

We Are connecting people with possibilities.



2017 ANNUAL REPORT • FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2016 TO JUNE 30, 2017



Peer2Peer Resources for
People with Disabilities



Letter from the CEO

The Northeast independent Living Program, Inc. has experienced another transformative year. The two year re-branding project we undertook is now recognizable to our consumers and community partners by our new logo and tagline. The proud identity as one of the eleven Independent Living Centers of the Commonwealth is forever cast in our mission and messaging.

Recently, Independent Living Centers across the country have moved from Federal oversight of the Rehabilitation Services Administration to the Administration on Community Living. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) was created around the fundamental principle that older adults and people with disabilities of all ages should be able to live where they choose, with the people they choose, and with the ability to participate fully in their communities.

The ACL highlights the focus on community integration with healthcare providers and community based organizations. NILP participated in the National Council of Independent Living Conference in July of 2017 with advocates from around the country to challenge the Healthcare Reform Bill. We continue to strive to ensure Medicaid funding supports the healthcare needs of our most vulnerable population.

In 2017, NILP updated our 5 year Strategic Plan. It was an inclusive process with numerous Focus Groups of NILP stakeholders and our Board Leadership. We identified the growing needs for people living in our community and maintaining their independence in their homes. Major themes included Transitions from Nursing Homes, Transition Age Youth with employment resources, Peer Recovery Supports, Accessible Housing, and Personal Care Attendant Services.

NILP continues to embrace transformation as a necessary part of a vibrant and growing community that is united in its' civil rights advocacy for persons living with a disability.

Best,

June C. Sauvageau
NILP Chief Executive Officer



"OUR GOAL AND MISSION IS TO MAKE ACCESS REAL FOR ALL."

June Sauvageau, NILP CEO



"I AM PROUD TO SERVE WITH THE OTHER BOARD MEMBERS AND COLLABORATE WITH THE DEDICATED HARD WORKING STAFF OF NILP."

Eric Pearson
President, NILP Board of Directors

Letter from the President of the Board of Directors

Serving on the Board of NILP for the past six years, I've been proud to watch the organization grow and evolve as it continues to provide excellent services and advocacy for people with disabilities and helps them regain and retain their independence. This past fiscal year has been very successful as the organization continues to remain financially stable. We have had many important events including our Board sponsored Music Fundraising Event and our NILP Annual Golf Tournament for Independence. We also continue to see the benefits of the rebranding project, which was completed in 2016.

We have added new members to the Board of Directors who bring with them a passionate commitment to the organization. I am proud to serve with the other Board members and collaborate with the dedicated hard working staff of NILP. There is no limit to what these individuals can accomplish working together. On behalf of the NILP Board of Directors, we look forward to the continued growth and success of NILP as we continue to support our consumers and the community.

Sincerely,

Eric Pearson
President, NILP Board of Directors

FY' 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Eric Pearson - President

Chris McNeil - Vice President

Lisa Visone - Treasurer

David Bradburn - Clerk

Fran Kuchar

Mike Alan

Richard Consoli

Kathleen Mulligan

David Ellingson

Jeff Wilson

FY' 2017 NILP SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

June Cowen Sauvageau, CEO
Lisa DiGiuseppe, CFO

Nanette Goodwin, Assistant Director
Meghan McCann, Associate Director

FY' 2017 PROGRAM DIRECTORS / MANAGERS

Helina Fontes, Director, Recovery Learning Community
Jim Lyons, Director, Community Development & Advocacy
Matt Pellegrino, Director, Long Term Services & Supports
Mark Wheeler, Director, Marketing & Communications

Justine Carlton, Clinical Support Manager
Jennifer D'Amore, Human Resources Manager
Jennifer Howell, Transitions Department Manager
Alicia Thyne, Youth Services Program Manager



OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

OUR MISSION

The Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. is a consumer controlled Independent Living Center providing advocacy and services to people with all disabilities who wish to live independently in the community.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Independent Living philosophy states that individuals with disabilities are the best determinants of their own needs and service choices. Through role modeling and peer counseling, with other individuals with disabilities, they become empowered to make changes in their lives and become more self-sufficient and self-reliant.

OUR VISION

Northeast Independent Living Program is known throughout the state for helping individuals regain and retain their independence and equality in the community through *Information & Referral, Advocacy, Skills Training, Peer Counseling*. We are a community of people who open doors to create an all-inclusive community free of communication, attitudinal, economic and architectural barriers for all people with disabilities.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2018

- NILP partners with Elders Services of the Merrimack Valley to become a Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Community Partner
- NILP implements its' 5 year Strategic Plan (2018-2023)
- NILP enhances its' services to the Lowell Area Community with a full service satellite office in the Lowell area
- NILP continues to educate local health care organizations, non-profits and businesses with customized Disability Awareness and Cultural Competence Training
- NILP expands its ADA Consulting Services
- NILP increases its focus on diversity in its Board and Staff recruitment efforts as well as increasing services to the underserved and un-served populations in our area



MARK YOUR CALENDAR IN 2018

- Legislative Forum, Mass School of Law, March 23rd
- Annual Golf Tournament for Independence, Merrimack Valley Golf Club, Methuen, MA, June 8th
- Disability Awareness and Cultural Competence Trainings - Held monthly at NILP



"I CONTINUE TO BE THANKFUL FOR ALL OF THE SERVICES AVAILABLE FROM NILP. WHAT A GREAT SUPPORT AND RESOURCE!"

NILP Consumer

NILP OFFERS FIVE BASIC CORE SERVICES

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

NILP staff provides information and resources to people living with disabilities and the community about accessible services and supports.

PEER SUPPORT

As a peer run organization, we provide peer mentoring and peer counseling support services on an individual basis or in group settings.

SKILLS TRAINING

May include instruction to develop independent living skills in areas such as: personal care, budgeting, social skills, housing search, employment readiness and travel training.

ADVOCACY

Individual assistance and/or systems advocacy for people living with a disability to gain access to benefits, services and support programs.

TRANSITIONS SERVICES

We facilitate the transition of people with disabilities from nursing homes and other facilities to home and community based living with the necessary support services to help them live independently. We also support the transition of youth with disabilities into higher education, the workforce and the community.



“...WITHOUT A PROGRAM LIKE NILP AND YOUR STAFF, I DON'T KNOW HOW OR WHAT MY LIFE WOULD BE LIKE OR WHERE I WOULD BE. THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE TO OFFER ME AND OTHERS LIKE MYSELF.”

NILP Consumer



NILP PROGRAMS

NORTHEAST RECOVERY LEARNING COMMUNITY (NERLC)

is a community of peers that supports individuals who have “lived experience” with a mental health condition, trauma or psychiatric disability. NERLC provides recovery-based trauma informed education, information & referral and training as well as culturally sensitive peer support both on an individual basis and in group settings.

MERRIMACK VALLEY AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CONSORTIUM (ADRC)

is a collaboration between NILP and Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley that has a “no wrong door” entry point of service for people with disabilities and elders looking to access community based long term services. A specialized service provided under the ADRC is Options Counseling, an interactive, short-term decision-support process that involves providing individuals with information about the full range of public and private resources, services, and settings available in the community.

PCA (PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT) PROGRAM

is a consumer controlled and directed MassHealth funded program that allows eligible persons with disabilities to hire others to assist them with daily living tasks. Unlike other similar programs, with our PCA Program the consumer is in control. This can make a dramatic difference in the lives of those who live with a disability.

TRANSITION AGE YOUTH SERVICES

NILP serves youth ages 14-22, providing peer support and individual and systems advocacy with families, schools, and community resources. We offer one-to-one peer support and Independent Living transition peer groups in schools. In addition, we have strong employer and community relationships and offer pre-employment skill building and paid internships.



“Thank you for being an invaluable safety net. Disability can be isolating and overwhelming. Your agency is like a beacon. Your employees are stars!”

NILP Consumer



“I want to thank NILP for the excellent support that I was provided with at a difficult time in my life. They assisted with providing information as well as enrolling me in a program that gave me the technology necessary to manage my diabetes. As a blind person with physical disabilities, I found that this agency is excellent at providing me with support if they can offer it or directing me to other sources, if they do not. It has truly helped me to continue living on my own. Thank you again!”

NILP Consumer



“He has only been attending the program for a week and already I can see many changes in him. He is more mature and seems to be doing things independently.”

Parent of Youth regarding NILP Summer Youth Program

“I want to let you know how much I appreciate all that you’ve done for me and the work you do helping so many families. It takes a selfless and compassionate person to help working families, all while maintaining a positive attitude. My admiration to NILP in giving others that sense of hope and motivation of ability.”

NILP Consumer





NILP HOSTED SOME WONDERFUL EVENTS IN FY' 2017



MUSIC FUNDRAISING EVENT

NILP held a successful Music Fundraising Event April 7, 2017, at the Lawrence Elks Lodge (B.P.O.E. 65). It was a fun night of dinner and dancing to the high energy music of The B Street Bombers. Proceeds supported the NILP Independence Fund that provides resources to individuals who may not qualify for other sources of assistance, to allow them to transition into the community.



RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

October 26, 2016, we held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to officially open the entrance to our newly expanded facility at our location in Lawrence. The Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, State Senator Barbara L'Italien and State Representative Linda Dean Campbell were a part of this great celebration as well as many consumers and community partners. The ceremony was followed by our Annual Meeting & Open House.

ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE FORUM

NILP and Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Aging and Disability Resource Consortium (ADRC) partners, hosted a Legislative Forum at Mass School of Law on March 24, 2017. Over 130 people attended including Consumers, State Senators & Representatives, Local Officials. The key theme of the event was "Provider Cultural Competence & Healthcare Disparity".



PCA RALLY!

NILP joined over 200 PCA's, PCA users, and disability advocates at the Statehouse in Boston on September 20, 2016. We rallied to change the cap of 40 hours per week work for a PCA with no overtime.



14TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 2017 NILP Annual Golf Tournament for Independence was one of our most successful fundraising events in the agency's history! It was held on June 9, 2017, at the Merrimack Valley Golf Club in Methuen. It was a spectacular day on the course for the golfers. The day concluded with an awards luncheon with a raffle and a live auction. All proceeds went to support the NILP Independence Fund which helps people with all disabilities realize their dream of living independently in the community.

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL EDUCATION DAY

Topics discussed : Align MA AAB regulations with the ADA SD 1323, Support the Jobs Bill: (SD- S.86, HD- H.110), Expand Assistive Technology Funding, Increase Alternative Housing Voucher Program, Protect ILC Line Item 4120-0200 and increase FY' 18 budget.

THE TRAINING AND LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

NILP's education division, The Training and Learning Collaborative (TLC) has been providing "Disability Awareness and Cultural Competence" training to community partners. Some of our clients include: Commonwealth Care Alliance, Mystic Valley Elders Services, and Elder Services of Merrimack Valley.



NILP HOSTED SOME WONDERFUL EVENTS IN FY' 2017

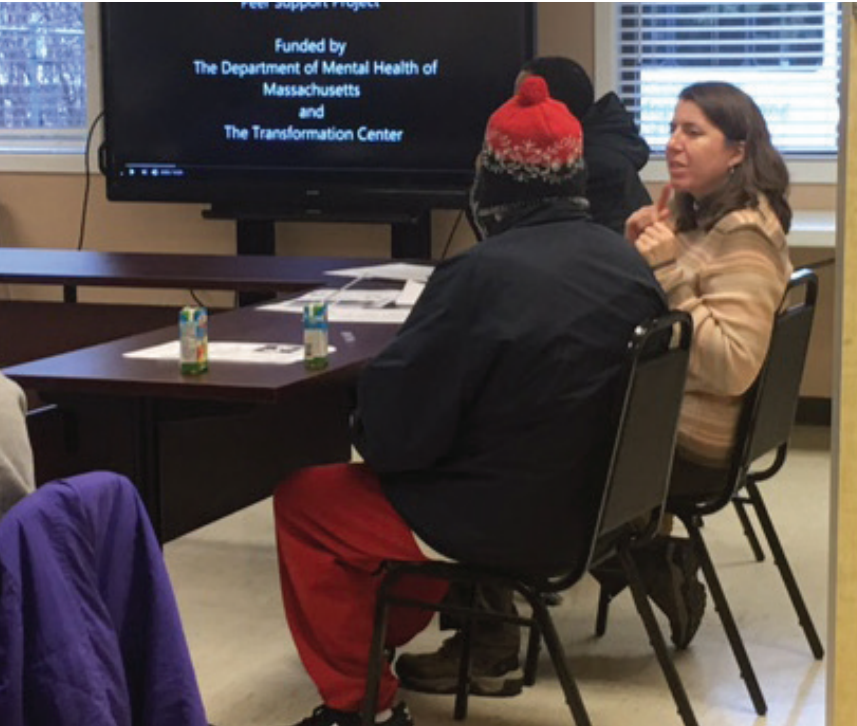


LAWRENCE INDUSTRIAL PARK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

NILP hosted the Lawrence Industrial Park Business Association Annual Meeting on June 6, 2017. Over 50 LIPBA members and guests attended this meeting with Bob Baker, LIPBA President and Director of Key Polymer Corp. presiding. The speakers included Mayor Dan Rivera of Lawrence, Massachusetts State Representative Frank Moran, Superintendent John Lavoie of Greater Lawrence Technical High School.

GRAND OPENING OF OUR GLOUCESTER RLC HUB LOCATION

We held a Grand Opening of our Gloucester RLC Hub location on January 20, 2017. This is our fifth Recovery Learning Community (RLC) Hub location allowing us to better serve our consumers in their communities. We received a State Proclamation congratulating us on the Grand Opening.



PEER FORUM

NILP hosted a Peer Forum for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing, Deaf and Blind, and Late-Deafened on January 24, 2017. The theme centered on Peer Support for the Deaf community. This event was sponsored by The Transformation Center and the Department of Mental Health.

FINANCIALS

**The Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc.
Statements of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2017 & 2016**

Assets		
	2017	2016
Current		
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note A)	\$ 699,555	\$ 440,856
Accounts Receivable (Note A),(Allowances for doubtful accounts is \$27,613 & 0 for 2017 & 2016 Respectively)	573,586	511,398
Prepaid Expenses	9,125	6,849
Total Current Assets	1,282,266	959,103
Property and Equipment (Note A)		
Building and Improvements	1,075,779	982,490
Construction in Process	-	20,000
Equipment	89,964	89,964
Vehicles	97,113	97,113
Furniture	114,993	110,469
Computer Software	8,000	8,000
Land	78,600	78,600
Total	1,464,449	1,386,636
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(744,211)	(705,005)
Property and Equipment - net	720,238	681,631
Total Assets	\$ 2,002,504	\$ 1,640,734
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 81,884	\$ 55,808
Program Service Payable	-	-
Accrued Expenses	129,858	105,063
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt (Note G)	14,708	3,412
Credit Line Payable (Note H)	-	50,000
Deferred Revenue	-	-
Total Current Liabilities	226,450	214,283
Long-Term Debt (Note G) (Net of unamortized debt issue costs)	397,131	275,050
Total liabilities	623,581	489,333
Net Assets (Note A)		
Unrestricted	1,378,923	1,151,401
Temporarily Restricted	-	-
Permanently Restricted	-	-
Total Net Assets	1,378,923	1,151,401
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 2,002,504	\$ 1,640,734

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.
*Financials are in draft format and are subject to change.

GRANTS & PARTNERSHIPS

- Andover Council on Aging
- DEAF, Inc., Brighton, MA
- Disability Law Center, Boston, MA
- Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley (ESMV), Lawrence, MA
- Enterprise Bank
- Career Resource Center (CRC)
- Disability Policy Consortium (DPC)
- Easter Seals
- Massachusetts Office on Disability (MOD)

MAJOR FUNDING SOURCES

- Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC)
- Department of Mental Health (DMH)
- Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS)
- Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOA)



STAFF AND VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

FY' 2017 VOLUNTEERS

Brian Goodwin	Kimberly Fall	Methuen High School	RuthAnn Savage-King
Gary & Lynne Hale	Lisa Crider	Nathaniel Vargas	
Donna Higson	Madison Turner	Nicole Fortier	
Kate Shea	Marcela Rizzo	Paul Castiglione	

FY' 2017 INTERNS

RuthAnn Savage-King - Episcopal Divinity School	Donn Kipp - Senior Service Network
Susan Braese - NorthShore Community College	David Carignan - Northern Essex Community College

YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS



MARYANN MILLER 30 YEARS

Maryann started working at NILP in 1987. She processed the billing for the PCA Program back when everything was done on paper. She also has worked in bookkeeping and payroll. Maryann shared, "I started here when I was 47 and thought I knew everything about life, and quickly realized I knew nothing! I'm so encouraged by what our consumers and staff are able to accomplish."

35 YEAR SERVICE AWARD – was presented to Jim Lyons with sincere appreciation for his loyalty, diligence and outstanding performance.

30 YEAR SERVICE AWARD – was presented to Nanette Goodwin with sincere appreciation for her loyalty, diligence and outstanding performance.

5 YEAR SERVICE AWARD – was presented to Zuleika "Zuley" Gonzalez, Lynne, Hanbury, and William Sanabria with sincere appreciation for their loyalty, diligence and outstanding performance.



A SPECIAL TRIBUTE

IN MEMORIAM

Wanda Alvarez	Ralph Johnson	Kayden Nieves	Leger Saulnier
Michelle Boie	Natividad Marrero	David Polverini	Robert Sobalo
Leo Donovan	Ammanda McCluskey	Thomas Poulin	Raymond Thoby
Susan Halloran	Joanne McEnaney	Carmen Ruiz	Marie Watt
Maria Herrera	Rita McLaughlin	Juan Santos	Vimuth Yang

Each year at the Annual Meeting, NILP recognizes staff and members of the community for their outstanding efforts on behalf of the Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. (NILP). At the 2016 Annual Meeting, the following were recognized for their accomplishments:

ADA CHAMPION AWARD – was presented to Michelle Collette for her commitment and dedication to ensuring the rights of people with disabilities and support of our mission.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD – was presented to Rosanne DiStefano, Executive Director of Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, for her commitment to independent living and support of our mission to improving the lives of people with disabilities.

DAVID E. RAY AWARD – was presented to Christine Griffin for her leadership, tenacity and commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities.

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD – was presented to Kevin Hatch, President, NILP Board of Directors, in recognition of his years of service and leadership.

STAFF 110% AWARD – was presented to NILP staff members Alicia Thyne and Patrick "PJ" Murray as an expression of our appreciation and gratitude for their outstanding and dedicated work.

VOLUNTEER AWARD – was presented to Francis Sauvageau with appreciation and gratitude for his outstanding and dedicated work as a volunteer and supporter of our mission.



“FOCUSING ON A CONSUMER’S ABILITIES ALLOWS ME TO HELP THEM ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS OF INDEPENDENCE.”

William Sanabria, NILP Community Supports Specialist

SPONSORS AND DONORS

A Healing Vibration	Elder Services of Merrimack Valley	Merrimack Valley Credit Union
American Training Inc.	Element Care	Merrimack Valley Golf Club
Abbot & Dorothy H. Stevens Foundation	Elizabeth Scanzani	Michael Higson
Amesbury Golf & Country Club	Emanio Creative	Michelle Collette
Anthony Martinho	Enterprise Bank	Modern Woodmen of America
Appleby & Wyman	Eric Pearson	Moore Staffing
ASAH/AMERICA	Fran & Paul Kuchar	NASCAR NH 301
Barbara M. Currier	Franklin Perez	Not Your Average Joes
Bates Insurance, Medford	Gary & Lynn Hale	N-Tek, Inc.
Baum (USA) Inc.	George Anthas	Omni Digital Printing
Benevolent & Protective Order Of Elks National Foundation	Golden House Restaurant	Pamela Dykeman
Boston Bruins Foundation	Golfers for Vision	Pat Grant
Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation	Great Wolf Lodge	Patricia Whitehouse
Boston Harbor Cruises	Hanover Insurance	Pawtucket Red Sox
Brunswick Zone Bowling	Herb Chambers Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Danvers	Point Sebago
Butcher Boy	HIRSCH ROBERTS WEINSTEIN	PRIDESTar EMS
Campbell’s Scottish Highlands Golf Course	Holiday Inn	Pro Tire & Tune, Billerica
Cedar’s Mediterranean Foods	Independent Living Center of North Shore and Cape Ann	Providers’ Council
Central Dental of Lowell, Inc.	Indian Ridge Country Club	QPL Image
Charm Medical Supply	J Brian’s Pub & Grille	Ray Mclean
Chris McNeil	Jeff Wilson	Rebecca Puentes
Christopher Croucher	Kathleen Mulligan	Rev. Dr. Cynthia D. Savage-King
Class, Inc.	Keith Hill	Richard A. LaLime, Atty
Commonwealth Care Alliance	Key Polymer Corp.	Richard Howe Jr.
Community Teamwork, Inc.	Kim & Celeste Barrett	Ronald E. Lassman
Conlin’s Pharmacy	Lawrence Industrial Parks Business Association	Rosco’s Diner
Conway Scenic Railroad	Lodge Of Elks #65	Salem Co-operative Bank
David Bradburn	Linda Fournier	Schiller Jewelers
David Ellingson	Lisa Visone	Scott Ivers
Diego Gonzales	Long Term Pharmacy Solutions	Scott Realty Trust
Disability Policy Consortium	Lowell Five Bank	Sue Comeau
Disney World	Lowell Regional Transit Authority	the Loop
Donna Higson Photography Services	Lowell Spinners	The Savings Bank
Doubletree by Hilton	Maria Lopiano	Thomas O’Connor- Baum (USA)
Dr. Ruthann Savage-King	Mark Conway	Tompkins Corporation
Easter Seals	Mary Chivers	Union Office
Elaine M. Starret	Massachusetts School of Law	United Parcel Service
	Maureen Nicetta	Warrior Custom Golf
		Yankee Clipper2 Barber Shop
		Za-Beth Robinson

We are connecting people with possibilities.



WAYS TO GIVE

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, the Northeast Independent Living Program, Inc. (NILP), relies on the ongoing support of individuals, foundations, companies, and organizations to continue to provide quality services to our consumers with disabilities throughout the greater Merrimack Valley. If you would like to help NILP carry out its mission, please consider donating in one of the following ways:

GIFT

Funds donated through this method allow the agency to continue to provide essential services and make improvements to the agency's physical infrastructure.

IN MEMORIUM

A special tribute to honor a loved one, friend or colleague can be paid through a memorial or celebration gift. Each gift is acknowledged to the individual and/or family.

Planned Gift – Gifts such as bequests, charitable gift annuities, trusts, and paid up life insurance, are always welcome. These can be arranged through your financial advisor or attorney.

SPECIAL EVENTS/FUNDRAISERS

NILP hosts several fundraising activities and events, that are open to the public. We welcome volunteer contributions for special events.

Send a check to NILP, 20 Ballard Road, Lawrence, MA 01843 or contribution by credit or debit card by visiting our website, www.nilp.org

Click on the "DONATE" button for "PayPal". All credit or debit cards are accepted.

For further information, please contact Mark Wheeler, Director of Marketing & Communications at 978-687-4288 ext. 116 or by email at mwheeler@nilp.org.

Thank you in advance for your donations. All gifts and contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. Please consult your financial advisor.

Member of the ADRC of Merrimack Valley



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Statewide Independent Living Council (MASILC)



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VP# 978-237-5699
www.nilp.org

