

Brief Outline of the Organisation

Introduction

Cheshire Centre for Independent Living is a not-for-profit charitable disabled people's user-led organisation. We have been established since 1992, providing a range of support services, driven by the needs and aspirations of disabled people, for disabled people.

We are underpinned by the principles of the '**social model of disability**', so when we refer to the term '**disabled people**' we mean people who experience actual or perceived '**barriers**' in society that prevent them from achieving their full potential, regardless of their impairment. These '**barriers**' may include communication, physical access to buildings or transport, lack of same opportunities as non-disabled people, and/or other people's attitudes.

The organisation supports all individuals across all impairment groups, including: autism, learning difficulties, long term health conditions, mental ill health, physical impairments, sensory impairments or multiple impairments.

Our services are modelled along the lines of a 'Centre for Independent Living'; we give independent, impartial, technical advice and support to people directing their own care through a Personal Budget or Personal Health Budget, and also offer an online recruitment tool for Individual Employers and Personal Assistants, a Payroll service, Supported Banking service, Learning and Development for Individual Employers and their Personal Assistants, Advocacy and Peer Support. We support disabled young people to access universal services and facilitate short breaks for their parents. We also provide Adult Social Activity groups, offer work placements for disabled people and are working to encourage more disabled people to access physical activity.

Our Vision

An equal and inclusive society for local disabled people.

Our Purpose

To empower local disabled people to have independence, choice and control over their lives and to remove the barriers that exist within society.

Our Approach

Everything we do will be underpinned by the Social Model of Disability.

Our Values

1. Being user-led
2. Recognising and valuing the contribution of disabled people.
Recognising and valuing the contribution of family and carers.
3. Respecting the views and needs of disabled people (regardless of age or impairment).
4. Being transparent in all dealings with disabled people, commissioners and staff.
5. Supporting the right to have choice, control and independence for all disabled people.
6. Acknowledging and appreciating equality and diversity.
7. Acting in an ethical way.

Our Strategic Themes

Our strategic direction from 2016 prioritises the following themes, which we will focus our attention and efforts on over the next 5 years:

External

- Inclusive family lives
- Living independently in the community
- Well-being
- Work and volunteering
- Influencing Positive Change

Internal

- Performing with excellent governance
- Being a great place to work and progress
- Financial sustainability

For further information regarding the services we offer please visit our website at:
www.cheshirecil.org