

Setting Sails



A Quarterly Publication For Friends And Consumers of San Antonio Independent Living Services

Winter 2020

SAILS Focuses on Consumers with Disabilities With Community Partners During Ongoing COVID-19



Dr. Kitty L. Brietzke,
CEO/Development Officer of SAILS

San Antonio Independent Living Services (SAILS) has continued to provide services to persons with disabilities for nearly a year during the COVID 19 Pandemic. So many of our consumers with disabilities are still struggling through emotional, physical and financial situations during these past nine months. Through our community partners and additional funds we have been able to help so many of our community members who are disabled.

SAILS has been fortunate to receive funds for direct services for rent and utilities from the Valero Energy and Superior HealthPlan. Humana provided financial assistance for delivery of food benefits. SAILS also has received funding from the federal Administration on Community Living (ACL) Cares Act to provide masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, toothpaste, toothbrushes, rental assistance, utilities assistance, food benefits and other items. This assistance has been a life saver by preventing persons with disabilities from being evicted from their homes and providing necessary personal protection equipment during the ongoing COVID 19 Pandemic. Our special gratitude to our community partners, Valero, Humana and Superior HealthPlan and ACL Cares Act!



Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 30th-31st Anniversary Celebration A Virtual Event

Saturday - July 24, 2021

10:00 am - 11:45 am

31 Years ADA Strong!

SAVE THE DATE!



Keynote Speaker: Nick Scott

Nick Scott is a World-Wide Accomplished IFBB Professional Wheelchair Body Builder, Published Author, Certified Fitness Trainer, Champion Wheelchair Ballroom Dancer, Business Entrepreneur.

Exhibitors and Sponsors, please contact:

Dr. Kitty Brietzke

CEO, Development Officer

210.281.1878 ext#118

kbrietzke@sailstx.org

Registration online: <https://sailstx.org>

Power Chair for Mr. Antonio Giridy

by Megan Zambo, IL Outreach Specialist

Consumer Antonio Giridy's request for a power chair was no easy task for the staff at SAILS. No one was happier for him to get it than he was! He would sit in a walker and have someone push him in it when he was in public. At home Mr. Giridy would tiredly use his feet to pull himself around his home.

He was unable to go to the store by himself or get outside of his apartment without help.

He had a really hard time getting to see his doctors and his doctors were dropping him as a patient when he repeatedly missed appointments. It became hard for him to get the medical attention he needed, including the power chair. The most troubling part was to get him there, the transportation services would not pick him up because he didn't have a wheelchair, with the equipment they have they would not be able to safely strap him in with sitting in a walker. Mr. Giridy would Uber to his appointment. His friend had to be available to help him in and out of the car and bring him up to the office.

Mr. Giridy found a doctor to assist him with the required paperwork needed by the insurance and SAILS. His friend started a new job and no one was able to help him. SAILS needed to find a way to get him to his appointments. He needed this chair to live



independently. SAILS found a program in his area to drive him, help him in and out of the car and to bring him up to his appointment. Finally, we were able to get the green light from the State and his insurance.

"It is very nice and working well" Mr. Gridy says happily. H to the store by himself and not have to wait on anyone!

Mr. Ken Bearry Lives Independently

Theresa Hernandez, IL Outreach Specialist

Mr. Ken Bearry first came to SAILS with a goal of living independently. He was living with family. His family ultimately asked him to move out. He did not have steady employment and could not afford to leave.

Mr. Beary started working part-time and keeping in contact with his Independent Living Outreach Specialist. He never lost sight of his goal. Mr. Beary likes to cook, and was collecting kitchen utensils for the day, that he would have his own kitchen. One day while eating at I HOP restaurant, he asked if they had a need for a cook. He ended up getting hired.

With support from SAILS program and Mr. Beary's determination, he accomplished his goal of moving out on his own.

Today Mr. Beary has his own rental home and can cook in his own kitchen. He stated, "My dream of having my own kitchen, my own utensils, and cooking what I like, has come true."

"I am very grateful for SAILS program support" says Mr. Beary. All of us at SAILS congratulate Mr. Beary for his accomplishments, and are happy to have been a part of his journey.



Online Request For Services, SAILS Consumers:

<http://sailstx.org>

Click link tab "Contact",

and then "Request For Services"

SAILS Is For Consumers



Mrs. Christine Mesa-Capetillo Learns About Americans With Disabilities Act

Mrs. Christine Mesa-Capetillo is incredibly pleased with the services she received at SAILS. She had moved to San Antonio about a year ago with no family, friends, or resources. Mrs. Mesa-Capetillo had a goal of obtaining affordable accessible housing.

Mrs. Mesa-Capetillo was provided information on applying for the Mainstream Housing Voucher. She applied and after three months she was contacted. However, she was at risk of being homeless and the environment she was in was toxic. Although, she felt pressured by these obstacles Mrs. Mesa-Capetillo made the decision to work part-time and found an affordable apartment without the assistance of the Mainstream Voucher. She still faces barriers, but she achieved her goal and found housing after all.

Mrs. Mesa-Capetillo said that SAILS provided her with the support and guidance she needed. She stated, "SAILS jumped on it right away." She appreciates the rental assistance she was provided through SAILS CARES Act funds too. Mrs. Mesa-Capetillo stated, "I learned new things about my rights as a person with a disability and then meant a lot to me."



Mrs. Christine Mesa-Capetillo Learns About Americans With Disabilities Act

Mr. Jesus Zamora Receives Benefit From CARE Act

Abel Zamora, Program Director

Mr. Jesus Zamora is a returning consumer to SAILS who received services through our CARES Act funding.

Mr. Zamora had previously received a prosthetic through our Outsourcing program. His active lifestyle resulted in the need to obtain a small component replacement that allows a user's prosthetic to slide in and adjust properly while remaining in place. Mr. Zamora's component had worn out and needed to be replaced. With no resources or medical insurance to cover the replacement, Mr. Zamora reached out to SAILS.

SAILS was able to purchase the replacement component and Mr. Zamora is now able to enjoy his daily walks, numerous activities, and spending time with his grandchildren and family again.

Mr. Zamora is very thankful for the services SAILS has provided to him over the past few years.



Mr. Jesus Zamora receives benefit from CARE ct

Ms. Bobbie Byars And Her New Hearing Aids

by Megan Zambo, IL Outreach Specialist

Diana contacted SAILS to help her mother Bobbie Byars obtain hearing aids.

Ms. Byars had a hard time with talking on the phone and hearing it ring. She always had the TV at a high volume but hardly paid any attention to it as she still had a hard time understand it. When going to her doctors her daughter would have to be actively involved with the appointments and communicate with the doctor.

“It’s hard to explain” she says after getting the hearing aids, “They are really good.” She is relearning how to focus on listening to others as she has not been able to in such a long time. She can use the phone without having a problem with hearing it ring or whoever is on the other line.

The TV is turned down lower now, She can now enjoy her shows and follow along. She can have good conversations with her daughter and their relationship has improved a lot. She is also able to communicate with doctors on her own. She adds “my quality of life is much better.”



Ms. Bobbie Byars and her new hearing aids

Mr. Myles Ginger Lives Independently In His Own Apartment

Theresa Hernandez, IL Outreach Specialist

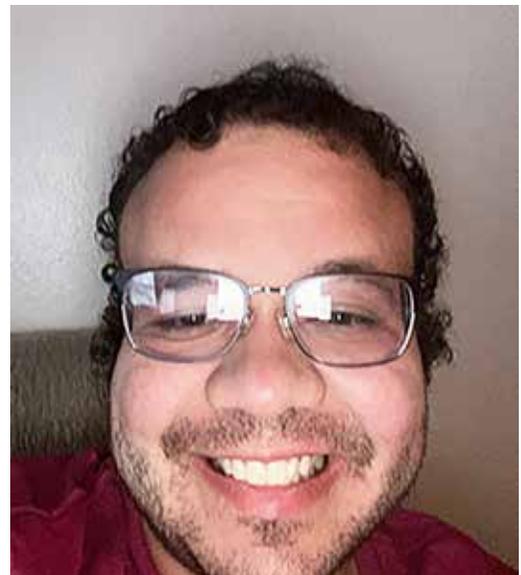
In 2012, Myles Ginger became employed at HEB. He was happy at the chance to get back in the work force. He did not allow his disability to stop him from trying to work.

When Myles came to SAILS, he was still with HEB, and living with his grandmother. His grandmother became ill and had to go live somewhere else. At this point, Myles realized his grandmother had been his only support.

Myles’ next goal was to obtain stable and permanent housing. He also had to learn to use public transportation. He was not familiar with using the bus. He temporarily stayed with friends, or wherever he could as he worked towards his goal.

With the support of SAILS program, and Myles’ determination, he has accomplished his goals.

Today Myles Ginger has his own apartment, takes the bus to and from work and has successfully maintained his job at HEB for the last eight years. Congratulations Myles!

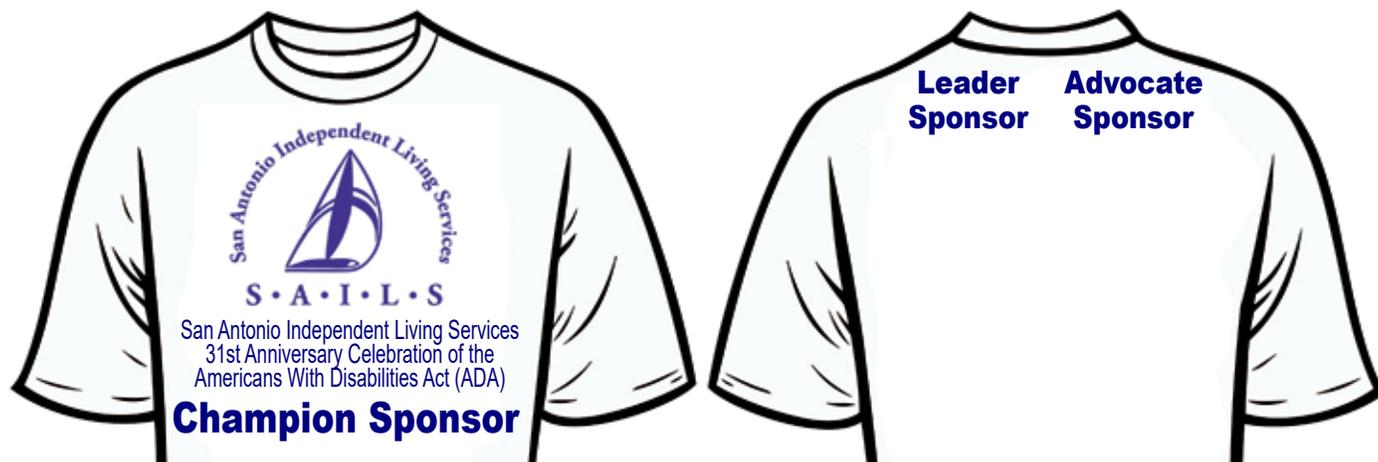


Mr. Myles Ginger lives independently in his own apartment

Sponsorship of Commemorative T-Shirt - 2021 ADA Celebration Virtual Event

Besides Care Package,
Every Attendee of this Annual ADA Celebration Virtual Event Also
Receives a Free Commemorative 31st ADA Anniversary T-Shirt

Your Logos Will Be Placed On 2021 ADA Commemorative T-Shirt



Your Opportunity To Be Sponsor Of 2021 Commemorative 31st ADA Anniversary T-Shirt

Email Your Company Name with Logo Attachment
to Dr. Kitty Brietzke, kbrietzke@sailstx.org
(Logo file can be in .AI, .EPS, high-resolution .JPG, .PNG, or .TIFF format)

ADA Champion T-Shirt Sponsor \$2,500 (Large Logo, Front)

Recognized As ADA Champion T-Shirt Sponsor
One Year Link and Listing on Sponsor Page
of sailstx.org website

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Mailouts, Complimentary Exhibitor Table

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of sailstx.org website

Logo Display on ADA Event
Program, Brochure, Postcard, Poster, Banner,
Mailouts, Complimentary Exhibitor Table

<http://sailstx.org>, pay through Paypal, for your
Logo Sponsorship, \$300

November 2020

- 3- SAILS Fish City Grill Fundraiser
- 7- SAILS Staff Meeting
- 11- SAILS Board of Director's Meeting
- 17- SAILS Staff (Social Distance) Thanksgiving Luncheon
- 18- SAILS Staff attend "Virtual Ignite the Connection"
- 25- SAILS Closed ½ day (Thanksgiving break)
- 26-27- SAILS Thanksgiving break

December 2020

- 8- SAILS Staff Meeting
- 11- SAILS Staff Holiday Appreciation
- 18-31 SAILS Holiday closure

Januar 2021

- 4- SAILS Offices Re-Open
- 9- SAILS Board of Director's Retreat & Board Meeting
- 12- SAILS Staff Meeting
- 15- SAILS Visits Proposed Waco Site for HHSB contract
- 22- SAILS Internal ADA Meeting

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Ms. Yvonne Wilson Lives In Her Own Apartment Indendently Now

Theresa Hernandez, IL Outreach Specialist

Ms. Yvonne Wilson was living in California. She was happy to be living there. One day, there was a turn of events and Ms. Wilson became a victim of crime.

She wasn't sure she wanted to stay in California any longer. Since she was originally from Texas, she contacted family and they invited her to come to San Antonio. This arrangement was working well, until her family asked her to move out. She started staying with other relatives, and anywhere that she could find to live temporarily.

Ms. Wilson found out about SAILS on Facebook. She contacted SAILS and through the help of the program, Ms. Wilson now lives in her own apartment..

Ms. Wilson stated she will tell others about SAILS program.



Ms. YvonneWwilson lives in her own apartment indendently now

Secure Online Donations to SAILS

<http://sailstx.org>

Click link tab "Donate"

SAILS Is For Consumers



From Being Homeless, Mr. Anthony Ullrich Has His Own Apartment Now

Theresa Hernandez, IL Outreach Specialist

"It's nice to be able to make my own schedule." This is what Anthony Ullrich says is one of the good things of not being homeless anymore.

Mr. Ulrich reports he was staying at friends and families houses. He was homeless and simple things like taking daily showers, were difficult.

He found out about SAILS program online. After his case was opened at SAILS, he was linked with a housing program. Eventually, he was able to move into his own apartment. Today Mr. Ulrich says he feels more in control of his life.

He says, "Thank you!" to SAILS program, and staff.



From being homeless, Mr. Anthony Ullrich has his own apartment now

Ms. Rosa Moran Can Get In And Out Of Her House, Easily, With A New Ramp

Megan Zambo, IL Outreach Specialist

Ms. Rosa Moran started having trouble getting around inside and outside of her house.

She had balance and stamina issues and started to use a wheelchair to get around. This was a great solution for her to get round her house, offices, and stores, however it was still a problem getting in and out of her home. She would need help getting up the stairs and again at the lip of her doorway. What she really needed was a ramp.

Ms. Rosa Moran had a ramp installed and is very pleased with the results. "Everything was done right" she said happily.

She can now get in and out of her home without needing anyone to help her. She is no longer worries about falling and getting hurt.



Ms. Rosa Moran can get in and out of her house, easily, with a new ramp

Our Mission:

To advocate for the rights and empowerment of the people with disABILITIES and to provide needed services to people with disABILITIES in order to increase their self-determination and independence

San Antonio Independent Living Services
1028 S. Alamo Street
San Antonio, TX 78210



OTHER FORMATS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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SAILS Board of Directors

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**Setting SAILS is published quarterly by
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