



Center for Independent Living of Northwest Florida, Inc.

[Visit us at www.cil-drc.org](http://www.cil-drc.org)

Link to PDF version here.



*Whether the weather is fine,
Or whether the weather is not,
Whether the weather is cold,
Or whether the weather is hot.
We'll weather the weather
Whatever the weather,
Whether we like it or not.*

As we enter hurricane season, our weather in Florida is going to become more and more unpredictable and whether or not we're prepared is up to us. Stay safe. Stay prepared. That way we can weather the weather together.

By Marcy Stumpf

In this update:

- Severe Weather Risk
- Tax Information
- From Camping To Dining Out:
Here's How Experts Rate
The Risks Of 14 Summer Activities
- CILDRC Service updates
- Florida Covid-19 Update
- Surveys
- Upcoming Community Events
- Virus Info by County
- Census Reminder
- Please Donate!



Severe Weather Risk

Be prepared this weekend. Make sure to have your emergency kits ready for any circumstances that might arise. Our current storm system has the potential for severe flooding and could develop into a tropical storm. Be careful everyone and stay safe!



We're Ready for Storm Season, and Urge You to be Ready Too!

A Message From Gulf Power: This hurricane season brings another new challenge – preparing for severe storms during a global pandemic. The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has required Gulf Power to think differently about how we will prepare and restore power in the event of a major storm. We will take a number of precautionary measures to ensure our employees and customers stay safe during the restoration process, including incorporating social distancing wherever possible, using appropriate personal protective equipment, temperature screening of all restoration workers and frequently sanitizing hands and vehicles. The bottom line is that we take very seriously our responsibility and our duty to serve customers throughout any crisis that may come our way. Gulf Power has a plan for storm season and we are doing everything we can to make sure we're in the best possible position to restore service safely and as quickly as possible following a storm... [Continue Reading Gulf Power's Message.](#)



Tax Free Days on Disaster Preparedness have been announced:

Tax free days to prepare for Hurricane season have just been announced —
May 29, 2020 - June 4, 2020

Find out more information at the [Florida Department of Revenue](#)

Millions of people will get their Economic Impact Payment by prepaid debit card

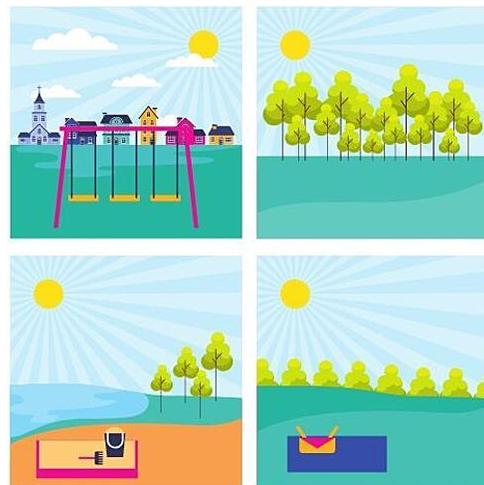
Figure out if this applies to you by visiting the [IRS Website Today!](#)



From Camping To Dining Out: Here's How Experts Rate The Risks Of 14 Summer Activities

1. A BYOB backyard gathering with one other household: low to medium risk
2. Eating indoors at a restaurant: medium to high risk
3. Attending a religious service indoors: high risk...

Find out the risk of more activities at [NPR](#).



CILDRC Updates:

Our team has returned to the office and we continue to practice CDC guidelines and physical distancing by providing services by appointment only.

We ask that when an appointment is made that if you have any COVID-19 symptoms or are not feeling well that you stay home and contact us via phone. For all who come to the office for your appointment you will have an infrared temperature taken, you will need to wear masks and gloves and you will be asked some screening questions in order to enter our building.

The CIL Team continues to also reach out by telephone to assess and fulfill consumer unmet needs. We have been able to assist many individuals with connection to food, equipment and/or a listening ear.

An encounter this week was connecting with a consumer who has experienced multiple hurdles from COVID-19 — job loss, food shortage, mounting bills. Then on top of this he had an injury that became infected turning his household and single parent care-giving upside down. The CIL Team was able to assist him to provide community resources for success to him and his family. When he was discharged from the hospital he had food resources and opportunity to be connected for rental and utility supports.

New challenges of COVID-19 occur everyday. If you are experiencing new urgent or ongoing matters that you want to attend to, please contact us ASAP. You can reply to this email or call is at 850-595-5566. We will do what we can to help support you in the direction(s) you wish to navigate for solution(s).

(If we haven't reached you yet and you don't feel you need to connect with CILDRC directly, please reply to this email and type "I AM OKAY" in the body.)

Phase Two Re-opening Plan

Individuals

ALL VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS should continue to shelter in place. Members of households with vulnerable residents should be aware that by returning to work or other environments where distancing is not practical, they could carry the virus back home.

WHEN IN PUBLIC all individuals should maximize physical distance from others. Social settings of more than 50 people, where appropriate distancing may not be practical, should be avoided unless precautionary measures are observed.

NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL can resume

Employers

ENCOURAGE TELEWORK, whenever possible and feasible with business operations.

COMMON AREAS where personnel are likely to congregate and interact, or enforce moderate social distancing protocols.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS should be strongly considered for personnel who are members of a vulnerable populations.

Specific Types of Employers

SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZED YOUTH ACTIVITIES (e.g., daycare, camp) can reopen.

VISITS TO SENIOR CARE FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS should be prohibited.

LARGE VENUES can operate under moderate physical distancing protocols.

ELECTIVE SURGERIES can resume, as clinically appropriate, on an outpatient and in-patient basis at facilities that adhere to CMS guidelines.

GYMS can remain open if they adhere to strict physical distancing and sanitation protocols.

BARS may operate with diminished standing-room occupancy, where applicable and appropriate.

CIL Community Inclusion Leadership
ALL THE INFORMATION IS FROM: WWW.WHITEHOUSE.GOV/OPENINGAMERICA/

Florida Covid-19 Update Gov. DeSantis: Florida Could Be ready for Phase Two of Reopening Soon

The Governor is getting ready for certain counties to enter Phase Two of opening up the state. It is important to remember as businesses and organizations begin to re-open that it doesn't mean that the country is out of the woods yet. Please remain careful and considerate of all people while navigating our new normal. Wear masks when appropriate and follow the guidelines, not only set by the state, but by institutions who are trying to protect their staff and consumers. Together we can get through Covid-19!

For more information on where Florida's Covid-19 response visit [Florida Covid-19 Response](#).

For more information on the different phases please visit CDC's Guidelines of [Opening Up America Again](#).

For the information on the Phase Two infographic visit the [transcript](#).

We need your help completing an important survey about your experience during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The survey is completely anonymous and should take about 15 – 30 minutes to complete. The purpose of this study is to investigate issues related to quality of life, stress, healthcare access, and community access during the Covid-19 pandemic for individuals with a disability.

This research is IRB/ethics approved through Stockton University in NJ. We anticipate the results of this study will be published. Thank you for your assistance!

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Kerri Sowers at Kerri.Sowers@stockton.edu or (609) 652-4418.

[**Take Our Survey**](#)

FAAST Survey

We're always looking for ways to improve FAAST services so we can help more people find Assistive Technology solutions. We've developed a short survey and we'd love a chance to hear from you. It will take less than 5 minutes and it will help make FAAST even better.

When you fill out this quick survey, you have a chance to win a **\$25 Amazon Gift Card!** That's our way of saying thank you! You have until **May 29th at 5 PM ET** to enter.

[**Take Our 5-minute Survey**](#)

Upcoming Community Events

- **Crip Camp Impact Campaign: Have community building right in your own home. Every Sunday at 2 pm PST/5 pm EST from May 17th to August 30th for one and a half hours each. [Here is a link](#) to register or find out more information.**

- **FIU Embrace** will be hosting a *free online* training on *Knowing Your Rights (COVID-19)*, Saturday, June 6, 2020 from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Webinar address will be provided at registration). Reserve your spot at [Eventbrite](#).
- **Tips for Online Meetings for People with Disabilities Webinar** is taking place on Monday, June 1, 2020 from 9:00 to 10:00 AM. For more information visit the [Disability Network](#).
- Join the CIL Disability Resource Center and Central Credit Union of Florida for a **Build a Basic Budget** webinar on June 9th at 2pm.
- **NAMI Mental Health Peer Support Groups - On ZOOM**. For dates and times [visit this link](#) to register or find out more.
- **Online Group Psychological Health Promotion Program for Women with Spinal Cord Injury**. [Find out if you are eligible today!](#)
- **Research Opportunity: To understand how young people with disability experience the transition to adulthood**. [Find out if you are eligible today!](#)

CIL Disability Resource Center: What is CIL? Orientation and Ask the Director...

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: June 3, 2020 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: What Is CIL & Ask The Director Q&A

[Register in advance](#) with your own questions!



Can you recall where you spent your last ATM withdrawal?
Are you living paycheck to paycheck?



Build a Basic Budget

The Five-Step Spending Plan

Details

When: June 9th, 2020

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Where: Join Us on Zoom



[Transcript for the Build a Basic Budget](#)

CIL Disability Resource Center is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Community Conversations Social Group
Time: Jun 3, 2020 12:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 945 0933 6013
Password: 891587

One tap mobile
+16465588656,,94509336013#,,1#,891587# US (New York)
+13017158592,,94509336013#,,1#,891587# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location
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+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
Meeting ID: 945 0933 6013
Password: 891587
[Find your local number](#)

The Social Engagement Activity will occur each Wednesday at 12:00 noon.
Please watch for updated information posted on our website on how you can connect.
We will also send out emails with instructions on how to participate.

Updated information about COVID-19 by county is available by clicking a graphic below.



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Center for Independent Living of Northwest Florida, Inc. (FEIN: 59-2288751) dba CIL Disability Resource Center, is a registered charity in the State of Florida, Registration Number CH130. A copy of the Official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.
1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352), www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com

SUPPORTED BY:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Florida Department of Education - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation State Funding
Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)
Local Businesses, Private and Individual Donations



**United Way
of West Florida**

Certified Partner Agency

Center for Independent Living Disability Resource Center, 3600 N Pace Boulevard, Pensacola, Florida
32505, www.cil-drc.org, 850-595-5566

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