



Stay in the Know

The Holidays are approaching and a new year is almost here. Access 2 Independence is still providing services to the community. We would like to share with you some news and what is going on at Access 2 Independence right now.

A2I Holiday Shutdown

Our Iowa City and Cedar Rapids office will be closed during the Holidays. This is our annual Holiday Shutdown. We will be closed for two weeks starting December 25th to January 5th, 2024. We will resume providing services for the community on January 8th 2024. We all wish you a happy holidays and we look forward to a new year!



Picture above is of Laronda's lift chair. It is a black recliner chair. I has two cup holders in front of each arm.

Laronda's success story

“Hello everyone I’m Laronda “Butta”. I have been working with A2I for about 3 years now. I have struggles that I deal with on a daily basis that eliminates me being comfortable being in the community and at home. I was introduced to the home usability program in which I discussed needing home furniture to help make things more accessible for me being on a limited income. In my home the challenges I face is 1). I have my couch on “risers” to assist with getting up and down to making it easier for me. 2). The lift chair has given me to comfort level and courage I need to getting around my home better. The HUP assisted me with getting a lift chair that also assists with massage and heat. This has been the best blessing ever for me and I appreciate how much better and more comfortable I am with getting up utilizing the chair. A2I if no one has told you guys “You’re the Best”. This company alone cares and shows respect to each and every client. I’m glad that I’ve chosen the right company to help with achieving my goals”

The sad passing of Keith Ruff

We are sad to report the passing of Disability Advocate Keith Ruff. Keith was a person born with cerebral palsy. Through, hard work and determination, he journeyed through life and found himself here in Iowa City to make a difference.

He worked and lived here in Iowa City for four decades. Working to improve the lives of people with disabilities. He worked at Access 2 Independence for years. He started working with A2I (once known as the Connor Center) in the 1980s.

He accomplished many things from teaching a course on building independent living skills. Co-hosting a Public Access talk show called "This is Us". Finally, writing his memoir, Wheeling Through The Years.

He will be missed by his friends and family and will be remembered for all that he accomplished in life.



Picture above is of Keith Ruff. He is white male with a white beard and dark black short hair. He is in a wheelchair and is wearing a light blue polo shirt.



Picture above is of Aubree Klink, A2I's newest intern. She is a Black woman with long shoulder length black hair. She is wearing black rim glasses and a black sweater.

Welcome our new intern, Aubree Klink!

Everyone say "Hello!" to Aubree Klink, our Fall 2023 Social Work Intern! She has been with us since the end of August and it is time for an introduction! Aubree is a senior social work student who will graduate in December. She is very excited to learn about the work A2I does and the support they provide! When she is not at A2I she is working, doing school work, or is with her friends and family. We are so excited to be a part of Aubree's journey! Wishing her nothing but the best this school year!

We have Community Living Workshops!

Access 2 Independence has created a Community Living Skills workshop for members in the community to attend. Our first workshop was on Housing and our staff provided information on housing resources on area while teaching about finding and maintaining housing.

Staff will be hosting these workshops in the Iowa City office. We have plans to expand these workshops to our Cedar Rapids office and provide a virtual options for those who can't attend in person in the coming months.

We will provide more information on that in the coming months.

Community Living Skills Workshops



Picture above is of our Community Living Skills Workshop intro. It is on a white sheet with our A2I logo. The Words Community Living Skills Workshop is above our logo.
