

## Independent Living (IL) Assistive Technology (AT) Program

*Helping* eligible individuals obtain equipment to increase their level of independence.

**IN THE 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**, the legislature appropriated \$700,000 in one-time funds to be used by the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation's IL AT program in state fiscal year 2017. Since July 1, 2016, the program has authorized the purchase of 280 pieces of equipment for **255 IL consumers**.



**STEVE'S** disabilities prevented him from walking and he had a difficult time getting around the community. For many years Steve would occasionally borrow a manual wheelchair. Increased funding allowed USOR to provide Steve with a new chair through its IL AT program. Steve's sweet wife was speechless when she learned about the new chair. USOR is grateful for the funding that has made this family's life better than they ever imagined possible.

**Red Rock Center for Independence, St. George**



**ARTHUR** has extreme pain and weakness because of several health conditions and needs assistance to sit, stand and walk. He would struggle to get in and out of his house and often felt like a prisoner in his own home because of his lack of mobility. He was provided with a ramp and a lift chair through the USOR IL AT program. He can now get in and out of his home, and sit down and get back up from a chair, without the help of a caregiver. Arthur says he now feels whole again.

**Active ReEntry, Price**

**LAMAR'S** disability causes significant mobility issues. He already had a power chair to address mobility issues, but he had no way of getting his wheelchair into and out of his house. Lamar received a ramp through the USOR IL AT program and he is delighted to finally be able to safely get in and out of his home independently.

**Options for Independence, Logan**



**WILFORD** has both a developmental and physical disability. His mobility is very limited and he cannot navigate stairs by himself. After the purchase of a stair glide through the USOR IL AT program, Wilford can now independently join his family anywhere in the home including their downstairs family room.

**Utah Independent Living Center, Salt Lake City**



[usor.utah.gov](http://usor.utah.gov)



# Independent Living Centers

Six

Independent Living Centers are in Utah:

- Options for Independence, Logan
- Roads to Independence, Ogden
- Utah Independent Living Center, Salt Lake City
- Ability 1st Utah, Provo
- Active ReEntry, Price
- Red Rock Center for Independence, St. George

Referrals to the USOR IL AT program come from Utah's six Independent Living Centers (ILCs). ILCs are non-residential community based organizations that provide services and advocacy for individuals with all types of disabilities. Services provided by ILCs include information and referral, self and systems advocacy, IL skills training, peer support and transition.



**ALYNNNE'S** disability causes multiple neurological symptoms. In order to leave her home Alynnne's mother/caregiver had to transfer her out of her wheelchair chair and then roll her power chair down the steps, which she feared might "damage my daughter's only mobility freedom." Funds from the USOR IL AT program were used to install a new aluminum ramp in front of Alynnne's home. She can now access the community and its resources on her own, giving her new freedom and independence.

**Active ReEntry, Price**

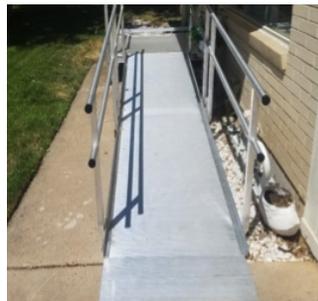


**BRIAN** lives in a remote area of Iron County with a disability that causes significant mobility issues. Using the USOR IL AT program, he was provided a wheelchair and a ramp to help him get in and out of his residence. When the good news was shared that his equipment was funded his tears freely flowed and when he was finally able to collect himself he shared, "This is the best thing that has happened to me in a long time. You have kept your word. For the first time in a very long time, I have hope again. Thank you."

**Red Rock Center for Independence, St. George**

**LARRY** has significant mobility issues since suffering a stroke in 2011. Difficulty walking made it nearly impossible for him to navigate the steps in the front of his home. He didn't feel safe and found it difficult to go out until he eventually stopped leaving the house. Larry received a ramp with funding from the USOR IL AT program, which allows Larry to easily leave his home. Larry said, "The ramp has made all the difference. I am able to leave the house now." He loves being able to go outside whenever he wants and is extremely grateful.

**Roads to Independence, Ogden**



**JULIAN** has cerebral palsy, is non-verbal and blind. A wheelchair ramp was needed to get him safely in and out of the home. The family's makeshift ramp proved to be ineffective and hazardous. Ability 1st Utah staff reclaimed a ramp from another consumer who had passed away. This ramp was originally funded through the USOR IL AT program and was still in very good condition. Julian is now able to get in and out of his home safely.

**Ability 1st Utah, Provo**

## Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities by calling (801) 526-9240. Individuals with speech and/or hearing impairments may call the Relay Utah by dialing 711. Spanish Relay Utah: 1-888-346-3162.