move around. I am determined to use my legs as long as God allows." Unfortunetly, her spinal stimulator has been recalled and will have to be removed. The result of removing this stimulator is unknown. In the mean time, Wanda remains faithful it will work out.

Wanda works with Atlantic CIL's Independent Living Specialist, Dawn Padick. "Dawn came into my life when I needed help with an identity theft issue after a break in." Dawn helped Wanda navigate communication with her Landlord, sort out an issue with social security, and take steps to fix her credit. Recently Atlantic CIL assisted Wanda with her wheelchair repair. "It touched my heart for the help," she expressed, having her mobility device back allows her to remain living as independly as possible.

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How Social Security Protects You From Misleading Advertising and Communications

By Earth M. Nieves Social Security Public Affairs Specialists of Southern NJ

Social Security works with our Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to protect you from scams that use Social Security as bait. Section 1140 of the Social Security Act allows OIG to impose severe penalties against anyone who engages in misleading Social Security-related advertising or imposter communications.

OIG may impose a penalty against anyone who:

- · Mails misleading solicitations that appear to be from or authorized by Social Security.
- · Operates an imposter website or social media account designed to look like it belongs to or is authorized by Social Security.
- · Sends emails or text messages or makes telephone calls claiming to be from Social Security.
- · Sells Social Security's free forms, applications, and publications without our written approval.
- · Charges a fee for a service that Social Security provides free of charge without providing a clearly visible notice that Social Security provides the service for free.

If you receive a misleading or suspicious Social Security-related advertisement, phone call or email, you should let us know right away. Try to capture as many details as you can.

Here's what you can do:

- · For suspicious websites or social media accounts, please take a screenshot of the page. Note the website address or social media link and how you came across it.
- · For emails and text messages, capture the entire message and any links or attachments.
- · For mail, retain the complete communication, including the outside envelope and all inserts.
- · For telephone solicitations, note the caller identification phone number and any company name or call back number provided by the caller or recorded message.

You can help us stop misleading advertising and communications. We encourage you to report possible scams to the OIG at oig.ssa.gov/report. You can also call our fraud hotline at 1-800-269-0271 or send an email to OIG.1140@ssa.gov.



Inclusive Healthy Communities

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

Civic engagement is an essential aspect of democracy that encourages individuals to take part in public life and actively contribute to society.



Receive the zoom link for our workshops by joining United by Wellness at: https://www.mhaac.info/ubw-how-to-join.html

Register for one of 24 Civic Action and Engagement workshops designed to offer building blocks for successful civic engagement.



QR Code

Closed Captioning will be available during this meeting. For any other meeting accommodations contact Ana Then at: athen@atlanticcil.org two weeks prior to each workshop.







The Atlantic Center for Independent Living and The Mental Health Association in Atlantic County support equal access for all.

This initiative was funded by an Inclusive Healthy Communities Grant from the Division of Disability Services, New Jersey Department of Human Services.



Virtual Support Groups & Activities

The Atlantic Center for Independent Living supports equal access for all. For accommodations please contact Jennifer at jburke@atlanticcil.org | (609)748-2253 ext.4

Sketchbook Club | Monday | 1pm | Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83854391536?pwd=YWtFekQyeE9wTlBqdVpkQVIvRUdiQT09 Call In: 1-309-205-3325 | Meeting ID 838 5439 1536

Life Skills Activities | Monday | 2pm | Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83007585374?pwd=McU3UFciKbQjIltuB1kk9yLjCRufQp.1 Call In: 1-346-248-7799 | Meeting ID: 830 0758 5374 | Passcode: 248110

Life Skills Activities | Tuesday | 2pm | Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81172982370?pwd=V2hBUTBRQnZKZmdJb1VhelAzYzFGZz09 Call In: 1-301-715-8592 | Meeting ID 811 7298 2370

Current Events with Donald | Tuesday | 3pm | Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83238366293?pwd=aDErbzd3K0FKczZJeGl1Q3p5bmRLQT09 Call In: 1-305-224-1968 | Meeting ID 832 3836 6293 | Passcode 955834

Chronic Pain & Illness Support Group | Wednesday | 2pm | Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85449180096

Call In: 1-301-715-8592 | Meeting ID 854 4918 0096

Health Connection Call | 2nd and 4th Wednesdays | 5:30pm | Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87297450944

Call In: 1-646-876-9923 | Meeting ID: 872 9745 0944

Life Skills Activities | Thursday | 6pm | Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85063153999?pwd=NmJXd1ZUUHhpUkxneExISEJQWk8xQT09 Call In: 1-646-931-3860 | Meeting ID 850 6315 3999 | Passcode 154100

Socialization and Wellbeing Group | Friday | 1pm | Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88558466172

Call In: 1-301-715-8592 | Meeting ID 885 5846 6172



Additional Atlantic CIL Collaboration Activity Contacts

United by Wellness virtual support groups with MHA Visit: http://www.mhaac.info/ubw.html

In-Person Art and Yoga Classes at Your CBD Store, Absecon 709 White Horse Pike, Absecon, NJ 08201 Contact April Elias at (609)277-7792

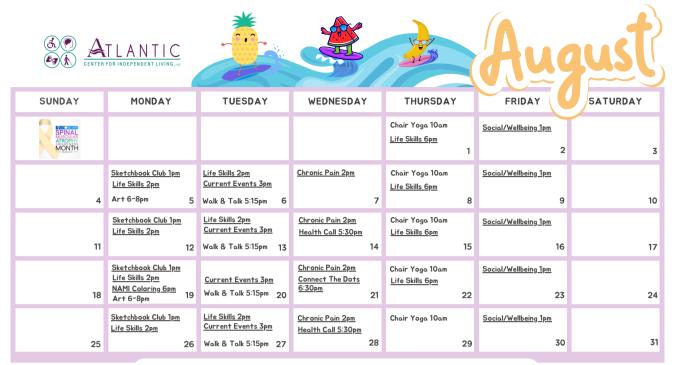
Community Walks with Coach Tadris, Tuesdays at 5:15pm Stockton University Track, 101 Vera King Farris Dr, Galloway, NJ 08205 Contact Jennifer at jburke@atlanticcil.org, (609)748-2253 ext.4

Express Yourself, coloring group, with NAMI ACM, 3rd Mondays | 6pm | Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82720309410?pwd=RzFWL2QyQjhkeFVBNEhFcjVZMlordz09

Meeting ID: 827 2030 9410 Passcode: 238035, Contact Amanda at namiacm.am@gmail.com for more info.



Monthly Calendar



Contact us for more information at jburke@atlanticcil.org | (609)748-2253 ext. 4



Did you know Pinelands Adventures hosts inclusive and accessible family-friendly nature experiences? Details on their upcoming Adventures without Barriers in August can be found at their website, www.www.pinelandsadventures.org

In addition to detailed information about accessibility for each location, Pinelands Adventures has several all-terrain wheelchairs available for use by request both electric and manual types. If you would like to use one of their wheelchairs to take part in an event email Sean Kane-Holland, Access Nature Disability Advocate at sean@pinelandsalliance.org or call 609-859-8860 ext 117.

Participants who are not requesting to use Pineland Adventures wheelchairs should come prepared with their own mobility assistive devices.

Weekly Life Skills Activities

Join us for Life Skills every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday! New topics are presented each week to to assist you in gaining the skills necessary to live independently in your community.



Mondays at 2pm with Independent Living Specialist, Jamie Burke

Zoom Meeting ID #: 830 0758 5374 | Passcode: 248110 | Zoom Link









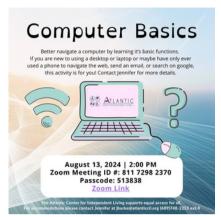


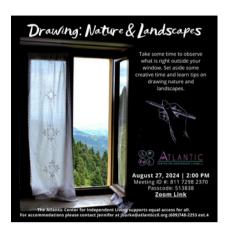
TUESDAY

Tuesdays at 2pm with Outreach and Activities Specialist, Jen Burke

Zoom Meeting ID #: 811 7298 2370 | Passcode: 513838 | Zoom Link







THURSDAY

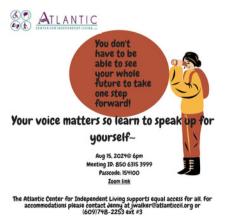
Thursdays at 6pm with Independent Living Specialist, Jenny Walker

Zoom Meeting ID #: 850 6315 3999 | Passcode: 154100 | Zoom Link













Collaboration Activities

Atlantic Center for Independent Living is excitied to announce a partnership with the Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton Universeity to co-sponser accessible art classes throughout Atlantic County. In collaboration with many community partners, these classes will provide creative experiences for all abilities. Please follow the Noyes Museum on social media and visit their website for details as classes roll out and are open for registration.











Collaboration Activities



12PM - 1PM MONDAYS: COPING SKILLS SUPPORT GROUP

MEETING ID: 975 3587 3500 https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjmodoyggtgvgtsw_lungcbyey582mb6vzkl LEARN NEW COPING SKILLS TO HELP DEVELOP RESILIENCY AND WAYS TO PROCESS STRESS, TYPES OF ACTIVITIES VARY FROM WRITING, ART, POETRY, AND MUSIC.

8PM-9PM MONDAYS: KEEPING OUR COMMITMENTS

MEETING ID: 918 0901 4251 <u>HTTPS://ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TJULDCORZ80H9XRYDO30HTXQJPQDNWCVR-T</u>

OPEN SHARE/TOPIC FOCUSED GROUP - CONSUMERS WILL EXPLORE WAYS TO KEEP COMMITMENTS TO OTHERS BY EXPLORING WHAT MENTAL AND PHYSICAL ISSUES THAT THEY MIGHT BE EXPERIENCING AND HOW TO FACE THEM.

2PM-3PM WEDNESDAYS: BETTER TOGETHER

MEETING ID: 875 6132 4882 HTTPS://USO6WEB.ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TZMOCEIRRD8IETAPSQODD-01VP4GHGIVIBFO
TOPIC FOCUSED GROUP - THIS IS A SUPPORT GROUP FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO STRUGGLE WITH A COMBINATION OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH
CHALLENGES. TOGETHER WE WILL DISCUSS A TOPIC SURROUNDING THE STRUGGLE OF BALANCING PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELL-BEING. LET'S SUPPORT
EACH OTHER IN OUR JOURNEYS TO WELLNESS!

4PM-5 PM THURSDAYS: YOU HAVE THE FLOOR

MEETING ID: 948 2568 3415 HTTPS://ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TJALDEYUP/GUG9FAWK7/M7HBNSYXHEZ3RRO7

ALLOW PEOPLE TO BE SEEN AND HEARD BY GIVING THEM THE FLOOR SO TO SPEAK TO TALK FOR UP TO FIVE MINUTES. MAY ALSO INCLUDE, FROM TIME TO TIME, TOPICS ON BETTER COMMUNICATION SKILLS.

2PM-3PM SATURDAYS: COLOR ME HEALTHY

MEETING ID: 963 4262 7503 HTTPS://ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TJIUC-UURDWYGTEKARAQZUZ3IYUT8TLIL3U6

ACTIVITY GROUP - GRAB YOUR COLORING BOOK & ART SUPPLIES OF CHOICE AND COLOR WITH US DURING THIS RELAXING, CREATIVE HOUR! CONVERSATION IS KEPT LIGHT AND FOCUSED ON UPLIFTING TOPICS.

10AM-11AM SUNDAYS: CHRONIC PAIN SUPPORT GROUP

MEETING ID: 891 6452 0279 HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TZOSCE2TRDSOHD2CUHEEDTNYHPPOAQOOLQL_

OPEN SHARE/TOPIC FOCUSED GROUP – THIS IS A SAFE SPACE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH COMMON EXPERIENCES, FEELINGS & STRUGGLES OF LIVING WITH CHRONIC PAIN. SHARING AND DISCUSSING COMMON WORRIES... WHILE LISTENING, LEARNING, AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER.

7:30-8:15PM SUNDAYS: MEDITATION

MEETING ID: 927 8257 0162 https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjygf-utotsrhnyabpfwumg04nvxjhifkp-x END YOUR WEEKEND/ START YOUR WEEK OFF PEACEFULLY WITH OUR MEDITATION HOUR.

8–9 PM REDISCOVERING YOU THROUGH VITAL WELLNESS (2ND AND 4TH SUNDAY)

MEETING ID: 8951210 9665 HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/MEETING/REGISTER/TZ00DUUPRJISHNGSWWTJEDQSX88_DY88M04E

TOPIC-FOCUSED/ACTIVITY-BASED – A SOCIALLY OPEN GROUP IN WHICH WE DISCUSS COPING SKILLS FOR TODAY'S STRUGGLES AND TOMORROW'S SUCCESS. JOIN US TO BE A PART OF AN ACCEPTING CONVERSATION OR ACTIVITY.





