

The SUMMIT INDEPENDENT

Building Awareness & Advocating Change for People with Disabilities

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80's Party Results



We had a fantabulous time during this blast from the past 80's-themed party on the evening of Friday, September 9th. Thank you to everyone who dressed up and came to dance, sing and eat the night away-you all looked like the bombdiggity.

We are also happy to announce the winners of the costume party!

Best Hair: Jenny M

Best Hairband Rocker: Mark C.

Best Character: Christian

Best Overall Costume: Madison M.

Prom King: Tyler M.

Prom Queen: MollyRose M.

Special shout out to **El Cazador**, and **Baskin-Robbins** for providing delicious food and ice cream to fuel our socializing for the whole night.

Thank you to **Park Side Credit Union** and especially **Deborah Stapley Graham** for providing drinks and prizes for our costume contest winners, and for helping us setup and tear down for the night. (thanks to **Evan Disney** and **Terecita Baker** for stepping in as well!)

One last thank you to the crew at **Encompass Design inc**, **Jacobson Electrical Contracting, Inc.**, and **Home ReSource** for setting up the electrical that allowed us to jam to some schwееет jams.

Attention Summit Independent readers!

This will be the last printed issue of the Summit Independent newsletter, all following letters will be issued digitally through email or listed on our website. If you don't already receive your issue digitally you can go to www.summitilc.org and click on the newsletter page to subscribe. The sign up form is on the right-hand side of the screen and all you have to do is provide your name and email address. Then, you will receive your newsletter through email at the beginning of January, April, July, and October.

Social Security Disability Orientations



Now partially in person!



Do you need to apply for disability benefits but don't know how to apply or what to expect during application process?

Summit can assist you in submitting your disability application, educate you on how the process works and what to expect from the different programs, and help you understand what benefits you may or may not qualify for.

Before we work with you on starting your disability application process we ask that you take part in our Social Security orientation. The Summit Social Security orientations are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

The 2nd Thursday meeting is in person in the Summit Independent living conference room at 700 SW. Higgins, Missoula, MT 59803, Suite 101. The 4th Thursday meeting is over ZOOM.

If you would like to start your disability application with Summit please call 406-728-1630 and ask for Alyssa or Tyler.

Blind & Low Vision Support Group

We invite all blind and low vision individuals to join our monthly support group meeting. Join our discussions on navigating daily life with little to no vision. We cover topics such as meeting daily challenges, finding possible solutions, and growing from our shared experiences.

For more information contact: Coreen Faulkner
Phone: 406-370-9305
Email: coreen.faulkner@gmail.com



UPDATED PHONE SYSTEM

Summit is changing to a new phone system on Friday, September 23rd. It's a more integrated system which will help us provide better consumer service and should have more clarity on the calls.

If you call any Summit office on the 23rd, phone service may be intermittent until the transition is complete.

Things to note:

All office numbers will remain the same. The toll free number for all offices will now be the same, not separate numbers, (800) 398-9002.

Aleyna Raymond, CFC/SDPAS Specialist in Flathead and Lincoln County, will be in the Kalispell office directory (406) 257-0048, option 7.

Gavin Workman, Youth Transitions

Coordinator, will be in the BASE office directory (406) 215-1080, option 2.

It will take us a bit to get the website and preprinted materials changed to reflect any changes so please be patient with us.

WE ARE HIRING

Career Opportunities

- Independent Living Specialist-Kalispell Office
- Youth Independent Living Specialist-Missoula Office
- Independent Living and Recreation Specialist-Missoula Office
- Self-Direct-CFC/PAS Program Manager-Missoula Office



Go to
www.summitilc.org/about/employment/
for application materials



SUMMIT STAFF**Missoula County****Executive Director**

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Program Support Specialist

Mike Giddings

SD-CFC/PAS Program Manager/HR

Vacant

SD-CFC/PAS Coordinator

Patti Montgomery-Stewart

SD-CFC/PAS Coordinator

Carrie Dyrud

SD-CFC/PAS Assistant/Insurance

Jessica Workman

Development/Outreach Director

Madison Morgan

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Vacant

Independent Living Specialist

Tyler Stosich

Independent Living Specialist

Alyssa Coty

IL/Rec Specialist

Vacant

BASE Advisor

Michael Beers

Youth IL Specailist

Vacant

BASE Coordinator

John Howard

Youth Transitions Coordinator

Gavin Workman

Administrative Assistant

Laurie Swanson

Financial Officer

Scott Fels

Accounting Assistant

Kellie Morrison

Flathead County**Coordinator**

Lynae West

Independent Living Specialist

Dianna Kintzler

Independent Living Specialist

Vacant

SD-CFC/PAS Specialist

Aleyna Raymond

Ravalli County**Coordinator**

Alan Fugleberg

Independent Living Specialist

Alice Mainwaring

People First Advisor/IL Specialist

Mary Millin

Lake County**Coordinator**

Susan Morris

Independent Living Specialist

Mariah Armstrong

Hamilton Office

Summit's Hamilton Office is pleased to announce we have welcomed two new peer advocates to our team. They are Heather White-Dodson, and Linda Thornbrugh. The Ravalli County peer advocates are meeting again monthly, and we are in the process of assigning community service related duties to interested peers. For example, Jeanne Hatfield, a long-time peer, will be serving as Summit's peer liaison on the Bitterroot Affordable Housing Coalition. The Coalition meets monthly to discuss issues including affordable housing and homelessness in Ravalli County. If you live in Ravalli County and are interested in become a Peer Advocate contact Alice Mainwaring at 406-363-5242.

We encourage consumers living in Ravalli County to have some fun by participating in online activities delivered by Summit's Base program in Missoula. Offerings include virtual activities such as All-Abilities Adaptive Yoga and Role Playing Game Day that are available to Ravalli County residents. Email John Howard at jhoward@summitilc.org if you are interested in participating.

Late this summer we expanded our outreach efforts in Hamilton to include participation at The O'Hara Commons Farmers Market on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This weekly event was a wonderful opportunity to meet community members and become acquainted with other non-profit organizations serving the Ravalli County area. We plan on participating again next season.

Summit's Hamilton office continues to be open during regular business hours Mondays – Fridays for in-person visits by consumers, their families, and community members. To best serve you, we ask that you call and make an appointment. If you live in Hamilton or the Ravalli County area and are looking for services from Summit, please call our Hamilton number at 406-363-5242.

**SUMMIT BOARD**

Mark Cash
Susanne Meikle
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Molly Blair

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Kelly Sellars
Sherene Ricci



VOTING INFORMATION



We hope you enjoyed your summer and are ready for cooler temps, as fall is in the air! As we move into the autumn season, please remember to do your research and **VOTE on November 8.**

Your Vote Matters!

Did you know?

- You have the right to an accessible polling place.
- Accommodations can be made if you have difficulty standing in line at the polls.
- You have the right to use a ballot marking device at the polling place.
- You have the right to receive assistance if you need help casting your ballot.
- You have the right to review a sample ballot and receive instructions concerning how to operate the voting equipment before voting.
- You can request curbside voting if you become temporarily incapacitated when you arrive at the polling place.

My voter page: <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/> is a state government website that you may utilize to check:

- If you are registered to vote
- Your voter registration address
- Location and directions to your county election office
- If you are on the list to have ballots mailed to you
- The status of your mailed ballot
- A sample ballot

Montana's Statewide Elections have various options for voters with disabilities or voters who need special assistance, including the new Electronic Ballot Request System (EBRS), available for state and federal elections beginning 30 days before Election Day and through noon the day before Election Day.

Please visit <https://sosmt.gov/elections/disabilities/> to get more information about EBRS and other accessible voting options.

Brought to You by Kalispell Summit Independent Living

BASE HALLOWEEN PARTY



QUEERS FOR FEARS

Saturday, October 22nd

5pm–8pm

725 West Alder, #4 Missoula, MT 59802

BASE is collaborating with The Center and Empower Montana to expand its programming with an increase in intersectionality for people with disabilities who also identify as LGBTQIA2S+. BASE and the Center are holding a dance at BASE “Queers for Fears” on October 22nd from 5-7pm as a kick off of the collaboration between BASE and The Center. This will be a Halloween themed dance with refreshments, music, and a costume contest held at BASE. People of all abilities, all ages, all sexual and gender orientation are welcome to attend with an emphasis that we are all facing the same adversity with a different title but standing united. This event will also be a show that BASE and The Center will be working together for future events and to bridge the gap on single identification

showing everyone it's ok to have intersectionality and multiple identities with each community.

Following this event, BASE will begin a new program titled BOLD or By Our Love Decide, with an emphasis on programming directed toward LGBTQIA2S+ and allies. BOLD plans to hold a Gayme night at BASE starting Wednesday, November 5th from 5-7pm here individuals can play board games together while queer advocacy and history, while establishing a safe space to talk about disability and LGBTQIA2S+ advocacy. From this, BASE hopes to encourage attendees to not only join other BASE activities, but to also start expansions on BOLD so they know they have a home at BASE.

BASE EVENTS

725 West Alder, #4 Missoula, MT

BASE stands for home base, like in hide and go seek. In life, you have to establish a BASE first, that's where we come in.

All Abilities Yoga on Zoom is Back

Mondays 1pm to 2pm
Tuesdays 3pm to 4pm
Wednesdays 4pm to 5pm

BASE Wrestling Foundation BWF

(Call for Details)

BASE Game Night

Thursdays from 1pm-5pm
(call to verify dates and times)

Homegrown Improv

Thursdays 5:30pm to 7pm.
Join us for Improv, games, and laughs.

Art Group (Coming Soon!)

BOLD Group (Call for Details)

For BASE schedule updates and additional events go to

www.summitilc.org/calendar

or check the BASE Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/base725>

To get involved or to share ideas of new BASE programs, contact BASE jhoward@summitilc.org.

To donate to BASE go to:

www.basemissoula.org

phone: 406-215-1080

CLASSIFIED ADS

Symmetry Stander, Quickie Powerchair, Invacare Powerbed, Hoyer lift

Comfortable, easy-to-use seat stander Call/leave message: Tejeanne (406) 865-0221

Power Scooter

\$500 obo. Please contact Adrian: (406) 263-8650

Adult Tricycle

Schwinn 26" tricycle, bike pump included. \$500obo (406) 721-1698

Wheelchair Lift

Ricon wheelchair lift model #S1231 G00100100. \$400obo. Contact: Cory (406) 471-3314

Silver Spring wheelchair ramp 10' L x 36" W

Made of high-strength light weight aluminum. \$297obo. Contact: tamera144@gmail.com or 406-363-4898

Smart Talker text scanner

Slightly used, \$700. Contact Larry at 406-633-4036 or ketch1969@gmail.com

Nova Walker, Quontum 600 power wheelchair, Commode, 2 Transfer Benches, Beezy Manual Wheelchair. Call Gary (406) 224-5527 or garylee032051@gmail.com

Garaventa Super-Trac Portable Wheelchair Lift for stairs. Purchased new for \$12,000 and used only a few times. Will sell for \$2,500 OBO. Contact Jacob Francom, Troy Public Schools, jfrancom@troyk12.org, (406) 295-4520.

Acorn Stair lift

For going up to 6 stairs while seated. \$300 OBO. Call John at 546-7003.

To get listed contact Tyler Stosich at (406) 728-1630 or email tstosich@summitilc.org.

Or, list and find items on the MonTECH exchange:

<http://montech.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/mtddb/>

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SUMMIT INDEPENDENT LIVING

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Return Service Requested

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Fax: 406-829-3309

Website: www.summitilc.org

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This publication is available in alternative format on request. Please call 1 (800) 398-9002.

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ADVOCATE**

Visit www.summitilc.org
and click the “Become an
Advocate” button midway
down the home page
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The Montana Centers for
Independent Living Action Alert
system is an email listserv and
online portal designed to inform
you about current local, state, and
national issues that affect the
lives of people with disabilities.

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