This is our old building. It's undergoing construction!

WE'RE MOVING ON...
...BUT STAYING PUT!

This is a preview of our new building!

Same location. Adjacent to affordable housing.
MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Forty-four years ago, Reverend Wade Blank began moving people with disabilities out of nursing homes into their own apartments. He believed that people with disabilities should have control over their lives and the right to live in their community. This was the beginning of the Atlantis Community, ADAPT, and a pivotal moment in disability rights history. Our belief and conviction in the civil rights of people with disability is as strong today as it was in 1974. We continue developing and enhancing services to move people with disabilities out of institutions and we offer support as they work toward goals that will prevent them from entering institutions.

During the past 12 months, we focused our efforts on areas that fulfill our mission to advocate for people with disabilities to be a meaningful part of an integrated community of their choice. Among our many accomplishments, we launched a youth transition program for young adults who are leaving high school. We advocated for a sustainable and robust Medicaid community transition program following the end of the federal demonstration project Money Follows the Person. We created a position for a Community Partner Work Incentives Coordinator (CPWIC) who provides benefits planning so people with disabilities can better understand the complex relationship between employment and benefits. Our Section 8 program continues to grow and we expanded our peer support groups. The Mobile Center for Independent Living is entering its third year and has proven to be a tremendously successful program to reach people who were previously underserved.

In April, we temporarily located to a warehouse directly west of our previous office while our new building is under construction. While it was hard to leave our space that we occupied for so many years, we are excited about our new space. We will have a beautiful office space, a large community room, and a disability rights history museum space. We are exploring creative ways to display our archive of disability rights history that honors the powerful leaders of independent living who came before us.

As we enter 2019, we are in the midst of our new strategic planning cycle. We are incorporating ideas from staff, consumers, and allies into our programs as we work toward our goal of being one of the best Centers for Independent Living in the country. This is an exciting time for our community and we look forward to partnering with you as we begin our next chapter.

Sincerely,

Candie Burnham, Executive Director
Shannon Secrest, Board Chair
SERVICES WE PROVIDED IN 2018

2,684 total consumers served

475 housing vouchers managed

721 independent living skills services

569 advocacy services

1,488 information and referral services

& a lot more!
**FINANCIALS**

- **Section 8 Grant**: 11%
- **Il Program Grant**: 83%
- **Foundations**: 5%
- **Other Support**: 1%
- **Administration**: 6%
- **Development**: 1%
- **Other Support**: 1%

**Budget**

$1,310,787

**Expenditures**

- **Programs**: 93%
systems advocacy

Atlantis worked tirelessly with ADAPT, CCDC, and other advocacy groups to support positive policy changes to the program that transitions people with disabilities out of nursing homes into the community. Working with the Single State Medicaid agency, the process involved testifying at rule hearings and participating in stakeholder meetings.

Mobile Unit

In its third year, ACI’s innovative Mobile Unit has expanded ongoing outreach at multiple locations, including Grant Avenue Street Reach and The Rising of Arvada as well as in more rural areas. The Mobile Unit has established relationships for two-way referrals with many organizations, including but not limited to: Bayaud Enterprises; Colorado Coalition for the Homeless; DDRC; Jefferson County Public Libraries; PASCO; Peak Parent Center; Chanda Center for Health; Denver Public Libraries; Colorado Community Health Alliance; Jefferson County Human Services; and Metro Denver Homeless Initiative. The Mobile Unit is poised to hire its third employee and continues to serve consumers who are unable to visit ACI’s physical office location due to disability.
peer support

In 2018, ACI developed a series of Peer Support Groups to enhance consumer interests throughout each month. ACI’s current Peer Support Groups include the following: Housing Issues in Our Community; Community Art Workshop; Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deafblind, Deaf Disabled Group; Empowerment/Stress Management; The Learning Center-Social/Recreation/Living Skills; Atlantis Test Kitchen; Braille Class; Working and Your Benefits 101; and Housing Search, Paperwork & Support.

new staff

Over 70% of staff have a disability. This year, we hired a Community Transition Coordinator to support more individuals with disabilities seeking to leave institutional care and integrate within the community.

We hired a Youth Transitions Coordinator to assist youth with significant disabilities transition into adulthood and make informed, empowered choices about their futures.

We also hired a highly skilled and rigorously trained Community Partner Work Incentives Coordinator (CPWICs). Our CPWIC provides individual planning and counseling to beneficiaries seeking employment and intensive follow-up services to ensure they are using work incentives appropriately.

The Atlantis Museum

Working alongside artists, community members, local companies, and museum consultants, Atlantis continues its exciting efforts in creating a new exhibit space in 2020. The Atlantis Museum will continue to educate the public on the past and continuing progress made in the fight for disability rights.
Atlantic advocated for

a consumer with a mobility disability. The consumer had been living in an apartment with only one functioning elevator. With help from an Independent Living Specialist, the apartment management company fixed its second elevator to better serve the consumer as well as others in the unit.

Atlantic empowered

a consumer experiencing severe trauma to once again thrive. Working with the consumer and a victim advocate, Atlantis helped him obtain a new birth certificate, Medicaid and other essential benefits, housing, and long-term services and supports such as home delivered meals and personal care.

The Mobile Unit helped

a consumer return to school. Staff helped him apply for a Pell Grant and obtain financial assistance from a community organization. Now working on his Associate of Arts Degree, Atlantis also assisted him in securing accommodations from the campus Accessibility Center.
THANK YOU!
OUR 2018 SUPPORTERS

Individuals
Shannon Secrest
Hanni Raley
Brian Kramer
Julie Reiskin
Randy Kilbourn
William Fisher
Sandra Reavey
Ashlee Lewis
Megan Ferry

Atlantic Community Foundation