Are you a veteran with a disability who wants to live more independently in your community?

Marilyn’s Story

Marilyn is a local Veteran who became a person with a disability during her years of service in the Army. She suffered from several different service-related health issues, including spinal meningitis. These health problems threatened Marilyn’s ability to remain in her home, and she was on the verge of having to live in a skilled nursing facility. Through the assistance of The Independence Center’s Veteran in Charge (VIC) program, Marilyn has avoided living in a nursing home.

The VIC program, in coordination with other local organizations and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, helped Marilyn create the structure necessary for her to live in her own home. She received home modifications, a chair glide, and a bathroom remodel to ensure her home met her accessibility needs. Finally, the VIC program helped her daughter become a paid caregiver so she could remain at home in the care of her loving family. In Marilyn’s words, “Remaining in my home has always been my goal. This has only been possible by the coordination and support of the Veteran in Charge program.” The Independence Center is proud to help our Veterans achieve the independence for which they so deserve.
With the Veteran in Charge program, you have the freedom to build a self-directed plan for greater independence and the authority to control how to pay for your long-term supports and services. With knowledgeable support from a coach, you can have a flexible monthly budget to purchase goods and services such as:

- In-home personal care
- Homemaker services
- Caregiver support
- Home modifications
- Transportation
- Assistive devices
- Environmental support
- Meal delivery
- Adult day care
- Emergency response system

The Veteran in Charge program is a partnership between the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) and The Independence Center (The IC). The IC coach works with eligible veterans to plan and manage VA-funded supports and services.

**Next Steps:**

Apply for VA health care (if not already in the system).

Contact your VA social worker or primary care team for a referral/consult for veteran directed care.

Need more information? Call The Independence Center and ask for VIC, 719-471-8181.