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WESTSIDE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING RECEIVES GRANT FROM FRIARS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FOR COMPREHENSIVE AUDIO SYSTEM

Los Angeles, CA (March 21, 2017)---The Westside Center for Independent Living (WCIL) is pleased to announce it has received a grant from the Friars Charitable Foundation of Los Angeles. The funds will be used to increase the comprehensive audio system of the WCIL's Community Room so that WCIL can successfully host events for the community where all people with disabilities, including the hearing impaired, can fully participate.

The purchase and installation of the comprehensive audio system will ensure that all participants fully experience the acoustics in the room. The system will include a central speaker for the amplification of sound, table top microphones and speakers and an assistive listening device system. The enhanced audio system will allow the Community Room to be used for panel discussions, staff meetings, board meetings and community events.



“We currently have received complaints that the Community Room acoustics and noise compromises participants’ ability to understand and participate in events hosted in the room,” declared Anastasia Bacigalupo, the Executive Director of the WCIL. “Thanks to the continuing generosity of the Friars Charitable Foundation, the Community Room will now be able to accommodate people with hearing impairments.”

The Friars Charitable Foundation awards grants through a competitive application and review process. “We have been pleased to support the important community work of the WCIL throughout the years through funding of its computer lab and accessible workstations. Enhancing the audio quality of its Community Room continues our partnership with one of Los Angeles’ most important resources for people with disabilities,” declared Marilyn Stambler, President of the Friars Charitable Foundation.

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The Friars Charitable Foundation supports charitable efforts that are dedicated to the arts, education or human services benefitting the greater Los Angeles community, particularly where its funding can have a significant impact on programs and their participants. For more information visit: www.friarscharitablefoundation.org

The Westside Center for Independent Living (WCIL) is a community center with the mission to provide people with disabilities of all ages, ethnicities and backgrounds with the tools needed to overcome the barriers that interfere with their independence in the areas of housing, employment and healthcare. The WCIL serves over 2,000 each year with resources, support, training and information. For more information visit: www.wcil.org