



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

DECEMBER 2025

As we all get ready to spend time with family and friends and celebrate the Holidays, I wanted to take a moment to thank APRIL Members for the incredible work you do to make the lives of people with disabilities better, more accessible, more meaningful, and for all the support you provide so that our people are able to live more full and inclusive lives.

The impact and importance of your work is absolutely vital to quality of life for so many people, and it cannot truly be measured. I am so incredibly thankful for each and every one of you and the difference you make every day on this journey we call Independent Living.

This has been a long, demanding (to say the least) year. We have lost some amazing IL advocates and activists this year. Let's hold them close to our hearts as we celebrate this Holiday Season and let us pledge to continue down the path they paved with the promise to keep up the good work and get into some good trouble! Now more than ever!

2026 opens the door to opportunity. We must continue to fight, unrelenting and undeterred, for what we want, for what is right, for a future rooted in equality and inclusion. Nothing About Us, Without Us!

Be on the lookout for new and exciting things coming from APRIL in 2026! I think you will be pleasantly surprised by the fun and "outside the box" things we have planned! As always, we look forward to your feedback, suggestions, participation and continued support!

Happy Holidays! Peace and soooooo much LOVE to all of you!

Elissa Ellis, APRIL Executive Director