

empower: abilities

empower: abilities is a 501C3 Not for Profit Center for Independent Living. We are one of 22 statewide and 500 nationally. Our mission is to **remove barriers and empower independent living for all people with disabilities**. Fifty one percent of our board and staff are individuals living with at least one mental or physical disability. We work alongside individuals and families of all ages, varying abilities and income levels. We collaborate in the community to identify barriers and find solutions to removing those. We provide five core services (advocacy, peer support, independent living skills, information and referral and transition) but have other programs as well.

Transition Housing Specialist:

Our transition programs helps individuals residing in a nursing home move back into the community in a setting of their choice. Many move into apartments or return to a home they left or with family. Housing is many times the main barrier to leaving the nursing home. Finding affordable and accessible housing that will meet the needs of those transitioning can be a challenge. The role of this position would work alongside our transition team to help identify housing that is available for those preparing to move out of a nursing home, network with landlords and managers to build relationships that will help empower: abilities moving forward, develop a housing accessibility check system that would help future volunteers perform this role. This is a supportive role that would entail on site visits to apartments, working at our main office with phone calling, data entry and computer work like excel and word.

Skills: good communication and phone skills, ability to drive or travel to local housing sites for accessibility check, ability to work as a team and to help create solutions to housing barriers.