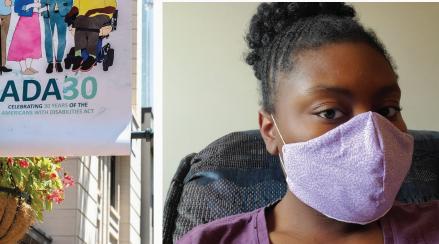


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south CAROLINA independent living for all

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Greetings

In a year filled with uncertainty, the Able SC team remained committed to the community we serve and represent —South Carolinians with disabilities. As COVID-19 started to spread, Able SC quickly transitioned to virtual services while taking innovative measures to meet the needs of our community during a pandemic. While the demand for our services increased, our organization also experienced significant decrease in funding as a direct result of COVID-19. Through it all, we remained strong; and for that we are grateful to our staff, board members, consumers, stakeholders, funders and community of supporters.

This year Able SC led advocacy efforts for South Carolinians with disabilities to ensure the community was not forgotten in regards to healthcare, vaccinations and other critical services. We served on the state's COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee and advocated for the rights of people with disabilities to local, state and federal lawmakers. When the lives of people with disabilities were being deemed less worthy of saving than the lives of others, we raised our voices to educate decision-makers as to the size and diversity of the disability community in South Carolina.

Our hardworking staff spent thousands of hours assisting and advocating for people with disabilities, helping them maintain their safety and independence. We temporarily closed our offices, but never our services. At one point, we even administered an around-the-clock service to answer calls from people who felt alone, scared, or in need of supplies and services. We delivered free COVID-19 sanitation kits to consumers and their families, and assisted with other supplies such as food and medication. We served an additional 800 consumers as a direct result of COVID-19.

We realize there is still a lot of work to do in response to this pandemic, and we will continue doing everything possible to support our community. We also have great ambitions for 2021, which we are excited to share with you in the coming months. We envision building the most inclusive state in the country, and we are so grateful for what we have been able to accomplish and provide to the community with your support.

In Solidarity,

Kimberly Tissot, Able SC President and Chief Executive Officer

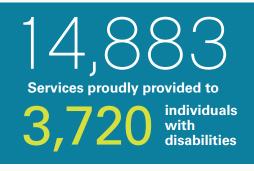
David Laird, Able SC Board President

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



AGES

DISABILITIES

0-12: 5% 13-28: 53% 29-64: 27% 65+: 14% Cognitive: 49% Physical: 21% Multiple Disabilities: 11% Psychiatric: 4% Vision: 3% Hearing: <1% Other: 11%

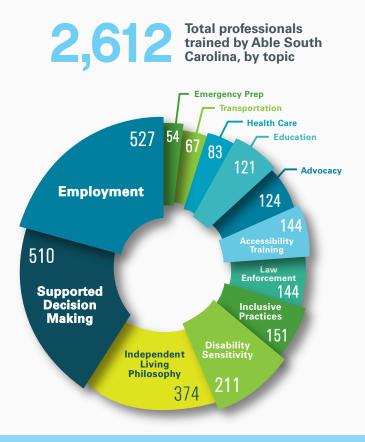
779 COVID-19 kits delivered

The kits **impacted over 2,100 individuals** in the state. Each kit included reusable washable masks, cleaning supplies, hand soap and sanitizer, paper towels, and toilet paper.

\$67k

During the last fiscal year, we managed **34 volunteers** who volunteered **2,805 hours** to our organization which is equivalent to **more than \$67,000 worth of services.**

Strides Made in 2020



Real Individual. Real Story of Impact.

Meet Rebecca P.: An individual with a visual and psychiatric disability who regained confidence through Able SC.



In addition to an existing psychiatric disability, I lost my vision in 1999. Prior to that I was a very independent person with a full-time job. Once I lost my vision, I was immediately and solely dependent on other people for transportation and my life was always tied to their schedules. I think I put myself in a position where I relinquished my independence and created a life of selfimprisonment.

What started my relationship with Able South Carolina was looking for transportation through

the COMET. I had to get registered and accepted to qualify for the Dial-A-Ride Transit (DART). As I was applying for DART services at the Able SC office, I was intrigued with a listing of the classes Able South Carolina offered. I had never been able to find any place like Able South Carolina and the timing was perfect. I needed the encouragement and support to regain my independence.

As a result of connecting with Able South Carolina and their staff, I realized I wasn't alone and there is a whole world out there that I didn't know about.

Breakdown: Sources of Revenue





Staff & Board

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Laird, President Dr. David Dawson, Immediate Past President Cory Watson, Vice President Keith Bogart, Secretary Joe Bates Dara Brown Dr. Clayton Copeland Bradley Crain Jason Hurdich Angela McWhite Adam Fogle Naughton Dr. Linda Salane Kevin Smith Sarah St. Onge, JD Dr. Chelsea Stinnett Stacy Thompson, JD Lizzie Tinker

Advocacy Day for Access and Independence

In 2020, Advocacy Day had a total of 4,831 viewers and a reach of 17,959.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit South Carolina, we had to make several quick decisions. One of those was moving our annual Advocacy Day from an in-person event to an online event. We knew it wasn't safe to meet in person, but our disability advocacy couldn't stop, either. Ours was among the first events moving fully online and our event was fully accessible. We modeled accessibility through having American Sign Language interpreters and live captions on the screen at all times. We were also able to expand our reach — both within South Carolina and across the nation. Our event was livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube, which ended up engaging 4,831 viewers, with a total reach of almost 18,000 individuals!

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Kimberly Tissot, President and Chief Executive Officer

Jerri Davison, Senior Vice President and Chief Program Officer Sara Marin, Senior Vice President and Chief

Operations Officer Forrest Hamrick, Director of Quality Assurance Sandy Jordan, Director of Employment Programs Paige Winget, Director of Youth Transition Programs Sarah Nichols, Director of Public Relations and Special Events Wendi Spratt, Director of Development Melissa Snyder, Lead Certified Work Incentives Coordinator LaQuanda Clark, Lead Independent Living Specialist

Beth McArthur, Lead Independent Living Specialist Amy Moseley, Director of Community Access Dori Tempio. Director of Community Outreach & Consumer Rights

STAFF

Makenzie Allison **Emily Beasley** Ryan Bickerstaff Aimee Calcutt Karen Elliott Laura Feltman Will Finkelstein Bryan Flynn Elizabeth Fosnaugh Annie Foster Troy Hall Alyssa Hamrick Michael Hanna Thomas Harris Julia Hartman Hope Jenkins Aneesha Johnson Brooke Johnson Asha Jones

Jordan Keels Heather Kirlough Anna Cathryn Olle Lanman Patrick Mack Derrick Means Ophelia McQune Randy Phalen Corrine Piner Mark Riffle Shameia Rosier Cali Sandel Sarah Sharpe Chris Sparrow Brittany Terry Cassidy Thorne Grace Trumpower Bauer Western

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We work with everyone.

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





www.able-sc.org