



April is National Fair Housing Month

This year is the 55th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, the landmark civil rights law signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson on April 11, 1968, that made discrimination in housing transactions unlawful.

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, and familial status.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development was created as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's war on poverty. It was established on November 9, 1965.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is the Federal agency responsible for national policy and programs that address America's housing needs, that improve and develop the nations communities, and enforce fair housing laws. HUD's business is helping create a decent home and suitable living environment for all Americans, and it has given America's communities a strong national voice at the Cabinet level. HUD plays a major role in supporting homeownership by underwriting homeownership for lower and moderate income families through its mortgage insurance programs.



The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) is part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. They provide mortgage insurance on loans made by FHA-approved lenders. FHA insure mortgages on single family homes, multifamily properties, residential care facilities, and hospitals throughout the United States.

Keep Your Healthcare Coverage

NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid wants everyone to stay insured in New Jersey. NJ FamilyCare will mail renewals to all members in the year between April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. Members should expect to renew their coverage once a year from now on.

Make sure NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid has your correct mailing address:

Members can confirm or update their contact information by calling NJ FamilyCare at 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711). NJ FamilyCare will use this information to communicate with members about their healthcare coverage.

Respond to mail from NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid:

Members need to look for and respond to mail from the State of New Jersey or their local County Board of Social Services. If NJ FamilyCare requests information, members need to respond right away to avoid a gap in their NJ FamilyCare coverage.

DIAL Independent Living Skills Program

DIAL—Center for Independent Living held its Independent Living Program on Tuesday, March 28, 2023. It was held at the Clifton Senior Barn. The meeting was the first in-person meeting held since the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic in 2020.

It was great to see everyone in person. Consumers arrived from all over Essex and Passaic County for the program.

The topic for the meeting was disability influencers. Staff presented four individuals with disabilities who utilize social media to help them promote a positive and encouraging message about people with disabilities.

We celebrated the first in-person meeting with cake and held a raffle. Everyone was given a chance to win! We are pleased to announce the winner was Myles Williams and he won a laptop.



What does DIAL—Center for Independent Living do?

Become a DIAL member today!

DIAL—Center for Independent Living is a non-residential, non-profit agency that services individuals with disabilities in Passaic and Essex Counties.

DIAL promotes the Independent Living Philosophy which states that people with disabilities should have the same civil rights, options and control over choices in their own lives as do people without disabilities.

DIAL provides an array of programs and services that inform and support individuals with disabilities. The purpose being to achieve the maximum level in independence and control of the decisions and direction of their own lives and promote their full inclusion in society. Those services include:

- Information and Referral
- Advocacy
- Peer Support
- Independent Living Skills Programs
- Deaf Outreach Service
- Student Transition Services
- Employment Access Services
- NJ Transit Access Link Assessment Site
- Recreation Program
- Community Transition Services

Celebrate National Library Week April 23-29, 2023

DIAL is encouraging all Consumers to visit the library during National Library Week, April 23-29, to explore all they have to offer.

Most people know about the wealth of stories available at the library, from picture books and large print to audiobooks and eBooks. But there's so much more to the story of libraries.

National Library Week (April 23 - 29, 2023) is a time to celebrate our nation's libraries, library workers' contributions and promote library use and support. The theme for National Library Week 2023 is "There's More to the Story," illustrating the fact that in addition to the books in library collections, available in a variety of formats, libraries offer so much more. Many libraries now lend items like museum passes, games, musical instruments, and tools.

Libraries are welcoming spaces and their programming brings communities together for entertainment, education, and connection through book clubs, story times, movie nights, crafting classes, and lectures.

And libraries play a critical role in the economic vitality of communities by providing internet and technology access, literacy skills, and support for small businesses, job seekers, and entrepreneurs.

If you haven't checked out your local library lately, you're missing the full story. Stop by for a visit to celebrate with them during National Library Week, April 23-29.

Follow the hashtag #National Library Week to join the online celebration.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries of all types across the country each April.



SPRING CLEANING TIPS

It is that time of year again when we do spring cleaning to ensure we live in a clean home. Below are some helpful tips on how to keep your home clean.

1. Did you know dryer sheets can be used for more than keeping your clothes soft? They are also great to use as dusting cloths when cleaning your tv screen or computer screen. The silicon particles on the drying sheets reduce the static when picking up dust.
2. Having trouble dusting every nook and cranny because you cannot reach it? If money is tight and you cannot afford a duster and/or have trouble getting to those hard-to-reach places, try attaching a wrapping paper roll to the duster to ensure you can get every nook and cranny.
3. Did you know you can also use the dishwasher to clean more than just dishes? You can also wash gardening tools, a shower seat and even mouth guards in the dishwasher. Be sure to put these items separate from the dishes and run a full clean on the dishwasher before putting dishes in.

DIAL In-Person Programs

DIAL—Center for Independent Living **“In-Person”** programs.

Passaic Peer Support Group

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Time: 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

DIAL Office

2 Prospect Village Plaza, Floor 1

Clifton, New Jersey 07013

Essex County Peer Support Group

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Time: 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

North End Library—Newark

722 Summer Avenue

Newark, New Jersey 07104

Transportation will be available for both of these programs. The transportation cost shares have been suspended for the time being. Please see flyers for further details.

DIAL
CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

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