

About Us

Independence, Inc. is a Center for Independent Living (CIL) that has served as a resource for people with disabilities in Lawrence and Northeast Kansas since 1978. We serve any person with a disability of any type. We are not a medical model and do not need documentation or proof of a disability. Our consumers self-identify their disability through our brief intake process.

In October, 2024, we saw an opportunity to expand our services into the Kansas City, KS area and eagerly took on the challenge. We began our planning process, hired new staff, and did community outreach to acquaint ourselves with local services and establish partnerships. We are now ready to serve **Wyandotte** and **Johnson** counties with our core services!



Contact Us

LaNeece Jardon

Core Services Manager,
Johnson and Wyandotte counties

ljardon@independenceinc.org

<https://independenceinc.org>

Visit our "Kansas City Office Core Services" page



Independence, Inc.
Kansas City, KS office

serving Wyandotte and Johnson counties



Scan this QR Code
to go directly to
our Kansas City,
Kansas Core
Services Page

Our Core Services

We offer the following Core Services in Wyandotte and Johnson Counties:

Advocacy: Advocacy services can help you to understand the laws that protect you and approach difficult disputes and other situations with confidence for a positive outcome for all.

Information & Referral: I&R is a vital service, connecting you to community and statewide programs, services, products and opportunities that may benefit someone with a disability.

Independent Living (IL) Skills Training:

Helping to maximize independence and the ability to lead active, engaged and productive lives in the home and the community of your choice.

Peer Support: Peer Support can help someone with a disability navigate life, systems, friendships and other relationships and the community as a whole, as well as assist in gaining confidence and making valuable connections.

Deinstitutionalization: Providing services to assist a person with a disability make the transition from a nursing home or institution back into the community and into the housing of their choice.

Youth Transition: For teens and young adults who desire to transition from high school or part-time employment, to long-term employment, training, technical school or college, including independent living skills training, identifying strengths and interests and taking the next step into adulthood.

For Core Services information, contact
LaNeece Jardon,
ljardon@independenceinc.org

Additional Programs & Services

Financial Management Services (FMS) is available to eligible persons with disabilities desiring to self-direct their personal care services under the Kansas Medicaid HCBS Waiver Program. You will hire, train, and supervise your own Personal Care Service Worker while we handle the financial management including preparing payroll, filing returns, and processing unemployment insurance and worker's compensation coverage. For FMS information contact:
Alisa Snyder, 785-841-0333 ext. 120
or email asnyder@independenceinc.org

The Kansas Work Opportunities Reward Kansans (WORK) program is part of the Working Healthy program and serves ages 16+ with employment supports while allowing continued health care coverage. Through the WORK program, an Independent Living Counselor will help guide you through the employment process and provide supports to help achieve your goals.

Supports and Training for Employing People Successfully (STEPS) is a program through which people with disabilities and/or certain behavioral health conditions may seek a path to employment without losing Social Security benefits or medical insurance coverage. For those who qualify, services can include: Pre-Vocational Services, Independent Living Skills Training, Personal Assistant Services, Transportation, Supported Employment, Assistive Technology and Community Service Coordination.

For WORK and STEPS program, contact
Jennifer Moore, 785-841-0333 ext. 146
or email jmoore@independenceinc.org

Kansas Youth Transition Network

The Kansas Youth Transition Network was established under a federal grant to provide extended and innovative Youth Transition Services to support the independent living, educational and employment goals of youth with disabilities. We work with youth ages 10 and up within **Wyandotte County**, to help identify and strengthen interests and talents, to encourage school, peer and community engagement, develop leadership, advocacy, independent living, technical and vocational skills and to identify and present opportunities for higher education, technical training or meaningful employment.

For more information on our extended Youth Transition Services in Wyandotte County, contact

Amy Ballinger, 785-371-1646 or
aballinger@independenceinc.org

NOTE: The content of the above information was developed under a grant number H421E230030 from the Department of Education. However, these contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. (Authority: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221e-3 and 3474)

