Why support centers for independent living?

- Our consumers are your constituents.
- Centers were federally mandated in part C, Title VII of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- At least 51% of SCIL’s staff and board of directors are people with disabilities. (as per federal requirement)
- People with disabilities vote! Our staff actively registers our consumers to vote and encourages participation in the voting process.
- SCIL services are free and available to anyone, of any age, with a disability.
- People with disabilities who utilize essential SCIL services have a greater independence and improved quality of life, and often become more active citizens and contributors to the local and State economies.
- People with disabilities who live independently in the community provide economic benefits by obtaining paid employment, spending money on housing and transportation, purchasing goods and services, paying taxes, and, in some cases becoming employers when they hire a personal assistant (PA).

Did you know: One in five people in the United States has some type of disability.

The Community and Money Follows the Person (MFP) Reintegration Program Saves Money.

The Community Reintegration Program operates in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Human Services and Health and Family Services to assist persons with disabilities who want to move from nursing homes into independent community living. Services are available for eligible individuals who currently reside in a nursing home, is between the ages of 18-59, have a disability, and live in the SCIL service area. (The Reintegration Program is available state-wide and is provided by other CIL’s)

The Reintegration Program provides comprehensive assistance with the transition from a nursing home to independent living in the community including: needs determination, paperwork completion, location of appropriate housing, help identifying and
hiring in-home care givers, start-up rental expenses, assistance establishing utility services, provision of all basic household items, procurement of all necessary assistive devices/medical goods, and completion of home modifications when needed.

When people with disabilities reintegrate into community living, the local economy is enhanced by money spent on housing, goods and services, and leisure activities. Employment opportunities are also created when a person with a disability employs a Personal Assistant.

Nursing home care for all of these individuals is paid for with government funding. The Genworth 2014 Cost of Care Survey Illinois reports that:

- the median annual rate for nursing home care in a semi-private room in the Springfield area is $66,430
- the median annual rate for home health aide services is $42,328
- for the people with disabilities served by SCIL, these expenses are paid primarily by Medicaid and/or Medicare.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost of nursing home residency per year</td>
<td>$66,430.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost for home health aide services per year</td>
<td>$42,328.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential savings for individual to live in community setting</td>
<td>$24,102.00</td>
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During FY 2014, SCIL staff assisted 5 people with disabilities in reintegrating from nursing homes into community living. By providing support and assistance needed to enable these 5 individuals to successfully transition from nursing home care to independent community living with home health care, and assuming that each of these individuals remains in the community for one year, SCIL facilitated a substantial savings. Using the above formula: $24,102.00 x 5  = $120,510.00

SCIL’s reintegration program is successful for the individuals moving from nursing homes to live independently, but this program also saves the State of Illinois taxpayer monies. Between 1999 and 2014 SCIL assisted 130 people with disabilities with reintegration from nursing homes into community living, saving millions of dollars!