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Centers for Independence Receives Wispect Legacy Grant to Enhance Accessibility and Care

MILWAUKEE, WI, (Jan. 12, 2026)—Centers for Independence (CFI), a leader in supporting people with disabilities and behavioral health needs, is honored to receive a Wispect Legacy Grant totaling nearly \$20,000, to support improvements to re-open its Bay View Campus and make Pediatric Specialty Care (PSC) more accessible for the individuals and families CFI serves. These improvements will help CFI strengthen programs and create more inclusive spaces for people with disabilities and behavioral health needs.

CFI's Bay View Campus, located at 3333 S. Howell Avenue in Bay View, was originally custom designed for CFI's LIFE Services and served as a lively, welcoming space before it was temporarily closed during the pandemic. Now, with support in part from Wispect, CFI is bringing this incredible site back to LIFE – updating both the interior and exterior spaces to create a bright, accessible and engaging environment to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and brain injuries. CFI's Bay View Campus is scheduled to re-open in mid-February.

"We are immensely grateful to Wispect for the support," said Interim President and CEO Heidi Chada. "By enhancing accessibility and care, we're advancing our vision of healthy, hopeful communities where everyone has the opportunity to thrive."

About the Wispect Foundation

The Wispect Foundation was established in 2021 and provides grants to support the mission of nonprofits supporting Wisconsin residents with disabilities. The Wispect Foundation is a wholly owned subsidiary of Wispect, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of persons with disabilities through a pooled and community special needs trusts (SNT). Wispect was created in 2003 and is now one of the largest of its kind in the United States; and currently serves more than 4,000 beneficiaries throughout Wisconsin. This year, the foundation will distribute approximately \$1.5 million to organizations that enhance the lives of people with disabilities across Wisconsin.

About Centers for Independence

Centers for Independence (CFI) is a Milwaukee based nonprofit dedicated to supporting people with disabilities and behavioral health needs through innovative, person-centered programs. Since 1938, CFI has been a leader trauma-informed care, self-direction and removing barriers to help individuals achieve total health and greater independence. Visit cfihope.org to learn more.

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