



**Executive Director
Evanston, IL**

Center for Independent Futures (CIF) is dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities live full and more independent lives. CIF creates sustainable solutions through individual support, school and agency support, and housing and community living options. Center for Independent Futures relies on an individual's hopes and dreams to guide supports – not the other way around. CIF's Direct Service team helps them achieve their goals by providing direct services to nearly 100 individuals in the greater Evanston area. CIF also offers national consulting services focused on person-centered practices to nonprofit agencies, schools and parent groups.

Created, maintained and operated by Center for Independent Futures, My Full Life™ is a comprehensive online learning management system designed to support life skills development with adults with disabilities. With more than 400 hours of learning curriculum, instructors work with learners to develop the life skills they need to be successful.

CIF's community includes its passionate and talented staff, a dedicated Board of Directors, energetic Young Professionals Board, informed Advisory Council, a network of professional resource partners, engaged families and individuals, and generous supporters. One important aspect of Center for Independent Futures is the integration of people with disabilities in the guidance of the mission of CIF. People with disabilities are part of each governing body of the organization including the Board, the Young Professional Board, and the Advisory Council.

Center for Independent Futures seeks a proven, strategic leader who is passionate about CIF's work and every individual's right to access all of the opportunities of a full life within their communities. Strong candidates should have a heartfelt connection to supporting persons with disabilities, as well as knowledge of relevant services and funding mechanisms, including Medicaid and other sources of government and private funding.

The next CIF Executive Director will bring strong management expertise and at least ten years of progressive experience in managing senior level staff. Candidates must be skilled in strategic planning and implementation, and should bring strong financial acumen, with at least five years of budget responsibility for organizations of a size similar to or larger than CIF.

The successful candidate will be a relationship builder and will be skilled at inviting others into support of the organization. Personal success and progressive growth in fundraising are required, as is the ability to establish an overall culture of development within the organization. This individual must be an empathetic, outward focused, positive and fully collaborative leader. They must have the interpersonal awareness and orientation to engender deep levels of trust in CIF among clients and their families and inspire and ensure that everyone involved in CIF engenders the same.

Candidates need to have the capacity to inspire support for the vision across the community, among new donors and with other participants in the disability services realm. They must also possess the clarity and organizational skills to systemize this development process. Also needed is the patience, humility, and interest in details to periodically assist with administrative tasks in short order, at times when staff requires a helping hand or during periods of transition.

The ideal candidate will be kind, thoughtful and articulate, while always operating in a personal, positive, and fully authentic manner. This candidate will embrace that CIF is a small and growing nonprofit in a complex and changing services area; he or she will recognize the periodic need for short-term financial and personal time sacrifices while they build out the size, sustainability and financial model of the organization.

The successful candidate will demonstrate the ability to articulate a compelling vision and keep staff focused during challenging times, as well as develop opportunities to invite new partners into the mission. This person will possess the highest level of oral, written and interpersonal communication skills to effectively work with a broad range of individuals and organizations including Board members, funders, professional colleagues, public officials and community partners, as well as the media. Experience and innovation in recruiting and motivating volunteers will be a plus.

A Bachelor's degree in education, public administration or a related field is required. A Master's degree in education, public administration or a related field is preferred.

To apply, submit a current resume and letter of introduction to Kittleman & Associates, LLC at <https://bit.ly/3uppwlr> (click on the Apply button at the bottom of the page). Interested parties are encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible. For more information about Center for Independent Futures, visit <https://independentfutures.com>.