



Newsletter Spring Edition 2011



Big Voice Big Say Network

Coming soon!

- Frustrated with being treated differently because of your disability?
- Want your views and opinions listened to?
- Want to help develop new services and make a difference?
- Enjoy a challenge?

The Northamptonshire Centre for Independent Living will be running a new Citizen Leaders Programme called **Big Voice Big Say Network**.

This programme is aimed at supporting Disabled People across Northamptonshire and will focus on a range of topics including; Disabled People's Rights, Peer Support, User Involvement, Consultation and Co-Production.

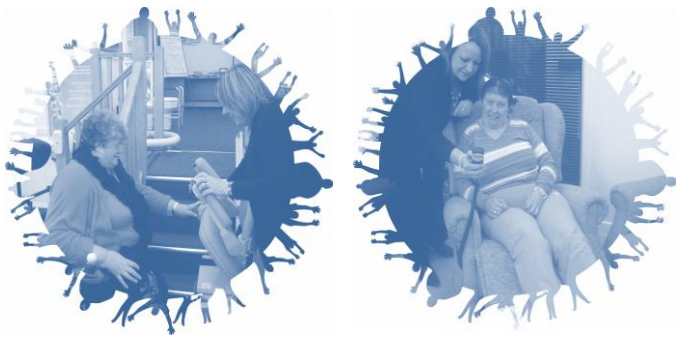
For more information and to reserve your place contact:
John Smith: Rights & Inclusion Officer 01604 588501



Thank you!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following suppliers for their support with the loan of equipment to both our Corby and Northampton Centres.

Action Rehab, BLR, Closomat, EMS, EPS, Humanware, Milton Keynes Mobility, Movement 2, Oakley Mobility, SBK Chambers Shire Mobility, Sight and Sound



Second Hand Equipment Register

New equipment can be expensive to buy and not an option for some. Second hand equipment can be a cheaper option but sometimes the choice is more limited. This is where the Northamptonshire Centre for Independent Living may be able to help.

If you are looking to sell or buy second hand disability equipment The Northamptonshire Centre for Independent Living holds a Second Hand Equipment Register.

This is a free service which allows people to advertise their equipment for sale throughout Northamptonshire. You can also advertise for any equipment you would like to purchase. People are welcome to advertise items that they wish to give freely.

We can send out the register to people that are looking for equipment. The items in the register will also be displayed for visitors to the centres in Corby and Northampton.

No personal details will be displayed in the register or on the boards to maintain a level of confidentiality for those who wish to use this service.

Northamptonshire Centre For Independent Living will not have seen any of the equipment and therefore would not be able to vouch for its condition. Potential Buyers would be urged to check the quality and safety of the items with individual sellers. The Centres can provide information on things to consider when purchasing second hand equipment.

For further information please contact:

Diane Cohen: 01604 588501



Specialist Equipment

We have joined forces with Humanware and Sight and Sound to provide a range of specialist equipment for visually impaired people, which could also benefit people with other disabilities, such as dyslexia and learning disabilities.



- The equipment we have includes voice scan readers, which allow letters, books, magazines to be read to you.
- CCTV's which permit print and photographs to be highly magnified, and allow for continuing hobbies like stamp collecting, fine art.
- Hand held magnifiers to enable magnification of objects such as food labels and other information on the move.
- We also have a machine to help people with dyslexia to read, spell and check meanings of words.
- We have voice recorders which have various functions as well as recording information, these include listening to talking books, music and reading computerised documents from the computer.
- We also have Satellite Navigation equipment that audibly states where you are on your route. You can also input your own chosen routes. This can also be used when taking a bus or using a taxi, so you are in control at all times of where you are going.

This equipment is currently available in our Corby office but will be available in Northampton soon.

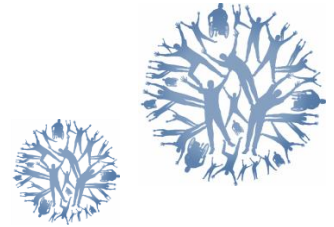
For further information please contact:

Pauline Cooper: 01536 275845





Insight of a Disabled Persons Support Worker



Hi my name is Graham Stone and I am a Disabled Persons Support Worker covering an area of South Northamptonshire that includes Woodford Halse, Daventry, Towcester, Brackley and also Northampton Town and surrounding areas.

My main role is to support you the Disabled Person to find a Personal Assistant who will be able to help you live a more independent life by doing those tasks you feel you are unable to do or struggle with day to day. I visit you following a Social Services referral, explain how the system works and establish your needs, assisting you to write a job description, person specification and advertisement and then ensure that advert is placed locally, online and in local jobcentres.

I assist with interview support and setting up Payroll systems in order that you get the right support when legally employing your Personal Assistants.

The CIL runs an excellent payroll service, payment for which comes from your Individual Budget or Direct Payment. Another role I have is to assist with Northamptonshire County Councils returns. Once on an Individual Budget or Direct Payment the Council needs to monitor payments made to Service Users to ensure the money is used correctly. I can help you with this so that you do not have that worry. I am also on hand to answer any telephone queries you may have. For more information about Individual Budgets or Direct Payments please contact:

Graham Stone: 01604 685134 

Carers Directory Launch



The Northamptonshire Centre for Independent Living and Northamptonshire Carers have been working in partnership to produce an updated Directory of Services for Carers. This will be launched at a **Drop-In-day** for Carers on:

Wednesday 4th May 2011

10.00 am – 8.00 pm Gladstone Road Resource Centre

Gladstone Road
Northampton
NN5 7EJ



Come and meet organisations that provide services for Carers across Northamptonshire. This event is open to Carers and Professionals and anyone with an interest in Carers issues.

For further details please contact:

Sharon Tansley: **01604 588501** or

By email: sharon.tansley@northamptonshirecil.org.uk



Know Your Rights!

We offer a service to Disabled People helping them to understand what their rights are and how to complain.

We can do this in two ways:

- Provide information to support individuals
- Come and talk to you or your organisation

For more information contact:

John Smith: 01604 588501



New Family Service

Families in Partnership

This is the new name for Parents in Partnership, still the same great service. We are available to support ALL families of people with a severe Learning Disability and complex needs, through issues around

changes to services, transitions, Circles of Support, Personalisation, etc. For more information please contact us:

**Families in Partnership, Manfield Court, Manfield Campus,
Kettering Road, Northampton NN3 6NP**

Email: advocacy@familiesinpartnership.org.uk

Tel: 01604 671888

www.familiesinpartnership.org.uk

New Support4U Website

Support4U is a new information website which is a free directory of information, services, organisations and activities to support adults in Northamptonshire to live independently. We would like your help to improve the site so that it has the information on that would be useful to you or a member of your family. If you'd like to help us to develop this – then come along to one of our workshops. These will be informal, just getting your ideas about what is of interest to you.

You don't need any special experience or knowledge as this site is for anyone living in Northamptonshire, however if you or a member of your family or a friend use social services, this additional knowledge and experience would be welcomed.

To reserve your place or give feedback on the site:

contact **Ken Ridley** on Northampton **01604 237977** or

Email: kridley@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Please have a look at the site by following the link

<http://support4u.northamptonshire.gov.uk> and consider how this could be improved and what you'd like to see on there.



Northamptonshire Centre for Independent Living Needs YOU!

We are currently looking for more Disabled People to join our Project Board to help raise our awareness, develop and build a strong future and support more Disabled People and Carers County wide.

Board members help us to make our service better. They help us to look at the work we do and the work we need to improve on.

Board members can also support us at local events and help us by telling other people about the services we offer.

We are holding an informal drop in day at Northampton on Thursday 5th May 2011 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm so if you are interested you can come and have a look around and ask questions about what we offer and the role of a Project Board member.

To apply to be a CIL Project Board member and request an application pack, please call **01604 588501** or

Email: gail.ward-mundin@northamptonshirecil.org.uk



Calling all Volunteers!

We are currently looking for Volunteers to support the work we do at the Northamptonshire Centre for Independent Living.

We are a new organisation and we are looking for volunteers to join our team and support the work we do. Some of the tasks that we need support with could be answering the phone, meeting and greeting people, taking messages, supporting our Information Resource Library and inputting data.

We would also like to find people who could support us with a range of open day and marketplace events across Northamptonshire. We are looking for people who can support us during our working week within our core hours from 9 to 5 Monday to Friday.

If you can offer a couple of hours a week then we would like to hear from you!

For more information about becoming a Volunteer and to request an application pack, please call **01604 588501** or

email: gail.ward-mundin@northamptonshirecil.org.uk

Extra Information for YOU!



Caring Northants Website:

Great news! The Caring Northants website is now being updated regularly. Log on to www.caringnorthants.org.uk and have a look!

If you have any information that you would like putting on to the website please email:

sharon.tansley@northamptonshirecil.org.uk

Please put the words CARING NORTHANTS INFO in the subject box

If you have any information that you would like included in our Newsletter please email:

sharon.tansley@northamptonshirecil.org.uk

Please put the words CIL NEWSLETTER INFO in the subject box

Training Opportunities: Making Information Easy to Understand

- Want to learn how to make your information clear for people with communication difficulties or learning disabilities?
- Want to look at guidelines, examples and ideas about the best ways to make information clear?

Then contact John Smith to talk about your training needs and how we can support you! **01604 588501**

Northampton

Drop-in-day

Tuesday 10:00am until 3:00pm
Gladstone Road Resource Centre
Gladstone Road
Spencer
Northampton
NN5 7EJ

Tel: 01604 588501
SMS: 07751359396
Fax: 01604 591276

Corby

Drop-in-Day

Thursday 10:00am until 3:00pm
Patrick Road Resource Centre
Patrick Road
Corby
Northamptonshire
NN18 9NT

Tel: 01536 266192
SMS: 07751359396
Fax: 01536 267215