

## Rough Draft

- Emotional flatness and acting passive
- Uncontrolled anger
- Impaired self-perception

Children with a brain injury can have the same symptoms as adults, but it is often harder for them to let others know how they feel. Call your child's doctor if they have had a blow to the head and you notice any of these symptoms: tiredness or listlessness; irritability or crankiness (will not stop crying or cannot be consoled); changes in eating (will not eat or nurse); changes in sleep patterns; changes in the way the child plays; changes in performance at school; lack of interest in favorite toys or activities; loss of new skills, such as toilet training; loss of balance or unsteady walking; or vomiting.

## SPECIALTY SERVICES PROVIDERS

Throughout the state there are several disability-related private and non-profit organizations. These organizations offer services such as advocacy, systems advocacy, life skills training and peer support groups.

### Arkansas Disability Law Center

The DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER (DRC) is a private non-profit agency with offices in Little Rock, Arkansas. Since 1977 the Governor of Arkansas has designated DRC the independent rights protection and advocacy system for persons with disabilities in Arkansas. DRC operates under authority outlined in Federal law and is funded primarily by the Federal government.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SYSTEMS (P&As) like DRC are established in every state and U.S. territory. DRC carries out activities under several federal programs to provide a range of services to advocate for and protect the rights of persons with disabilities throughout the state.

The DRC priorities focus on Housing, Juvenile Justice, Abuse and Neglect, Education, Voter Access, Americans with Disabilities Act access, and Public Policy.

DRC makes a wide range of [advocacy-related services](#) available to our clients at no charge.

### DRC Grievance Procedure

If you have a grievance with the services you receive from Disability Rights Center you have the right to resolve your complaint utilizing the [grievance procedure](#).

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## AR Independent Living Council/Centers for Independent Living

Centers for independent living (CILs) are private, nonprofit corporations that provide services to maximize the independence of individuals with disabilities and the accessibility of the communities they live in. Centers are funded in part by the Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, Independent Living Branch, to provide, among other things, several core services:

\*Advocacy

\*Independent living skills training

\*Information and referral

\*Peer counseling

### State Independent Living Council

8500 W. Markham Plaza, Suite 105

Little Rock, AR 72205

TTY: (501) 372-0607

Fax: (501) 372-0598

### Arkansas Centers for Independent Living

Arkansas DELTA Resource Center 400 Main St. Suite 118 Pine Bluff AR 71601

V (870) 535-2222 FAX (870) 534-8191 Email: [info@dcil.org](mailto:info@dcil.org)

[Mainstream Living](#) 300 S. Rodney Parham, Suite 5 Little Rock, AR 72205 V

(501) 280-0012 FAX (501) 280-9267

Spa Area Independent Living Services (SAILS), Inc. 101 Archwood, Hot Springs

AR 71901 V (501) 624-7710 FAX (501) 624-7510 [Email at: sails@hotsprings.net](mailto:sails@hotsprings.net)

[Sources for Community Independent Living Services, INC.](#) 1918 N. Birch Avenue

, Fayetteville, AR 72703-2408 Toll Free: (888) 284-7521 Direct: (479) 442-5600

TTY: (479) 251-1391 Fax: (479) 442-5192 Email: [sources@arsources.org](mailto:sources@arsources.org)

In Arkansas, people with disabilities may receive these services through the Centers for Independent Living and through the field offices at Arkansas Rehabilitation Services or through Division of Services for the Blind for consumers with visual impairments.

You may refer yourself to a CIL. You do not need a doctor or health professional to receive services from a Center for Independent Living. That's the idea. CILs are non-medical models. The approach is that you probably know what works best for you, and the staff at a CIL or ILS provider is there to assist you to reach your goal. You are in charge from start to finish. You do not see counselors or caseworkers at a CIL. You may see, if you choose, an independent living specialist, who is a resource professional who can help you find the information you need or design the plan you want. If you want to learn how to drive a car but

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need special equipment, a CIL can help; if you are in a nursing home and you want to live in the community instead, a CIL can probably help you too.

CILs are not, as some think, residential settings. You cannot live at a CIL. But a CIL can probably help you find an accessible place to live in the community, or maybe make the place where you already live more accessible.

### **AR Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities**

The Arkansas Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for individuals with disabilities by promoting advocacy, educating, and creating independence and celebrating all of life.

People with disabilities...are just that; people who happen to have a disability. The daily barriers and obstacles individuals confront are to be respected and eliminated when possible. Whether those obstacles involve attitudes, lack of education, or accessibility or just plain communication failure, the GCOPWD is here to assist and support you.

Contact 1-501-296-1637 V/TDD or 1-800-330-0632.

### **AR Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council**

#### Mission Statement

The Arkansas Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) supports people with developmental disabilities in the achievement of independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in the community.

#### Council Values

All society gains from full participation of a wide variety of people. All individuals have the right to live, work, learn, worship and experience life as they choose. All individuals have a right to dignity and respect. All individuals have the right to set their own goals, take risks in pursuit of them and enjoy achievement.

#### Family Services

The DD Council is concerned with the well being of individuals with disabilities and giving their families a helping hand. From its new Family Resource Guide to its cooperation with other state agencies and organizations, the Council is actively engaged in helping families navigate an often complex system as they search for the resources necessary to meet the needs of the family and the child.

A major component in DDC's family services is the Family Leadership Project (FLP). Conducted annually, the project's primary objective is to assist its graduates in effectively participating in the development of policies, programs and services that directly impact their lives and the lives of family members with disabilities. The FLP's goals include providing participants with increased information about services and supports for individuals with developmental

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disabilities; assisting participants in better understanding the strategies needed to affect systemic change, and techniques on how participants to work more effectively with state and local service agencies.

The Council accepts FLP applications for its annual training cycle through December 31 of each year. Classes are conducted six times beginning in January and ending in June. To get more information about the DDC family services and supports programs, publications and activities, including the FLP, visit [www.ddcouncil.org/family\\_services/](http://www.ddcouncil.org/family_services/)

### Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission

The mission of the Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission (ASCC) is to administer a statewide program to identify and meet the unique and lifelong needs of people with spinal cord disabilities in the state.

The ASCC is a state agency devoted to meeting the needs of people with spinal cord disabilities in the state. The spinal cord may be damaged by trauma, infection, tumor, developmental defect, or degenerative disorders such as multiple sclerosis. The damage may be complete or incomplete.

To be eligible for services from the ASCC, individuals must be an Arkansas resident, have sustained damage to the spinal cord and demonstrate three of the following four medical conditions:

\*Loss of Motor Control

\* Loss of Sensation

\*Loss of Normal Bladder Control

\*Loss of Normal Bowel Control

Anyone can refer another Arkansas resident for services - you can even refer yourself! The best way to refer a person for ASCC services is to call the Little Rock Administrative office at 1-501-296-1788. In addition, you may also FAX a referral to 1-501-296-1787 or email referral to [referral@arspinalcord.org](mailto:referral@arspinalcord.org).

Your referral should contain the name, address and telephone number of the candidate for services. Other helpful information (if available) is date of birth, social security number, attending physician, veteran status, diagnosis, date of onset, and extent of disability. Anyone can refer another Arkansas resident for services - you can even refer yourself!

There are some exceptions and special situations concerning the eligibility requirements. To determine if you or someone you know is eligible for services from ASCC, please contact the Central Office at (501) 296-1788 or (800) 459-1517 or contact a regional office. For reader convenience, a listing of Regional Spinal Cord Counselors is provided in the Alphabetized County Grids of this TBI Resources Manual.