

# NICIL NEWS

## NICIL

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## Branch

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## Board of Directors

- President –Mary Mahan Deatherage-Dixon
- Vice President –Mary Carlson-Sterling
- Secretary/Treasurer-Jill Reyna—Rock Falls

## Board Members

- Ed Mulvaney—Rock Falls
- Tammy Burkholder-Lanark

## NICIL Team Members

### Direct Services

- Julie—Specialist
- Jessica—Coordinator
- Emily—Program Manager

### Administrative Services

- Amy Jo—Fiscal Manager
- Michele Miller—Executive Director

## HOT BOTTON TOPIC

What is a Hot Button Topic? Great question! This newsletter is exclusively for you, our legislators. The Hot Button Topic is our way of providing educational materials on the items you should know from NICIL's point of view. It's not lobbying, it is education from the perspective of how it affects the NICIL stakeholders.

This first Hot Button Topic is something you have heard from us before, on many topics including the FY 16 state budget and impasse. It has been devastating for us, our fellow Centers for Independent Living (CILs), and many other agencies that work to support our consumers.

Our long history is built on a lot of hard work and hours of fundraising. The money is to be used for a new building that will house new job programs, culinary training,



Sterling offices new façade late 2015

Living Skills Center, computer labs, and other training rooms including a gift shop for retail training. We are excited about this new adventure. But we need to keep NICIL doors open through the budget impasse. Sadly, we are almost out of this money and will have to close the doors.

Will 30 years of hard work be lost? We are praying the answer is no!

NICIL, its consumers, and hundreds past dedicated people do not want NICIL doors to close forever; but that is up to you and your vote is our answer.

We are counting on you!

Do you have questions on NICIL, our operations or our future? Please contact our Executive Director, Michele Miller at [director@nicil.org](mailto:director@nicil.org)

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

If you don't know about NICIL, you have been listening to the stories about the people we serve, We have the greatest consumers in NW Illinois and we believe it is an honor and privilege to serve. But just in case you don't know anything about NICIL, let us tell you!

- NICIL began serving

- people with disabilities in 1985.
- NICIL was one of the original five (5) Centers for Independent Living in Illinois.
- We service five (5) counties in NW Illinois: Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle and Whiteside Counties

- We have helped over 55 people move out of institutional care into our communities saving taxpayers in Illinois over \$6 billion dollars.

We are not done yet! End the budget issue and watch us grow!