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**June 2025**

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## **WELCOME!**

This new digital newsletter will showcase recent past and new upcoming events. Coupled with our other online services, such as our weekly Facebook Live videos, we hope to provide greater insight into the disability community and the core services we offer!

You can tune in weekly for our Live Videos on our Facebook Page every Friday at 2:00 PM CST, or you can view our video archive on Youtube, if you missed one.

## **LEARNING LIFESAVING SKILLS AT OUR CIL**

Dynamic Independence hosted three CPR training sessions this spring—two on April 17 and one on May 13—at our Bartlesville office. The classes were led by certified instructor Emily Vass of Reinforcing Wishes, using American Red Cross standards. Emily is also a Board Member of Dynamic Independence, further reinforcing our CIL's commitment to providing education and skills training in the community.

Participants received practical, hands-on instruction in adult, child, and infant CPR, including the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs). Individuals taking part in the sessions were provided accommodations as needed to ensure full access to the training experience.

In a gesture of support, Reinforcing Wishes donated a portion of the proceeds from the trainings back to Dynamic Independence. These sessions not only equipped attendees with vital life-saving skills but also helped sustain the organization's broader mission to promote self-reliance, skills training, and community outreach and education.

Additional CPR sessions and other training events are being planned for later this year!

## **FIND US ONLINE!**



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## **WHAT ARE CORE SERVICES?**

Dynamic Independence offers core services that promote autonomy, inclusion, and equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities. As a Center for Independent Living, it empowers people to lead independent lives through a range of person-centered supports:

### **Peer Support**

Individuals with disabilities share their lived experiences to support one another through mentoring and group interaction, offering guidance and encouragement rooted in real-life understanding.

### **Skills Training**

Training is tailored to build independence through daily living skills, job readiness, communication, and self-advocacy. Topics may include budgeting, time management, and navigating public services.

### **Advocacy**

Support is provided for both individual and systemic advocacy. Individuals are assisted in speaking up for their rights in workplaces, schools, or service settings, while broader efforts aim to improve accessibility and disability policy.

### **Information and Referral**

Staff connect individuals with resources, benefits, and services in areas like housing, healthcare, and education, helping them understand their rights and access what they need to thrive.

### **Transition Services**

Support is available for individuals moving from institutional care to community living, and for youth transitioning from school to adult life. Services focus on housing, employment, and education planning.

### **Public Education and Community Engagement**

The organization educates the public through outreach, workshops, and digital content to promote awareness, inclusion, and equal access for people with disabilities.

All services reflect the principle of consumer control, with leadership and governance guided by individuals with disabilities. This ensures programs are relevant, empowering, and rooted in lived experience.



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## **BARTLESVILLE 2025 SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

On Saturday, March 29, 2025, Bartlesville High School was filled with energy, excitement, and community spirit as it hosted the Special Olympics Oklahoma Grand Area Track & Field and MATP (Motor Activity Training Program) event. The community gathered to celebrate and cheer on students and athletes with disabilities from across Northeast Oklahoma.

The sunny skies and mild spring temperatures made for a perfect day of competition and fun. A lot of individuals and groups came together to support this great event, including the Bartlesville High School Bruin Football team, Track team, Boys Soccer team, and many others from the community. Their time, energy, and enthusiasm made the day truly special.

Bartlesville's Police Department escorted runners bearing the Special Olympics torch to Custer Stadium to kick off the event—an inspiring moment that set the tone for the day's celebrations.

Dynamic Independence was proud to partner with the Bartlesville Civitan Club to host a fun-filled activity area for athletes, families, and guests. Our booth featured a variety of inclusive activities, including cornhole, a coloring station, face painting, an obstacle course, and more. It was a joy to see so many smiles and moments of connection throughout the day.

We are grateful to have been part of such a meaningful event and are already looking forward to next year's Special Olympics. At Dynamic Independence, we remain committed to promoting opportunities for all individuals to thrive.



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## **YOUR VOICE, YOUR CHOICE: HELP US SHAPE OUR FUTURE EVENTS!**

On this page, you'll find a list of upcoming events hosted by Dynamic Independence. While some events are already scheduled, we want to hear from you about what kinds of programs you would like to participate in later in the year.

**[You can click here to fill out our Program Interest Survey, and tell us what you want to see!](#)**

Remember, our core services always remain free of charge; however, some additional programs or events may have a charge for instructor/presenter or certification fees.

If you have any questions, you can contact Dynamic Independence at (918) 335-1314 or visit us in person at 1110 SE Frank Phillips Blvd, in Bartlesville.

## **MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOANS AT NO COST!**

Dynamic Independence offers a Durable Medical Equipment Lending Program for residents of Washington, Craig, and Nowata Counties. This service provides a variety of assistive devices—such as walkers, wheelchairs, canes, and more—available for loan at no cost for up to two months.

Whether you're recovering from a medical procedure or waiting on insurance approval for your own equipment, we're here to help bridge the gap.

To check availability or get started, simply call or visit our office. If the item you need is available, we'll assist you with a quick consumer intake process and get you set up to borrow the equipment. Just be sure to return it by the due date so we can continue supporting others in need.

Let us help you stay mobile and independent!



### **Virtual Office Hours**

*Open Q&A*

*Topic Discussions*

*Peer Support*

**Dates/Time:**

June 27, July 11,  
August 22, September 19  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### **Baby Sitting Training**

Learn how to be a safe, professional, reliable sitter.

**Date/Time:**

July 23 - 9:30 AM

### **CPR/AED/FA Trainings**

Teaches how to perform CPR, use an AED, and provide First Aid to Adult and Children.

Certification Available

**Dates/Times:**

July 23 - 1:30 PM  
August 13 - 10:00 AM

### **Student Study Skills**

Learn tips and tricks to

**Date/Time:**

July 30 - 9:30 AM

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## **DIRECTOR'S THOUGHT**

**Carl Haws, Executive Director**



I would like to begin by expressing my sincere gratitude to our Board of Directors. Their dedication, guidance, and leadership are the foundation of everything we do at Dynamic Independence. Without their steadfast support, the vital services we provide to our community would not be possible.

At this time, it is my pleasure to formally introduce the members of our Board. Our Chairperson is Melissa Newton, with Randy Gurule serving as Vice Chair, and Tiffany Lammon as Secretary. Board Directors who are not in an officer role are Drew Marteny, Rebecca Renfro, Cheryl Clinkenbeard, and Emily Vass.

To each of you, thank you for your unwavering commitment and the hard work you continue to put forth. Your efforts ensure that Dynamic Independence can fulfill its mission and maintain its positive impact on individuals with disabilities in Washington, Nowata, and Craig Counties.

With the strength and vision of this exceptional board, I am confident we will continue to move forward and achieve even greater things for our community.



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*Newsletter questions or comments? Call **918.335.1314** or e-mail at: [jratliff@dynind.org](mailto:jratliff@dynind.org)*

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Scan or click the QR code to the right to take our CIL's Independent Living Survey. Completing the survey lets us know what services you are interested in and helps us provide more relevant information to our consumers.



**Thank you for supporting  
Dynamic Independence!**