



CITY OF OAKLAND

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#LoveLife

REBECCA KAPLAN
Vice Mayor
District At Large

DAN KALB
Councilmember
District 1

Date: September 22, 2022
To: Members of City Council and Members of the Public
From: Vice Mayor Kaplan and Councilmember Kalb
Re: **50th Anniversary of Center for Independent Living Inc.**

Dear Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

In 1972 The Center for Independent Living, Inc. was established in Berkeley, near the Berkeley/Oakland border, in order to support people with disabilities to live independent and dignified lives. Since then, the Center for Independent Living Inc. has opened over 400 centers across the nation and engaged in grassroots policy advocacy, carrying out its mission to ensure people with disabilities are entitled to the same civil rights, options, and autonomy over their lives as people without disabilities. Please join me and Councilmember Kalb as we celebrate the Center for Independent Living Inc.'s impressive contributions to Oakland on its 50th Anniversary.

The Center for Independent Living, Inc. is the nation's first disability rights advocacy group organized and operated by persons with significant visible and invisible disabilities to support fellow disabled persons, and support non-disabled people as they assist disabled family members, loved ones, and clients. With Centers across the nation modeled after the first Center for Independent Living located at the Berkeley/Oakland border, the Center for Independent Living, Inc. has provided crucial transition and diversion services for people with disabilities seeking to live in their communities and not in institutions.

Disabled persons seek the same civil rights, dignity, choice, accessibility, and access to community integration that people without disabilities have, and continue to encounter barriers to homecare and personal attendant services to achieve these goals. People who live with invisible disabilities such as chronic pain, intellectual and other developmental disabilities, mental health disabilities, HIV and AIDS, chemical sensitivity, COVID-19 and Long-COVID, and many other conditions that are not often perceived by others as a disability, also continue to encounter daily barriers to access and equitable community participation without appropriate recognition and supports.

The Center for Independent Living Inc. has made it its mission to break down these barriers, protect people with disabilities against discrimination, and promote the civil rights and independence of people with disabilities. The Oakland City Council, therefore, extends its heartfelt congratulations to the Center for Independent Living Inc. as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary, and for its many contributions to the advancement of civil rights and independence of people with disabilities.

City Council
September 22, 2022
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