

able

SOUTH CAROLINA

independent
living for all

2018 - 2019

ANNUAL REPORT



Greetings

What a year it's been! Looking back on 2019, we are so proud of the work we have done to promote and empower disability rights, independence, and equity for South Carolinians with disabilities.

Over the past year, we not only made significant systems change, we also provided 11,880 direct services to 2,873 individuals with disabilities. Those services look different for every individual who we work with, and they're all immeasurably important. Like the 19-year-old with autism who learned to budget, obtain his driver's permit and find a roommate so he could move into his own apartment "with someone who cares about [him]." It's the 33-year-old mother with an intellectual disability who regained custody of her child through the SC Persons with Disabilities Right to Parent Act. It's the 23-year-old with quadriplegia who used self-advocacy to obtain the supports he needed to successfully transition from a nursing home back into the community. It's the man with developmental and physical disabilities who we connected with housing partners to secure an affordable apartment and furniture so that he never had to face a cold night on the streets or fight for a bed in a homeless shelter.

None of this work is possible without your support. Whether through a financial gift, a community partnership, or event attendance, all forms of support allow us to empower individuals with disabilities to take the lead in their lives, find their unique voice to self-advocate, and engage with their community.

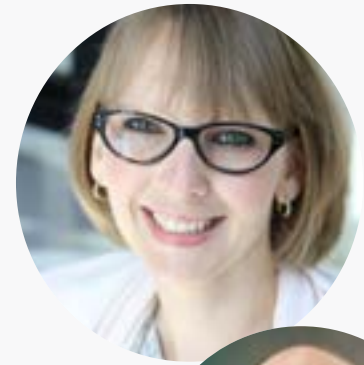
We have even bigger ambitions for 2020. As this year marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we are reminded we didn't even have the right to equal access in society until 30 years ago. And while we have come so far in 30 years, we still have a lot to accomplish. The rights of people with disabilities are constantly being undermined, and as an organization led by advocates with disabilities, we are committed to our role as SC's most powerful change agent addressing barriers faced by South Carolinians with disabilities.

Thank you for your commitment to a more equitable and accessible future for South Carolinians with disabilities. We're looking forward to all we'll accomplish in 2020 with your support.

In Solidarity,

Kimberly Tissot, Able SC Executive Director

David Laird, Able SC Board President



Programs

Able South Carolina does everything it takes to empower independence and disability rights by offering the following programs:

- Independent Living Skills Training
- Peer Support
- Individual Advocacy
- Systems Advocacy
- Transition to Adulthood
- Transition to the Community
- Information and Referral
- Assistive Technology Exchange and Reuse
- Supported Decision Making and Alternatives to Guardianship
- Community Leadership Academy
- Statewide Emergency Response
- Emergency Preparedness Training
- Work Incentives Planning and Assistance
- Employment Training and Programs
- Elementary, Middle, and High School Classroom Trainings
- Equip Young Adult Program
- Healthy Living Initiatives and Trainings
- Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Advocacy
- Ticket to Work Provider
- State Affiliate of the Southeast ADA Center
- Professional Trainings
- Keynote Speakers
- Physical Accessibility Assessments
- Web Accessibility Assessments
- Policy and Procedure Review
- Legislative Advocacy
- Hire Me SC
- Parenting with a Disability

11,880

Services proudly provided to **2,873** individuals with disabilities

AGES

0-12: <1%
13-28: 58%
29-64: 28%
65+: 13%

DISABILITIES

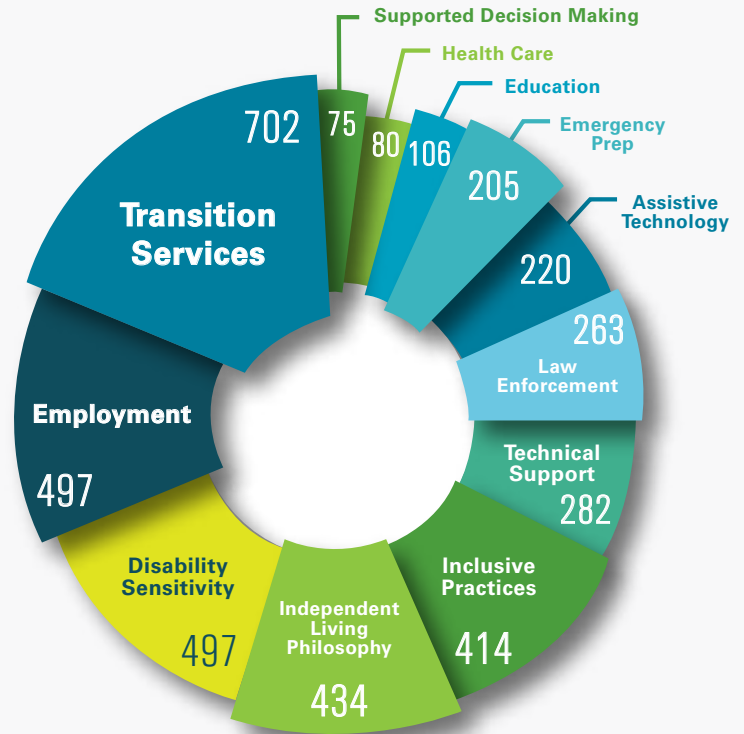
Cognitive: 51% Psychiatric: 5%
Physical: 20% Vision: 6%
Multiple Hearing: 3%
Disabilities: 12% Other: 3%

3,775 Professionals trained in disability-related topics

145 Hours spent to address emergency prep for extreme weather events with disability service providers

Strides Made in 2019

Total professionals trained by Able South Carolina, by topic (3,775)



Real Individual. Real Story of Impact.

Meet Shameia: A college grad with a disability who struggled to find inclusive and accessible employment



Shameia Rosier

Shameia is a recent college graduate with a disability who was having trouble finding employment. Able South Carolina was able to hire her for a summer internship and work with her on professionalism skills. Shameia has now found full-time employment and continues to work with Able SC, as a mentor to other youth with disabilities.

"It has been an absolute privilege and honor to have the opportunity to intern as a Youth Fellow at Able SC," said Shameia. "I can say that I will definitely be taking different approaches to my advocacy and the way I carry myself in a professional setting. I came in on the first day one person and have transformed into another. The path for my future was blurry, but now I can see. Thank you, thank you, thank you to the Able staff."

Breakdown: Sources of Revenue

We are resourceful with our funding — 88% of the 2019 funding directly benefited our programs and services.





Advocacy Day for Access and Independence

In 2019, 588 individuals came together to fight for the rights of the disability community in our state.

Able South Carolina is proud to lead the efforts of Advocacy Day for Access and Independence with over 30 partnering organizations. Advocacy Day is a day of action and celebration around universal disability rights in South Carolina. The annual gathering brought over 500 individuals to the State House in 2019 to rally around unlocking barriers to public access, transportation, employment, and housing for people with disabilities.

Staff & Board

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Brittany Higgins	Ophelia McQuone	Tiffany Wood

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SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA OFFICE

720 Gracern Rd., Suite 106
 Columbia, SC 29210
 803.779.5121
 800.681.6805
 TTY 803.779.0949

GREENVILLE OFFICE

135 Edinburgh Ct. Suite 101
 Greenville, SC 29607
 864.235.1421
 800.681.7715
 TTY 864.235.8798

We work with **everyone.**

We impact change through a collaborative approach with partners on local, state, and national levels.

We want to hear from **you!**

www.able-sc.org

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