

Setting Sails



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

Spring 2021

SAILS Opens A New Satellite Office in Waco



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

San Antonio Independent Living Services (SAILS) recently opened up a satellite office in Waco, Texas in February 2021. SAILS received additional State funds from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to provide complex rehabilitation technology products and services in Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Calhoun, Comal, De Witt, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Jackson, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kinney, La Salle, Lavaca, Maverick, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, Victoria, Wilson, Zavala through our Outsourcing contract.

SAILS received over 125 active consumer files who are awaiting products our services such as home modifications, prosthetics, wheelchairs, scooters, power chairs, hearing aids, visual aids and much more. Our new satellite office is located at 5016 Lakeland Circle, Suite B, Waco, Texas, 76710. Ciera Fulton is the Program Coordinator there and she can be reached at 254-224-6772. The IL Outreach Specialist, Savannah Robinson can be reached at 254-224-6756 for information about the program and services. They are both very excited to be with SAILS and anxious to serve our consumers with disabilities in the above county coverage area.

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

Saturday - July 24, 2021

9:00 am - 10:45 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>

Ms. Mary LeBlanc Benefits From Housing Assistance Program

Theresa Hernandez, IL Outreach Specialist

Consumer Mary LeBlanc, had been renting her home for 15 years.

Recently, she had been experiencing personal problems at her home. Ms. LeBlanc also noticed that her neighborhood's crime activity was increasing. To make matters worse, the owner asked her to vacate the home.

When Ms. LeBlanc came to SAILS program, she applied for housing, with the help of her IL Outreach Specialist. She had to obtain required documents, and submit the online application for housing. Ms. LeBlanc had to move quickly to be able to move out before her deadline. She was granted a voucher and selected a property to be inspected. Ms. LeBlanc communicated with her housing case manager to get everything ready for her new move. Ms. LeBlanc happily said, "Everything happened just in time."

Ms. LeBlanc can now relax and focus on her new Home and other interests.



Ms. Mary LeBlanc benefits from housing assistance program

A Ramp Was Built For Mr. Anthony Lesch's Mobile Home

Laura Johnson, IL Outreach Specialist

Anthony Lesch moved from Canyon Lake to Seadrift, Texas with his wife Lisa. After moving to Seadrift, Anthony's medical problems got worse.

He needed a ramp for him to be able to navigate in and out of his home. He needed an accessible way to get out in case of an emergency. So, he came to SAILS to request a ramp. SAILS was able to assist Mr. Lesch in getting his ramp through the Outsourcing Program that is funded by the Texas Health and Human Services.

He loves his new ramp and is so thankful to SAILS.



A ramp was built for Mr. Anthony Lesch's mobile home

SAILS Consumer's Success Stories



Mr. Bryan Ball's Family Achieves Goal Of Obtaining Affordable Accessible Housing

SAILS IL Outreach Specialist

Mr. Bryan Ball is incredibly pleased with the services he received at SAILS. Mr. Ball had a goal of obtaining affordable accessible housing. He was afraid he was going to be homeless.

Mr. Ball was provided information on applying for the Mainstream Housing Voucher. He applied for the voucher and after only two months was approved. Mr. Ball and his entire family were extremely excited to receive the voucher. They immediately began searching for a home.

After a thorough search he and his family were able to enjoy quiet peaceful living in their own apartment!



Mr. Bryan Ball's Family Achieves Goal Of Obtaining Affordable Accessible Housing

Ms. Lavone Smith Family Lives In A Four-Bedroom Home Now

Theresa Hernandez, IL Outreach Specialist

Ms. Lavonne Smith contacted SAILS for help last year. She was homeless and had her children and grandbaby with her.

Ms. Smith was determined to provide a home for herself and her family. Her IL Outreach Specialist assisted her with applying with Mainstream Housing Voucher program.

Ms. Smith went through the process in applying for her housing, and provided all required documents. She never lost sight of her goal.

She is now living in a four-bedroom home. "I live in a big, beautiful home now!" says Ms. Smith. Congratulations to her and her family.

SAILS loves success stories like this.



Ms. Lavone Smith Family Lives In A Four-Bedroom Home Now

A Ramp and Grab Bars Were Installed For Ms. Norma Martinez's Home

Laura Johnston, IL Outreach Specialist

Norma Martinez came to SAILS looking for help in getting a ramp and grab bars. She has many health issues and was falling down frequently. She needed something to hold onto when walking from her car to the front and going down her stairs.

Ms. Martinez requested help from SAILS to obtain her grab bars and ramp. SAILS IL Outreach Specialist processed her applications and was successful in helping her obtain the much needed ramp and grab bars through our Outsourcing Program funded by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

Norma Martinez is so happy with her installation of her grab bars and ramp and told her ILO Outreach Specialist, "I feel like I am in heaven."

She is very thankful to SAILS.



A Ramp and Grab Bars Were Installed For Ms. Norma Martinez's Home

Mr. Don Payne Benefits From CARES Act

Theresa Hernandez, IL Outreach Specialist

A plan of action is what Don Payne already had when he asked SAILS program for help.

Mr. Payne and his mother were living in their own mobile home and renting the space. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Mr. Payne had to move his mobile home from that property.

With money that he borrowed, and his own money, he was able to move his home to another mobile home park before the date of his deadline.

But now, he faced not having money for his monthly mortgage, or utility bill.

Mr. Payne wrote a letter to the SAILS for the Cares ACT program. He described his hardship, and his determination to succeed.

The CARES ACT program at SAILS assisted Mr. Payne with his mortgage and electric bill.

Now Mr. Payne, is all caught up, and living at his new location.



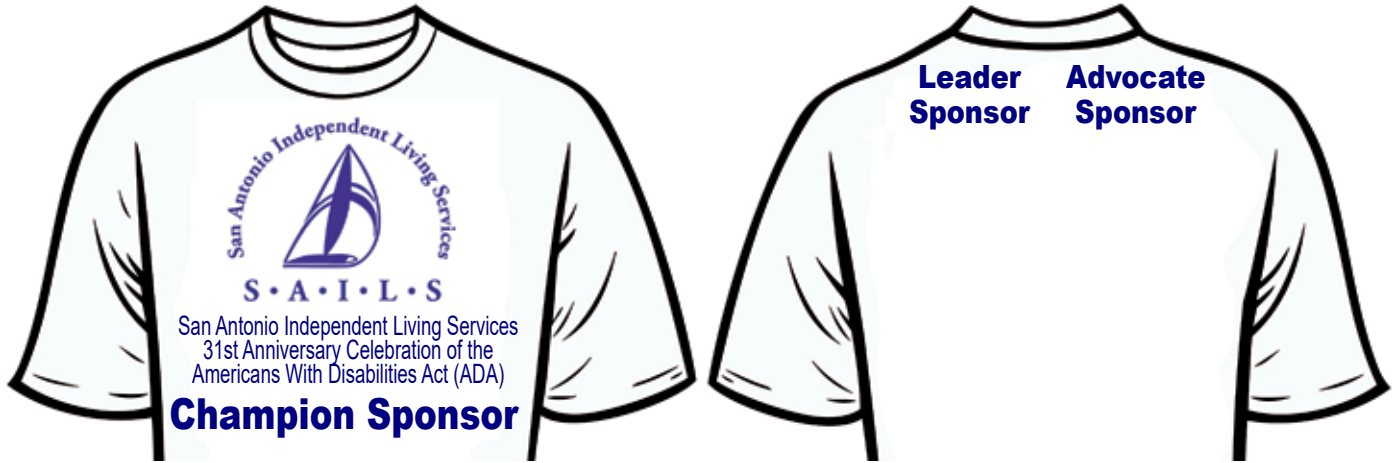
Mr. Don Payne benefits from CARES Act

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

Besides Care Package,

The First 500 Attendees 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

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

<http://sailstx.org>, pay through Paypal, for your
Champion Sponsorship, \$2,500

ADA Leader T-Shirt Sponsor \$1,250 (Logo Top, Back)

Recognized As ADA Leader T-Shirt Sponsor
9-month Link and Listing on Sponsor Page
of sailstx.org website

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

<http://sailstx.org>, pay through Paypal, for your
Leader Sponsorship, \$1,250

ADA Advocate T-Shirt Sponsor \$625 (Logo Top, Back)

Recognized As ADA Advocate T-Shirt Sponsor
6-month Link and Listing on Sponsor Page
of sailstx.org website

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

<http://sailstx.org>, pay through Paypal, for your
Advocate Sponsorship, \$625

ADA Logo T-Shirt Sponsor \$300 (Logo, Back)

Recognized As ADA Logo T-Shirt Sponsor
3-month Link and Listing on Sponsor Page
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

February

- 5- SAILS Virtual Gateway to Abilities Support Group
- 9- SAILS Staff Meeting
- 15- President's Day Holiday
- 26- In-Service Lunch

March

- 5- SAILS Virtual Gateway to Abilities Virtual Support Group
- 5- CEO Trip to SAILS/Waco Office
- 9- SAILS Staff Meeting
- 10- SAILS Board Meeting
- 17- St Patrick's Lunch fundraiser
- 18- Presentation by CPAs/Audit

April

- 2- Good Friday Offices Closed
- 6- SAILS Staff Meeting
- 15- SAILS ADA Zoom Meeting
- 21- SAILS CEO Tours Proposed New Main Office Site
- 27- Lunch & Learn with VIA Metropolitan Transit

SAILS Support Group Meeting Goes Virtual

Shawanna Marshall, IL-Volunteer Coordinator

The SAILS Gateway to Abilities Support Group met in April to gain more knowledge about The SAILS Gateway to Abilities Support Group met in April to gain more knowledge about the services offered at the Center for Health Services.

Sergio Ramirez the Behavioral Health Supervisor and Ashley Esparza the Marketing and Special Events Coordinator engaged consumers in discussion about how they should expect their needs to be met when seeking services at the Center.

Ms. Esparza introduced the Center's new COVID-19 Mental Health Support line. This anonymous support line can be if you are seeking emotional support during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Contents	(page)
-----------------	---------------

SAILS Opens A New Satellite Office in Waco	(1)
30th-31st Anniversary Celebration, A Virtual Event	(1)
Ms. Mary LeBlanc Benefits From Housing Assistance Program	(2)
A Ramp Was Built For Mr. Anthony Lesch's Mobile Home	(2)
Mr. Bryan Ball's Family Achieves Goal Of Obtaining Affordable Accessible Housing	(3)
Ms. Lavone Smith Family Lives In A Four-Bedroom Home Now	(3)
A Ramp and Grab Bars Were Installed For Ms. Norma Martinez's Home	(4)
Mr. Don Payne Benefits From CARES Act	(4)
Calendar of Events: February, March, April	(6)
SAILS Support Group Meeting Goes Virtual	(6)
SAILS Welcomes Four New Staff Members	(7)



SAILS Support Group Meeting Goes Virtual



SAILS Board of Director's wishes to extend special thanks to Jordan Ford for their kind and generous sponsorship our Valero Champions Fore Charities fundraising campaign.

SAILS Is For Consumers



SAILS Welcomes Four New Staff Members

Dr. Kitty Brietzke, CEO



SAILS has hired Ms. Ciera Fulton as our new IL Program Coordinator for Waco site recently opened. Ms. Fulton holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. She formerly worked as a Support Manager at Daybreak. She also was employed at Mosaic where she interviewed and hired direct care staff, implemented contracts and case management processes. She started out in her previous employment as a case manager and was promoted to Supervisor. SAILS welcomes Ciera Fulton as our new IL Program Coordinator in Waco!



SAILS also hired Savannah Robinson as our new IL Outreach Specialist for our Waco site. She holds a bachelor's degree in Psychology. Ms. Robinson was formerly employed with HOTMHMR for almost four years where she provided case management, skills training, assessments, care planning and crisis management. She also provided caregiver services for a child with cerebral palsy and other disabilities. SAILS welcomes Savannah Robinson as our new IL Outreach Specialist.



San Antonio Independent Living Services would like to welcome Cathy Lopez aboard as an IL Outreach Specialist. Ms. Lopez will be working under our Outsourcing contract. She holds her Bachelor's degree with a Major in Psychology. She was formerly employed at The Forum at Lincoln Heights as an Activities Assistant. Prior to that she has worked for ResCAre and Child Protective Services. She has extensive experience with case management to include assessments, documentation, home visits, service plans and court reports. SAILS knows Cathy Lopez will be a real asset to our consumers and our organization.



San Antonio Independent Living Services would like to welcome Madelene Hall aboard as an IL Outreach Specialist. Ms. Hall will be working under our Basic Independent program and our Outsourcing contract. She has an Associates degree in Deaf Studies from Los Angeles Pierce College. Ms. Hall is an American Sign Language Interpreter. She has experience with assisting students who are Deaf, Hard of hearing and Blind. She also has helped persons with disabilities with independent living skills. Madelene Hall is very passionate about helping persons with disabilities and SAILS is glad is part of the team.

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



OTHER FORMATS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

San Antonio Independent Living Services (SAILS)

1028 S. Alamo Street, San Antonio, TX 78210

V/TDD (210) 281-1878 Fax (210) 281-1759 (800) 474-0295 sailstx.org

SAILS Staff

Kitty L. Brietzke, J.D. CEO/Development Officer

Charles Villarreal	Chief Financial Officer
Abel Zamora	Program Director
Shawanna Marshall	IL/Outreach Specialist
Laura Johnson	IL/Outreach Specialist
Theresa Hernandez	IL/Outreach Specialist
Catheran Lopez	IL/Outreach Specialist
Madelene Hall	IL/Outreach Specialist
Cynthia Contreras	Receptionist
Ciera Fulton	IL/Outreach Coordinator (Waco)
Savannah Robinson	IL/Outreach Specialist (Waco)

SAILS Board of Directors

Miguel Castro	Chair
Roman Juarez	Vice Chair
Rodney Harris	Secretary
Kevin LeMelle	Board Member

This publication was made possible by contracts from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) at 21.68%, and HHS-B Outsourcing 47.20%, Administration on Community Living at 26.24%, ACL-CRS at 4.70%, and unrestricted .18%.

However, these contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the HHS, ACL, SSA and CyPres and you should not assume endorsement by local, state, or federal government.

**Setting SAILS is published quarterly by
San Antonio Independent Living Services.**

**Editor: Kitty L. Brietzke, J.D.,
SAILS' Chief Executive Officer.**

Designed and printed by Comtekmedia.