

Granite State
Independent Living

gsil
Bringing Independence to Life

2022

Annual
Report



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Ashley Palma • Director of Community Services

A Letter from the CEO and Board Chair

The last several years have presented unexpected challenges. Granite State Independent Living chose to view those obstacles as opportunities for growth and chances to serve even more community members in need. The statistics bear out that 2022 was an unquestioned success for GSIL, even in the face of those significant challenges.

Every decision we make as an organization must promote quality of life with independence for people living with a disability. Daily, we are motivated by:

- Advocating for access, choice, and self-determination for individuals with disabilities, as we work towards removing barriers to public services, education, and benefits.
- Connecting community members with resources to help them live their lives as independently as possible;
- Training our consumers so they may live independently and access their community;
- Supporting our community members by providing information and guidance based on the key principles of respect, shared responsibility and mutual agreement; and
- Transitioning New Hampshire's underserved students with disabilities toward a more promising future.

Throughout this document, we will highlight our many successes from 2022. While we are proud of the differences our team has made in the lives of so many, we also realize that there are many for whom independence is only a concept due to lack of access to services.

Like many other organizations, we are still struggling with appropriately staffing for the level of need that exists in our community. We are fortunate to have a legion of dedicated team members who are acutely aware of the differences they make in the lives of our consumers. But there are many more community members who can achieve independence through our services.

The generosity of our donors makes it possible for us to serve so many - but the need is greater than ever.

As you review our annual report and survey the stories and successes, please consider other ways in which you can help others achieve lives of independence.

- **Financial support:** With staffing more challenging than ever, your financial support allows us to appropriately staff our labor-intensive programs.
- **Goodwill:** Share our stories. Tell others about the important work we are doing here at GSIL.
- **Advocacy:** Help your state representative or senator understand how vital it is to increase revenue for our attendant care employees.
- **Partnerships:** Our corporate partners play a critical role in funding many programs, and the impact of their generosity is felt every day.
- **Fundraising:** Our team diligently works to build engaging, entertaining fundraising events such as Hoops on Wheels and our golf tournament Chipping In FORE! Independence. Join us at these events, meet our team members and consumers, and help us raise funds.
- **Volunteerism:** We have many volunteers whose generous donation of their most vital resource - time - makes a significant impact. Consider joining us as a volunteer and experiencing the intrinsic benefit of sharing in our passion.

Thank you for your continued support of Granite State Independent Living. It is through your generosity that we have been able to thrive during the past several years, and we are eager to see how the coming years allow us to help even more people experience quality of life through independence!


Deborah Ritcey
President & CEO


Geoff Souther
Board Chair, FY 2022

Granite State
Independent Living

gsil
Bringing Independence to Life

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Achille Agway
Alberto's Italian Restaurant
Associated Grocers of NE, Inc.
Crotched Mountain Golf Resort
Eastern Bank
Edmunds Hardware Store

Garry's Service Center
Manchester Community College
National Seating & Mobility NE
Next Day Access
Stonebridge Country Club
Tenney Farms
Trends of Fashion



SPONSORS



American Steel & Precast Products
Amerihealth Caritas NH
Associated Grocers of NE, Inc.
Bangor Savings Bank
Bank of New Hampshire
Battaglia Foundations
Bellows-Nichols Insurance
CGI Employee Benefits Group
Chappell Tractor
Concord Rotary Foundation
CPTe Physical Therapy
Crotched Mountain Golf Resort
Crowell Family Trust
Danielle Quinn, Realtor
Eastern Bank
Henniker Brewing Co.
Ink Factory LLC
Irish Electric
Irwin Automotive Group
Kona Ice of NH
Legacy by Gersh
Luminate Home Loans
MaineLine Graphics, LLC
Mariner Wealth Advisors
Martin's Point Health Care, Inc.
Melanson CPAs

Merrimack County Savings Bank
Mobility Works
Mobius Mobility LLC / IBOT
Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc.
Natures Way / SHEI
NH Federal Credit Union
NH Healthy Families
NH Trust Financial Advisors
Northeast Delta Dental
Northeast Rehab Hospital
Peredna Painting, LLC
PiF Technologies
Pinard Waste Systems, Inc.
Pivot Creative
REQ Rehabilitation Equipment
Associates
Sheehan Phinney
Sturm, Ruger and Company, Inc.
The Lawson Group
The Spradling Group
Tokena
Tooky Mills Pub LLC
USI New England
Well Sense Health Plan
Wharf Industries Printing, Inc.
Whitcomb Excavation &
Property Maintenance

Our Mission

To promote quality of life with independence for people with disabilities.

We achieve this through five core services:

1 INFORMATION & REFERRAL

GSIL connects people with community resources to help them live independently.

2 ADVOCACY

We sit in the front row in legislative hearings on bills that impact people with disabilities.

3 SKILLS TRAINING

We provide consumers with the training to live independently and access their community.



4 PEER SUPPORT

Mentors use their personal experience living with a disability to empower others in reaching their independent living goals.

5 TRANSITION SERVICES

We help people transition out of a nursing home to the community and help students transition out of high school to work or post-secondary education.



INFORMATION & REFERRAL

Connecting people with community resources.

Our Information and Referral Specialists assess needs, evaluate appropriate resources, and identify organizations capable of meeting those needs, providing enough information about each organization to help consumers make an informed choice.

The issues, questions, and solutions are as diverse as those seeking assistance. This may include personal/home care services, education, benefits counseling, housing, transportation, employment, emergency shelters, mental health assistance, new community orientation, and much, much more.

1,972

Total number of
Information and
Referral Calls in
FY22.



ADVOCACY

Championing the needs of people with disabilities on bills that impact them.

You can count on GSIL to be in the front row in legislative hearings on bills impacting the quality of life, economic wellbeing, and autonomy for people with disabilities. We stand in solidarity with other formerly marginalized groups to ensure no ground is lost.

At GSIL, we believe that we build momentum and strength from coalitions. We are pleased to partner with other advocacy organizations around issues of common interest including long term care services, affordable housing, educational opportunity, voting rights, or the welfare of service animals.

STUDENT TRANSITION

Helping students with disabilities achieve a more promising future.

GSIL helps New Hampshire's students with disabilities transition from high school towards a more promising future. We can help schools build tailored solutions to meet the individual students' needs, preferences and interests.

Students can also attend a non-traditional group program through our IMPACCT Program. IMPACCT is a partnership of New Hampshire Vocational Rehabilitation (NHVR), Granite State Independent Living (GSIL), and high schools throughout New Hampshire. The program is dedicated to helping students with IEPs/504 Plans become part of the local workforce as they navigate from high school to employment, post-secondary education, or training that leads towards a career.

Similar to our Manchester, NH-based option, Earn & Learn Opportunities Program, this experiential approach helps students reengage with their education and understand the value it has for their career. This tool can help your school build a path to increased graduation and decreased dropout rates.

96%

of at-risk students have either IEP's or 504's due to learning or emotional disabilities.



261

GSIL helped roughly at-risk high school students with disabilities gain the transition skills necessary to re-engage with their education, and start a career.



DaSean's Story

“I never thought I’d graduate from high school.”

DaSean’s academic journey was anything but traditional. A student at Manchester Central, he shouldered more responsibility than many teenagers. He watched younger siblings at night. Money for lunch was often short. At times, he scrambled for housing.

When the pandemic started, remote learning was another difficult adjustment. As a senior, DaSean was told he didn’t have the credits he needed to graduate. He’d be held back another year.

Frustrated, dejected, and embarrassed, he decided to drop out altogether. Fortunately, thanks to GSIL, that is not how his story ended.

Read DeSean's story here:



Employers and Community Partners offering work opportunities for our IMPACCT and Earn and Learn Programs

Manchester Region

Access Center
Bridge Cafe
Dunkin
Early Head Start
NETS
Kerner's Car Care
Microseconds
Doubletree Hotel
The Bookery
Grolen Computers
5 Guys
US Army Recruiting Office
Learning Path
MCC Bookstore
Osborne Agway
Caregivers
CVS
Subway
NewVo Furniture
Manchester Animal Shelter
NH Food Bank
Dairy Queen
Subaru Prime
Upreach
Fratello's
Zoo Health Club
Growing Years Childcare

Nashua Region

Lou's Custom Exhaust
ARCNH
Good Mojo
CVS, Milford
Indie Music
Granite Start Early Learning Center
Bite Me Kupcakez
Grill 603
Tangle Roots
Gurney's Automotive, Nashua
Gurney's Automotive, Milford
CVS, Merrimack
Culture
Lisa's Tippy Toes
RMG Enterprise
Smart Style
Chewie's Playland
Pupville
Crash Champions - Merrimack
Children's Den
Crestwood
Creative Years Daycare
Five Guys
Lucky Dog Thrift Shop
MerryMac Games and Comics
Merrimack Public Library
Nashua Soup Kitchen
Totally Woof

Seacoast Region

Woodman Museum
Myhre Equine Clinic
Five Guys
Lou's Custom Exhaust
Dover Public Library
Fairfield Inn by Marriott
Reach for the Top Therapy
The Strand
Fairfield Inn by Marriott
CVS
Cause Hair Salon
Caledonian Carpentry
Kids Culture Childcare
Omni Metals
Smart Style Salon
Pope Memorial Cocheco Valley

North Country

Chang Thai Café
Head Start
GM Photography
Littleton Water and Light
White Mountain Transmission
Northern Charm
Iron Mike's Forge
Roland C. Abbott Plumbing & Heating
Littleton Studio School
Littleton Food Co-op
Hidden Brook Farm
Santa's Village
Berlin Middle School
Milton Rents
Wintergreen Landscaping
North Country Animal Hospital
Alpine Machine
Berlin City Auto
Labonville, Inc
Androscoggin Valley Hospital
Berlin Fire Department

Concord Region

Salvation Army
Holiday Inn
EJ's on Main
REM
Smokeshow Barbeque
CVS
Ollie's Treasure Shop
NHTI Maintenance
MLDC
BITS
Hannafords
Autozone
S&W Sports
Osborne Agway
Cole Gardens
Compass Dining NHTI
NH Federal Credit Union
The Zoo Health Club
Constantly Pizza
Multi-Weld
Houston Farm

IMPACCT
stands for
Inspiring the Mastery of
Post-Secondary Achievement
in College, Career
& Training.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Helping consumers access transportation and independence.

Granite State Independent Living offers a variety of transportation services geared to helping people with disabilities access their community.

Between our accessible Vans and Travel Reimbursement program, GSIL facilitated 2,005 total trips throughout the state of New Hampshire, adding an element of freedom to those who might otherwise not be able to access transportation.



PEER SUPPORT



Peer Support is a system of giving and receiving support, information, and guidance founded on the key principles of respect, shared responsibility, and mutual agreement. It is where colleagues, members of self-help organizations and others meet, in person or online, as equals to give each other connection and support on a reciprocal basis.

At GSIL we believe that helping others is not just something we do, but something we live by.



50 peers with spinal cord injuries were supported by GSIL's peer-mentoring program in collaboration with United Spinal Association of NH.

PERSONAL CARE

Allowing consumers the freedom to remain in their homes.

Our Personal Care Attendants (PCAs) and Personal Care Service Providers (PCSPs) both play vital roles in the lives of those who are in need.

Our in-home support programs focus on person-centered and directed services with keen oversight by either a long term support coordinator or a registered nurse. Our in-home services is a specialized program for people living with a disability and in need of assistance with the activities of daily living such as feeding, bathing, dressing, shopping, laundering, and meal prep, to name a few.

The
PCA & PCSP
Programs provide
over
12,750
hours of service
per week!

GSIL consumers report a
94% satisfaction rate
when they are engaged with
a GSIL Coordinator
in the development of
their care plan.



In FY22, Service Coordinators assisted
1,054 consumers
so they could remain
living independently in
their own homes and
avoid long term care facilities.



Dora's Story

**“I am grateful to be able to stay
in my own home.”**

After spending most of her adult life raising her child, as well as a niece and nephew, Dora's health issues started to get worse. Over the course of ten years, things continued to decline. Unable to fully care for herself, she wound up in a nursing home for a brief period of time.

Once she got back home, managing everyday life was still a struggle. Trips to the laundromat, the grocery store, and the pharmacy were difficult. She had a hard time preparing her own meals.

One day her neighbor mentioned an agency called Granite State Independent Living.

Read Dora's journey to independence here:



INDEPENDENCE

Keeping consumers safe and in their own homes.

Granite State Independent Living's trained staff work with people with disabilities to identify and create a plan to address their accessibility needs. This plan will include identifying funding sources and making referrals to licensed vendors throughout the state of NH. No matter the needs, our goals are the same, to keep our consumers safe and in their own homes.

392
people with disabilities throughout NH moved towards their employment goals through GSIL's job placement, skills training, benefits counseling, and resources for accessibility and accommodations.



In 2022, GSIL outfitted **144** homes with modifications like ramps, wheelchair lifts, durable medical equipment, vehicle modifications and communication equipment, allowing our folks to remain in their homes.



Shawn's Story

"I live a life rich with discovery, purpose, and friendship."

The young man stood at the edge of the beach. He took a deep breath and raced into the water. Waist-deep, he steepled his fingers above his head and dove beneath the waves. He had a moment of giddiness as the cool water rushed over him. Then the world went black. Days later, Shawn woke up in the hospital.

Doctors stood by his bed and explained he was a quadriplegic. He was twenty-two. The next few years were full of rehabilitation facilities, appointments, and full-time care.

At some point, Shawn discovered Granite State Independent Living.

Read about Shawn's pathway to independence here:

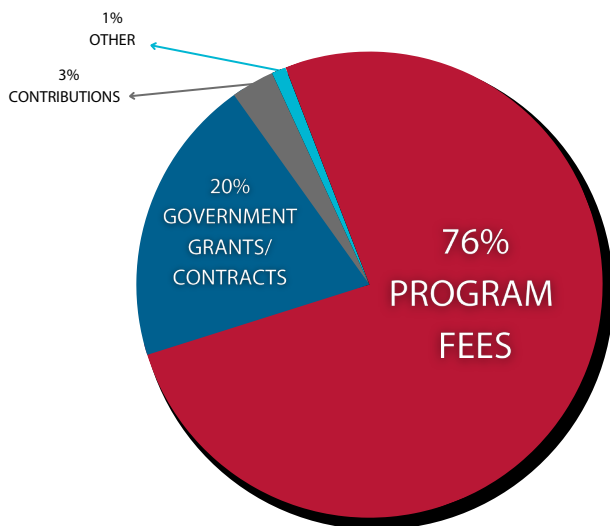


2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(Unaudited)

GSIL continues to have unqualified financial statement, GAS (Government Auditing Standards) and Uniform Guidance audits with no instances of material weakness, significant deficiencies, or material noncompliance, qualifying as a low-risk auditee. The audit is conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the U.S. and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the U.S. The audit includes a report of internal control over financial reporting and tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contract, grant agreements, and other matters.

SOURCES OF REVENUE



CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	<u>FY2022</u>
REVENUE	\$ 19,862,000
EXPENSES	
Salaries and Related Expenses	\$17,111,000
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 1,948,000
Depreciation Expense	\$ 74,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$19,133,000
OPERATING SURPLUS	\$ 729,000
Other Revenue/Gains or (Losses)	(\$163,000)
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 566,000

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	<u>FY2022</u>
ASSETS	\$17,717,000
LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS	
Total Liabilities	\$ 8,309,000
Net Assets - Restricted	\$ 229,000
Net Assets - Unrestricted	\$ 9,179,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 17,717,000

88%
of revenue is direct
to our programs
and services.

Granite State Independent Living

is New Hampshire's only Independent Living Center. We are a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote quality of life with independence for people with disabilities through advocacy, information & referral, education, peer support and transition services.



www.GSIL.org

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to Donate!



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