

Finger Lakes Independence Center

Opening Doors to Independence

Image Above: Finger Lakes Independence Center--FLIC--Logo: The letters: F-L-I-C and the letter I looks like an open door. Finger Lakes Independence Center Opening Doors to Independence

# **OCTOBER 2024**



PLEASE JOIN US for our 28th Annual Job Fair!









# October is:

\*Blindness Awareness Month \*Disability Awareness Month \*Downs Syndrome Awareness Month \*Domestic Violence Awareness Month \*Mental Illness Awareness Week 10/1-10/7 \*10/14 - Indigenous Peoples' Day **FLIC Offices CLOSED** 

#### 2024 Election:

Have you registered to vote yet? The final day to register to vote or request a mail-in vote, early voting, or absentee ballot is October 26 <sup>th</sup>! Please check out the <u>Tompkins County Board of Elections</u> for more information. If you have questions about registering to vote or creating your voting plan, please give us a call! We're happy to help.

### October 21: U.S. Congress Candidate Forum

On 10/21, FLIC is partnering with Access to Independence and the Southern Tier Independence Center to hold their second and final candidate forum for this election season. Congressman Marc Molinaro and Candidate Josh Riley will be in-person at Access to Independence in the afternoon to answer questions about their stances on issues that impact the disability community, such as homecare and transportation. This will be a hybrid event also available on Zoom. Zoom registration link and final time will be announced soon – please follow us on <u>Facebook</u> to stay updated.

#### October 10: Voter Registration at Racker Center

FLIC Staff Andrea and Jeff will be travelling to Racker Center in Owego to hold a voter registration and education event! They will be joined by staff from the Southern Tier Independence Center and the League of Women Voters. Last month, Andrea, Jeff, and Sally Grub (League of Women Voters) hosted a similar table at Racker's Ithaca location. Be sure to stop by register to vote, learn about what is on the ballot, and create your voting plan!

#### **CDPAP FI Changes:**

On 9/20, FLIC Statewide Systems Advocate Andrea travelled to Albany to attend a court hearing challenging upcoming changes to the Consumer-Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP). Currently, there are about 600-700 fiscal intermediaries (FI) throughout the state that assist consumers with completing administrative back-end tasks like payrolls and taxes. FLIC has functioned as an FI since the program first began in the mid-1990s. Governor Hochul is planning on selecting a large out-of-state corporation to become a single statewide FI, in place of the hundreds of FI currently operating. The single-FI is scheduled to be selected 10/1. The Judge overseeing the case can issue a stay and halt the process. Stay tuned for more updates on this issue! To learn more about this and other systems issues, please contact Andrea by emailing her at Andrea@FLIConline.org

### **OT Students Are Back!**

Each semester, Ithaca College Occupational Therapy students will visit FLIC and explore our Try-It-Room for a class assignment. To the right is a group of three students trying out different assistive technology/adaptive devices. In the picture, one of the students is trying out some posture prism glasses.

These glasses are designed to provide a unique way of reading or viewing things without straining your neck. They allow the user to view objects at a 90-degree angle below the normal field of vision. In the picture, the student with the glasses is able to keep her head straight, while being able to see her phone.



### **Tompkins County Airport and Emergency Preparedness Expo!**

On Saturday September 14th the Finger Lakes Independence Center (FLIC) and the Tompkins

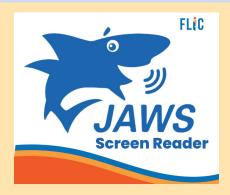
County Core Advisory Group (CAG) had an information table at the Tompkins County Airport and Emergency Preparedness Expo.

FLIC and the CAG participated in this event as part of an ongoing effort to raise awareness around the importance of personal preparedness when it comes to people with disabilities and the need for our local emergency management officials to consider their needs during the planning process.

The CAG advocates for the needs of people with disabilities during emergency planning process and is always looking for members with lived experience. To join or learn more about us, call 607-272-2433, or e-mail Jan Lynch: jan@fliconline.org or Jeff Boles: jeff@fliconline.org



Image Above: A photo with 2 men sitting at a table with a blue table covering with the FLIC logo on it. On the table are pamphlets, pens, and other papers.



FLIC has a JAWS screen reader available on our public-use computer.

JAWS -- Job Access With Speech -- is the world's most popular screen reader, developed for computer users whose vision loss prevents them from seeing screen content or navigating with a mouse.

If you would like to book time on JAWS, please call our office and ask for Lindsey!

Image Above to Left: A picture depicting an animated blue shark against a white background with it's mouth open and the words "JAWS Screen Reader" beneath it.



# New Group at FLIC - "Creative Expressions"

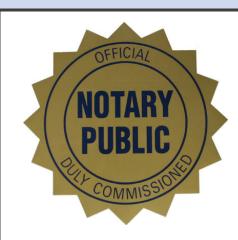
Any and all ways you express yourself. FREE and open to ALL. "You do your own thing!" Contact Lee Soo at (607) 327.1445

2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month 11:30-2pm in FLIC's Conference Room

Image Above to Left: A picture depicting multicolored beads in a light blue box on a dark brown table with a pair of scissors, beads strung on a loop to make a necklace or bracelet, and another item that looks like a hole puncher.

## The Registry Referral Program

The Finger Lakes Independence Center administers the Registry Referral Program. This is a free referral service linking individuals seeking independent employment to people who need care in their home. Opportunities include: elder companion, housekeeper, run errands, cook, personal care aide, home care aide, LPN, RN. People looking for help can call and receive names of people willing to provide those services. If you either need assistance or if you would be interested in listing your name as a caregiver, please call FLIC at 272-2433 or email: info@fliconline.org. If you have experience caring for a friend or loved one, please consider sharing your compassion with others. This program is made possible through funding from the Tompkins County Office for the Aging.



## **Need a Public Notary?**

Contact Cheryl Baker at FLIC at 607-272-2433 to make an appointment.

Services are free!

Image Left: gold star seal with the words "Notary Public" in black, bold letters in the center. Double circle surrounds these words. In the circle at top it reads "Official" and, at the bottom, "Duly Commissioned."

Finger Lakes Independence Center | 215 Fifth Street | Ithaca, NY 14850 US

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