

## Note from the Executive Director

A note from the Executive Director: Summer 2024

Summer has arrived and CILWW staff are busy! All three CILWW programs, Personal Assistant Services (PAS), New Freedom Transportation (NF), and Independent Living (IL) have been busy with outreach activities and training. One of those outreach activities has been working with the new homeless shelter in Menomonie operated by Stepping Stones of Dunn County, and meeting with consumers at the shelter to provide resources on the services CILWW offers. The PAS staff recently completed training with our caregivers and worked with UW Eau Claire on a basic sign language class. NF is gearing up for the annual volunteer driver training in October at the St. Croix Casino in Turtle Lake. IL has been busy providing services and staff have been busy working on a Sex Education curriculum and working with area high schools to offer the course to Pre-ETS students.



In April, staff from CILWW attended the Aging, Disability, and Independent Living conference in Lacrosse. It was a good conference with a variety of workshops and provided a great opportunity to network with staff from the Aging and Disability Resource Centers, Independent Living Centers, and members from the Department of Health Services disability councils. I am looking forward to the next one. On July 16, CILWW will be hosting the Caravan for Disability Rights and Justice as it makes its way across the US in celebration of the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This will be an “open house” event at CILWW from 11 am to 3 pm. More information on the event will be available on the CILWW website.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Leslie Fijalkiewicz, who has served on the CILWW since March 2021. As the Chippewa County ADRC Director, Leslie brought years of experience working with older adults and persons with disabilities and provided valuable insight and knowledge to the board. Leslie will be missed and we wish her all the best in retirement!

Kyle Kleist  
Executive Director



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CILWW is a community based, nonresidential, private nonprofit agency that is staffed and governed by people with disabilities. Our focus is to empower people in making choices that maintain or increase their independence. We serve people with disabilities, their families, and the community in which they live. We also work with area businesses and service providers that need assistance in responding to the needs of people with disabilities.

Opportunity  
+ Responsibility  
+ Empowerment  
= Independence



# Welcome New Staff



Nancy Lee: Transportation Support

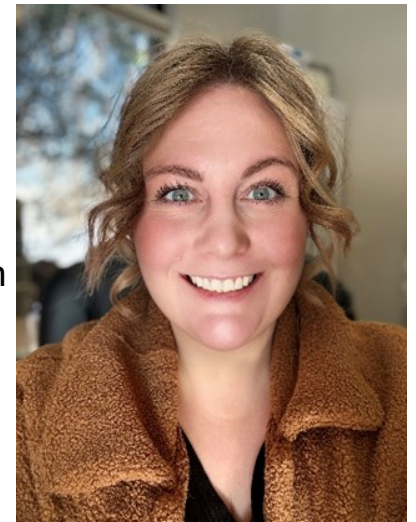
Hello, my name is Nancy Lee. I currently live in Menomonie, Wisconsin with my husband and our two dogs, Coco and Brownie. I have prior experience in the manufacturing industry and as a P.C.A. In my free time, I enjoy camping, fishing, crafting, and watching some of my favorite TV shows. Spending quality time with my family is significant to me as I believe that family is the heart of everything.

## CILWW Staff Highlight

My name is Ashley Lien and I serve as the Independent Living Program Coordinator within our Independent Living Department. I hold a Master's Degree in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Wisconsin Stout.

I live in Menomonie with my husband, two young boys, as well as a dog and a cat. Our free time is primarily spent keeping up with our children, and during the summer months, we love swimming in our pool!

I began at CILWW in 2015 as an Independent Living Specialist, and transitioned to my current position four years ago. My commitment lies in assisting individuals in maximizing their independence within the community, while overseeing a team of 11 Independent Living Specialists.



Ashley Lien  
Independent Living Program  
Coordinator

## CILWW Employment Opportunities

Are you interested in working or volunteering for our organization or know of someone? Call our office at 1.800.228.3287 (v/tty) or 715.233.1070 and ask for Nou Chi or email [nouchiv@cilww.com](mailto:nouchiv@cilww.com) for the latest career opportunities for you, your friend, or family member!

Employment and volunteer opportunities include:

- Independent Living Specialist
- Transportation Specialist
- Personal Caregiver
- Volunteer Driver

**JOIN  
OUR  
TEAM**



*The Center for Independent Living is an equal opportunity employer and fully subscribes to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity. It is the policy of the Center to provide employment, compensation and other benefits related to employment based on qualifications, without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, veteran status or disability, or any other basis prohibited by federal or state law.*

## Volunteer Driver Spotlight: Corine Boos

Meet driver: Corine Boos

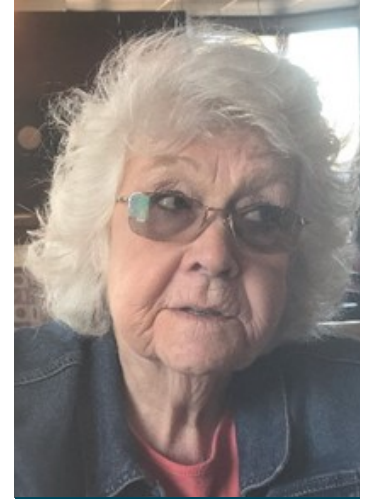
Corine has been driving for New Freedom for a little over 4 years.

Corine grew up and lived in the Chippewa county area most of her life. She has 3 adult children: 1 girl & 2 boys, 2 adult grandchildren, and 1 great grand baby on the way, coming very soon! Corine has had various careers and has been a CNA, LPN, or was in some sort of customer service or care giving role. She said one of the most memorable/biggest impressions someone has made on her, was at a first day of training at a new job when she was told “the first thing I want you to remember is that these are all people, and you will address them as Mr. or Mrs.” (If you did not it was immediate grounds for termination at that employer.)

In Corine’s words her favorite “era” was having horses, and mules, and riding them both, she said “once you ride a mule you will not want to ride a horse again.”

Corine is called an instigator at her apartment complex and likes to organize events.

Corine enjoys driving for us, she said “it keeps her out of the refrigerator!”



Corine Boos  
Volunteer Driver




**Interested in becoming a volunteer driver for New Freedom?**

### As a Volunteer Driver, you will:

- Provide rides for medical appointments, shopping, or social and recreational activities.
- Receive mileage reimbursement of 67 cents per mile (2024 Federal Rate).
- Help make a difference in someone's life.

#### Contact us:

 800.228.3287

 [melw@cilww.com](mailto:melw@cilww.com)

#### Visit us:

 [www.cilww.com](http://www.cilww.com)

 2920 Schneider Ave SE  
Menomonie, WI 54751



# Personal Assistant Services



Students from the UW Eau Claire American Sign Language (ASL) Honors Society hosted 3 basic sign language classes for CILWW over 3 weeks in April. This free class was offered to caregivers and CILWW staff.

The class was a hybrid model as we had attendees at our Rice Lake office attend via Zoom. In the class, we learned the alphabet, numbers, animals, and so much more! We hope to offer this class again soon!



HELLO



GOODBYE



PLEASE



THANK YOU



YES



NO

*All images used on this page are not actual representation of what was taught during this class. Images were found on Google with the intention of providing examples.*

## BECOME A CAREGIVER!

Help empower our community members to live an independent lifestyle within their own homes!

All services are completed within the consumer's home:

- Supportive home care
- Assist w/daily safety
- Respite/Mentoring
- General Cleaning Activities
- Assistance w/daily living activities
- Medically oriented tasks

CILWW's Personal Assistant Services program offers:

- competitive wages,
- flexible scheduling,
- paid travel for qualifying consumers,
- and paid training.

Interested individuals contact Samantha Lotts at [slotts@cilww.com](mailto:slotts@cilww.com) for further information or call 715.233.1070.



## Assistive Technology Demonstration & Loan Program

WisTech is Wisconsin's Assistive Technology (AT) program. AT is a device or service that allows people to function as independently as possible at home, school, work, and in the community. CILWW is a regional AT Device and Demonstration Center. CILWW has almost 2,000 different AT devices that we can loan and/or demonstrate to people. CILWW staff can bring devices to people's homes, answer questions about devices, loan devices for a short period of time, give vendor and funding resources, and use their experience to help find the most cost effective options.

### Check out our new assistive technology devices!

#### Fiber Grasp Hominid X



CILWW is featuring the Fiber Grasp Hominid X tool. This versatile grasping device is specifically designed for individuals who may have hand weakness or paralysis. It is recommended for those who have range of motion in their shoulder and elbow but lack strength in their hands. The Fiber Grasping tool is intended to assist with everyday tasks, hobbies, and personal care needs. It is capable of securely grasping objects up to the weight of a 1.5L water bottle.

This wearable device can be easily adjusted to accommodate various hand sizes. The design functions as a supportive frame around the user's hand, aiding in the natural closure around objects. The Fiber Grasp utilizes spring-loaded cable mechanisms instead of costly electronic components, making it a

more budget-friendly option compared to other high-end devices. This product is exclusively available for purchase online through Hominid X at a retail price of \$99.00.

**CILWW offers the opportunity for individuals to borrow or try out items mentioned in our articles before making a purchase. To learn more about this assistive device or other devices that can improve your independence, please contact CILWW at 715-233-1070 or 800-228-3287. Our services are provided free of charge. However, we do not directly fund the purchase of assistive technology. Through the WisTech Assistive Technology Program, CILWW provides a variety of services, including information on alternative financing options like WisLoan, Telework, and TEPP, upon request.**

# AT Programs and Services

## Are you or someone you know...

- Having difficulty hearing or using the telephone?
- Hard of hearing?
- Deaf or severely hard of hearing?
- Mobility/Motion impaired?
- Speech impaired?
- Deaf with low vision or blindness?
- Deaf and blind?



If you answered yes, you may be interested in finding the AT you need to access telephone services. Equipment could be amplified phones, captioning phones, neck loops, and other devices. Schedule an appointment to try a variety of equipment with one-on-one assistance from knowledgeable and experienced staff!

Staff can also help you apply for funding through TEPP: Telecommunications Equipment Purchase Program. Money collected through WI telephone service providers goes into the WI Universal Service Fund, which pays for TEPP. CILWW's role is to help you access the funding you need to get the equipment you need!

## Loan Programs

**WisLoan** offers loans to help people buy assistive technology or equipment such as modified vehicles, wheelchairs, and ramps. There are no income requirements and individuals are not required to exhaust personal or public funding. Under the program, banks provide loans at a fixed interest rate of 6.5% to qualified borrowers. Loan amounts depend on the item and ability to repay.

**Telework** is a loan program that allows residents with disabilities to purchase computers and other equipment needed to work from home or from other remote sites away from the office, such as work on the road or at a Telework center.

# TEPP



WisLoan +  
Telework  
Loan programs designed for  
Wisconsinites with disabilities

IndependenceFirst  
The Resource For People With Disabilities

## For Sale List

### ALL FROM ONE SELLER

**4-wheeled walker with seat.** Asking \$25.00.

**1-short bedside rail.** Asking \$25.00.

**Overhead the bed trapeze.** Asking \$175.00.

**Perfect Elite Sleep recliner chair.** The feet can go above the head. Reclines to full sleep position. Leather-no surface wear and tear. Like new condition. Paid \$2,700. Asking \$1,500.

Contact Ray @715-829-0436

### HOSPITAL BED

**Almost new Hospital Bed-all electric.** Sheets and incontinence pads included. Paid \$1,900. Asking \$1,100. Will need to be picked up. Contact Bev @ 715.273.5629

### WALKERS

**Standard aluminum walker.** 4 or 5 walkers. Asking \$10 each.

**Stand up walker (like the upright rollator).** Asking \$100.

Contact Don @ 715.829.0613

## For Donation List

### HOSPITAL BED

Hospital bed. All electric (head, feet, and to raise and lower bed, with remote.) Trapeze bar. Two ½ bedrails. Contact Linda @ 715.556.9189

### WHEELCHAIRS/WHEELCHAIR ACCESSORIES

**Power wheelchair small size.** Contact Ervin @715.492.3445

### WOODEN RAMP

**Wooden ramp made with treated lumber.** Four feet wide by sixty feet long. Includes wood landing pad with rails and skid strips. It will need to be disassembled. It was built so it could be easily disassembled. Contact Marty @ 715.232.8166. If he does not answer, please leave a message and he will return the call.

## ATTENTION

**For a complete list** of our For Sale and Donation items, please visit our website at: [www.cilww.com](http://www.cilww.com) or check out our facebook: Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin.

**For more information** on the items on this list, please contact the person listed directly. To get on or be removed from this list please contact Deb at CILWW at 800.228.3287 or 715.233.1070 extension 202.

*CILWW does not warrant the condition or terms of the sale of any device or equipment offered for reutilization by any seller or buyer. CILWW is not liable for claims, liabilities, damages, losses, costs, expenses, maintenance and penalties arising from items being purchased or sold. It shall be the responsibility of the seller or donator to provide accurate and detailed information about the device and equipment specifications and condition to buyer. CILWW functions solely on sharing the information with other parties.*



Center for Independent Living  
2920 Schneider Ave SE  
Menomonie, WI 54751

Consumer address

Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin, Inc.

**MAIN OFFICE**

2920 Schneider Avenue East  
Menomonie, WI 54751  
715-233-1070 Voice / TTY  
800-228-3287 Voice / TTY  
715-233-1083 Fax

**BRANCH OFFICE**

2021 Cenex Drive Suite D  
Rice Lake, Wisconsin 54868  
715-736-1800 Voice / TTY  
1-866-419-1260 Voice / TTY  
715-736-0265 Fax

Call Toll-Free 800.228.3287

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