

better quality of life, we need more barrier-free living choices. Obstacles in moving and living within a home dramatically impact the quality of life for persons with disabilities and increase health care costs. To remove barriers, increase home choices, and move people out of high cost nursing homes, we need to be able to provide affordable options for individuals. These options allow people with disabilities to live independently close to their family, friends, support services, and places of employment.

The campaign will allow for more productive areas for working, fitness, meetings, consumer engagement, and other events.

MOVING FORWARD

“My advice to other disabled people would be, concentrate on things your disability doesn’t prevent you doing well, and don’t regret the things it interferes with. Don’t be disabled in spirit as well as physically,” states Stephen Hawking, theoretical physicist.

The Capital Campaign for TRIPIL is striving to provide quality services, information, and experiences for those with disabilities through the gift support of friends, corporations, foundations, businesses, staff, and

board members. It is a critical task for the organization to move forward with launching new, timely, and important initiatives.

Through this campaign, Tri-County Patriots for Independent Living declares publicly that public and private support is needed to advance these goals, both in the short term as well as to achieve long-term results.

For more information on how you can help, visit:

<http://ywca.tripil.com/donation>.

Donations are tax deductible.



TRIPIL
69 East Beau Street
Washington, PA 15301
724-223-5115
724-223-5119 fax
jnaser@tripil.com
www.tripil.com



THE CASE FOR SUPPORT

For over 25 years, **Tri-County Patriots for Independent Living (TRIPIL)** has been the voice for the underserved, underappreciated, and vulnerable in our community. TRIPIL provides vital, quality services for those individuals who are living with disabilities throughout multiple counties in Western Pennsylvania.

People’s lives are at stake here. To care for this vulnerable community, TRIPIL provides living skills training, peer support, nursing home transition services, advocacy, and information and referrals. It also provides home care services and coordinates attendants with Pennsylvania Department of Health training.

The nursing home transition program has been named by the Pennsylvania Office for Long Term Living, which is part of the Department of Human Services, for providing services to Washington, Fayette, Greene, Beaver, Allegheny and Westmoreland counties.

TRIPIL’s partnership with Temple

University provides access to assistive technology and resources for seven (7) southwestern Pennsylvania counties.

In addition, Accessible Dreams, a separate organization affiliated with TRIPIL, provides accessible housing resources for individuals and families who need help finding or building a brand-new accessible home or advice on modifying an existing home.

Tri-County Patriots for Independent Living has experienced many success stories. “TRIPIL has encouraged me in my journey,” said Matt Taylor of Cecil, who has a spinal cord injury from a swimming accident five years ago. He is paralyzed from the waist down. “The doctors right after the accident didn’t give my parents much hope, but TRIPIL encourages me daily to reach my full potential.”

Matt now works for TRIPIL as an independent living specialist, whose role is to help others accomplish an independent and fulfilling lifestyle.

It is fair to say that if Tri-County Patriots for Independent Living had not been involved with over 1,000 people in 2014, their lives would be more challenging, limited, and confined—each person’s quality of life would be poorer. TRIPIL is guided by an important obligation to

encourage individuals with disabilities to live where they want and how they want, and to have a broader impact on the affairs of their society.

CORPORATE OVERVIEW

TRIPIL was a newly incorporated center in February 1990 with funding from Centers for Independent Living (CIL) Pennsylvania State Appropriations. Under Title VII of the Federal Rehabilitation Act, an independent living center must be free-standing and have over 51 percent of the board, management, and staff consist of people with disabilities. There are 450 CIL across the United States, and many other countries have adopted the model.

MISSION STATEMENT

Tri-County Patriots for Independent Living affirms liberty and justice for all people with disabilities.

VISION STATEMENT

People with disabilities shall realize the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as guaranteed under the American Constitution and Bill of Rights.



YWCA PROJECT

The rehabilitation of the historical YWCA building at 42 West Maiden Street, Washington, PA, is of utmost importance. Its façade is in Elizabethan Revival style, which was common in 1929. It is in a prominent area of Washington, across from the city government building.

The vision for the new facility is to be fitted as a state-of-the-art community center. The renovated building and the new addition will include three stories with an elevator that will incorporate the existing façade and performance area to preserve the historic features of the structure.

Thousands of regional residents fondly remember activities at the Y: dances, swimming lessons, karate, day care, church services, Girl and Boy Scout meetings, and other

events. **People would love to relive those days again.**

We believe individuals will support the renovation because they wish those historical moments preserved in their mind to be preserved in reality at the facility. The building has been vacant for a number of years and it needs tender, loving care to restore it to its previous splendor. We believe this commitment is real.

In addition, the refurbished building will have integration of modern features for office use, ensure accessibility for individuals in wheelchairs, and employ a green design throughout. Geothermal power is being planned for the facility, as well as glass-enclosed common areas and a conservatory.

The auditorium, parlor room, front office space, and other locations and features inside the Y are all available for naming opportunities. Please call Joann Naser, Director of Development, at our office at 724-223-5115.

Ken Kulak of CM Services, McMurray, PA, is the lead architect on the project.

The current location for TRIPIL, 69 East Beau Street, Washington, PA, will be sold for future development. When TRIPIL moved into its current location, it started small, with just a

portion of the building. Over the years, it grew to eventually take over the entire facility.

With over 55 employees, the current location does not have adequate space for staff offices, limited space for internet café, small board room and meeting spaces, and severe youth and adult programming space limitations.

The new facility will allow for much larger conference rooms, internet café connections, more extensive youth and adult programming plus adequate staff offices and state-of-the-art technology infrastructure. We plan additional programs and to see staff to grow to 100. Where we served over 1,000 individuals in 2014, given the expanded need for our services and the capabilities of a improved business space, we expect to double that number at the renovated Y.

Over 52 million Americans live with a disability. In Washington County alone last year, TRIPIL served 515 individuals with disabilities. The agency assisted over 500 more throughout Western Pennsylvania. At any moment, one's quality of life can change because of an accident, war, disease, or the natural aging process. **The need is tremendous and growing.**

Lessening this impact and creating a