

# AUGUST NEWSLETTER

5041 New Centre Drive, Suite 108  
Wilmington, NC 28403  
Business hours:  
Monday - Thursday  
9AM - 4:30PM



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## SUCCESS STORY

In 2019 dRC made a connection with the University of Montana at the Association for Programs for Rural Independent Living, RTC Rural. At The Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities, RTC Rural and dRC worked together to come up with a plan to expand outreach in our most rural county which is Columbus County, NC. As 2020 rolled around the collaboration had decided on a rural mapping project which consisted of a living document that outlined resources available in the community. We planned to have a site visit, until the pandemic had us change gears. Although a lot of things stopped during that time, this project did not. Together we identified the many needs in the community and provided solutions by way of boots on the ground help, and financial assistance to many in the area. The project has evolved over the past 4 years and helped establish a baseline for Centers for Independent Living (CILs) to start with their rural outreach. Through this project, dRC has been able to connect with resources in Columbus County. Just recently, in June 2024, dRC and RTC Rural finally had their NC site visit. The team came and shadowed dRC's executive director at one of the most meaningful collaborations, CCPR (Community CPR) where dRC participates in "Wednesdays at the Warehouse" to allow a weekly time for consumers to seek multiple services at one time. RTC Rural continues to work with dRC by assisting with maintaining the document and incorporating their project in more of their ongoing work. dRC is so grateful for the guidance and partnership with RTC Rural to continue to expand our footprint and provide more accessibility to services in rural communities.

## VOLUNTEER

dRC is always looking for volunteers who are excited to help others and gain valuable experiences while making priceless memories. Come volunteer with us!



Scan the QR code to access and fill out our volunteer form



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Fall into Friendship—dRC's peer support group launch starting September 17th will be every 3rd Tuesday from 1-2 in New Hanover County at dRC's office. (light refreshments provided)  
Stay Tuned for our expansion to additional counties

dRC is looking for organizations who would like to come and speak with our peer support groups about their services. Please reach out to Arnetta at [admin@drc-cil.org](mailto:admin@drc-cil.org) to share your interest.



Wednesdays at the Warehouse  
Wednesdays in Columbus  
County from 1pm - 4pm at 210  
E Walter St Whiteville, NC  
28472

# FUN FACT

August is Medic Alert Awareness Month and is here to shine a light on the need to increase public awareness about Medic Alert bracelets, what they mean and how to use them. They are wearable lifesavers, providing crucial medical information, ensuring prompt care and potentially saving lives during emergencies. A little bit of information can go a long way in helping medical professionals in an emergency situation!



# EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



**Billy Eno**  
disAbility Advocate

Billy is a disAbility Advocate with dRC and has been in his role with us for 10 years. Billy has been a wheelchair user for 37 years. He loves animals and playing wheelchair tennis.

When asked about his favorite part of working for dRC, he said "Helping others, working with colleagues and exploring the unknown".

## COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

"Since we began in October 2018, we have provided furnishings to 672 households in the greater Wilmington area. We have served well over 2600 people. 2SHARE delivered 250 beds and some 750 other significant pieces of furniture in 2023. With your help and support we will continue to serve our community in 2024."

### 2SHARE INC



How can you support 2SHARE Inc?

**V** Volunteer

**D** Donate Furniture

**F** Financial Support

“Over 15% of the population in Wilmington, NC live below the poverty line. Many of the families we serve fall into this segment of the population. Through furniture donations and financial support, we strive to give people hope and dignity in their lives by providing them with basic furnishings.”



scan here to visit 2share website and learn more

## COMPASSIONATE CARE FUND

dRC often receives requests from individuals and agencies for life necessities... Food, bedding, toiletries, and financial assistance for rent and utilities. If you would like to donate to our "Compassionate Care Fund" You can send a check by mail, or you can scan the QR code to donate via PayPal.

*Knowledge is Power*

If your organization would like to take a disability awareness session, please reach out to Arnetta at admin@drc-cil.org to discuss details.

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"DON'T MISS OUT ON SOMETHING THAT COULD BE GREAT JUST BECAUSE IT COULD ALSO BE DIFFICULT."

—UNKNOWN

Send by mail to:  
disAbility Resource Center  
5041 New Centre Dr.  
Suite 108  
Wilmington, NC 28403



# Tracy's Housing Tips

## 1. Start with a budget

Know what you plan to spend each month towards your living expenses. It is common practice to keep your rent payments under 30 percent of your monthly income.

## 2. Perform self-inspections

First, check inside cabinets and on top of shelves for pest droppings. Check that all sinks, showers and toilets run clear. Bring a phone charger to make sure that the outlets work. If appliances are provided make sure they work.

## 3. Bring a tape measure

Make sure that all of your favorite furniture fits in your new apartment. Measure the building entrances and hallways, as well as the apartment itself.

## 4. Ask questions

Ask whoever is showing the property as many questions as you can during your walkthrough regarding parking fees, maintenance orders, utilities, income requirements, laundry facilities, pet policies, etc.

## 5. Check cell reception:

Services varies in homes and apartments. Any room in an apartment can have signals interrupted for countless reasons. Make sure to go through each room to check for service and locate any dead zones in the unit.

"Locating a home can take a lot of time and travel, but when you find the perfect apartment or home, it's worth it. By knowing these apartment hunting tips, you should feel confident to start your search for a new place without any hesitation."

-Tracy Fullard (dRC Housing & Life Skills Coordinator)

## 6. Don't rush

Take your time finding the right place and inspecting as you go through the complex and the unit.

## 7. Make a checklist

Making an organized list of all your wants and needs in an apartment. You can check off your list as you go and use that information to create pros and cons that will help you finalize your decision.

## 8. Check out the area

Check out the area at different times of the day or week. A neighborhood will look very different at noon on a Wednesday compared to rush hour on a Friday. Will there be parking when you get home after work? Does the neighborhood get noisy at night or on the weekend?

## 9. Pay your rent on time

Ensuring you pay your monthly rent on time will help create a good payment history which can be reported to the credit bureaus to help raise your credit score.