

Peer Connections

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH NAVIGATING THE NYS INSURANCE MARKETPLACE?

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Massena Independent Living Center is pleased to announce that our Malone Outreach office will now be offering In-Person Assistance and Navigator services to the residents of Franklin County, NY effective immediately.

MILC was awarded a grant from the New York State Department of Health to provide in-person assistance free of charge to all Franklin County, NY residents who would like help to enroll in a health insurance plan through the New York State Health Plan Marketplace.

Navigators can also provide information to help you understand the new Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”), the Health Care Reform regulations, and how they benefit you, your family, or your business. Individuals and business owners can be screened for financial assistance including tax credits, cost sharing reduction assistance, and expanded Medicaid and Child Health Plus. We serve individuals and families as well as Small Business Owners and their employees.

Navigators are available Monday through Friday 8am-5pm in our Malone Outreach office on 41 Pearl Street, Malone, NY. Evening and Weekend hours are available by appointment.

Additionally, MILC will also be at the following locations to assist potential enrollees:

- St. Regis Mohawk Senior Center located at 412 State Route 37, Hogansburg, NY
- Goff-Nelson Memorial Library located at 41 Lake Street, Tupper Lake, NY
- Tri-Lakes Independent Living Center located at 43 Broadway Street, Saranac Lake, NY

Site locations and schedules will be updated monthly at www.milcinc.org and <https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov>

For more information about Health Care Reform, Navigation assistance, and to schedule your free one-on-one appointment with a Navigator – contact MILC Malone Outreach today!



Massena Independent Living Center has been newly appointed as a subcontractor for the *Money Follows the Person (MFP) Identification of and Outreach to Nursing Home Residents Project*. In 2010, NYS Department of Health designated ARISE Independent Living Center, in Syracuse, as the Local Contact Agency (LCA) covering eight counties surrounding Central New York, including St. Lawrence County.

*Providing outreach
and information to
nursing home
residents*

With an objective, peer-based approach, the purpose of the MFP program is to inform nursing home residents, social workers and/or discharge planners on available home and community-based services. As outreach specialists, we are given accurate assessment tools to identify the individual's required home and health care needs and provide them with alternatives for living safely and independently in their own home and community. If you have any questions, feel free to call Aubree Waite, MFP Outreach Specialist at (315) 764-9442.

*MILC Inc. wants to hear from you! Questions, Concerns, Suggestions for Change.
Please come down and meet our staff, fill out a community survey and help us
make life that much more accessible for all!*

FREE LOAN CLOSET

The St. Lawrence County Health Initiative and the Massena Independent Living Center (MILC) hope to make summertime a little more fun for everyone. Through the Health Initiative's St. Lawrence County "Creating Healthy Places" project, a grant funded by the New York State Department of Health- MILC was able to purchase some recreational equipment to enhance wheelchair accessibility in the great outdoors.

MILC maintains a free loan closet for people who wish to try, or are in temporary need of such things as:

- walkers
- shower chairs
- wheelchairs
- other adaptive equipment

The closet is available to all the recreational programs in the area as well as schools and colleges. The new equipment purchased includes four "Beachrings2" wheelchair terrain mats that are each 5ft by 15ft and capable of a sixty foot run; a "Top End Crossfire" All-Terrain wheelchair with a 20in wide seat and some serious tread; and a waterproof "Rollez IV" beach wheelchair with a 20in wide seat, sand capable tires, and removable umbrella. All items are intended for demonstration and free short-term use at our local area's public beaches, parks, and various recreational sites. For more information and to inquire about availability call MILC, Inc. at 315-764-9442. Be sure to get out and use them.

"The new equipment purchased includes four "Beachrings2" wheelchair terrain mats that are each 5ft by 15ft and capable of a sixty foot run..."





TAKING CONTROL: Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services

NOW Available In

St. Lawrence County!

*Medicaid Eligible for Personal Assistance Services

Taking Control/CDPAS has been running strong for a few years through the MILC, Malone Outreach Center in Franklin County and we are proud to announce the program has been recently brought to St. Lawrence County.

This program allows YOU to hire a person of YOUR choice at \$10.50/hour and train them in the areas important to YOU.

Personal Assistance can help with:

- everyday household chores
- meal prep
- grocery shopping
- personal care

*“...the program is to give you the **Control** over your personal care.”*

\$10.50 PER HOUR FOR ASSISTANTS!

Call us today to discuss requirements and to see if YOU could be eligible: 315-764-9442

STEHP: Solutions to End Homelessness Program

STEHP provides services to the At-Risk of Homelessness or Literally Homeless population. Services provided through the STEHP Grant include rental assistance (arrears or first month); security deposit; utility shut off (discretionary) and moving costs (discretionary). Individuals seeking the assistance will meet with the STEHP case worker for an intake and assessment.

The case workers also assist with job search, resume writing, HEAP applications and applying for food stamps. Through their working relationships with DSS, Neighborhood Centers, St. Vincent de Paul and the Salvation Army, Lori Smith and Ashley Oswalt, are able to advocate for your housing needs. Together they attend quarterly landlord meetings to keep up to date with the rules and regulations for apartments in our area. Services also provided include tenant/landlord mediation and assistance finding an apartment within your means.

It is important to know that when seeking assistance that there are income guidelines and you must have the ability to pay on going rent once you are housed. STEHP does not help with mortgages, deposits for utilities, or car repairs.

If you or someone you know is at risk of losing, about to lose, or has already lost their housing contact MILC for help.

2013 Federal Poverty Level 30%	
Family Size	% Gross Yearly Income
1	\$12,150.00
2	\$13,850.00
3	\$15,600.00
4	\$17,300.00
5	\$18,700.00
6	\$20,100.00
7	\$21,500.00
8	\$22,850.00



“...rental assistance (arrears or first month); security deposit; utility shut off (discretionary) and moving costs (discretionary).”

Massena Independent Living Center

156 Center Street
Massena, NY 13662

Malone Office

41 Pearl Street
Malone, NY 12953

Massena Phone:

(315)764-9442

Malone Phone:

(518)483-2151

www.milcinc.org



We're on Facebook!

Massena Independent Living Center

Our Mission

The MILC, Inc. is a private, not-for-profit, organization with offices in St. Lawrence & Franklin counties. We are consumer controlled and run with 51% of our local Board of Directors and a majority of people on staff experiencing disabilities themselves. Our mission is to assist people with disabilities to integrate fully into their chosen communities by removing barriers to their living, learning and earning. Unlike our name suggests, we do not run residential programs or operate places where people go to live. Instead, we are a walk-in, self-help center providing community-based services and supports designed to empower people with disabilities to live independent fully integrated lives. Like the rest of our Nation's 500 other ILCs, we serve through our Board, Staff and most importantly our Consumers - as the voice of people with disabilities and the disability rights movement.

Services Include:

- Peer Counseling
- Information and Referral
- Disability awareness training
- Benefits Advisement
- Individual and Systems Advocacy
- Developing Plans to Achieve Self Support for recipients of SSI or SSI/SSDI
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Architectural and Communication Barrier Consultation

MILC is **NOT A LIVING FACILITY.** Call for more information regarding our services.