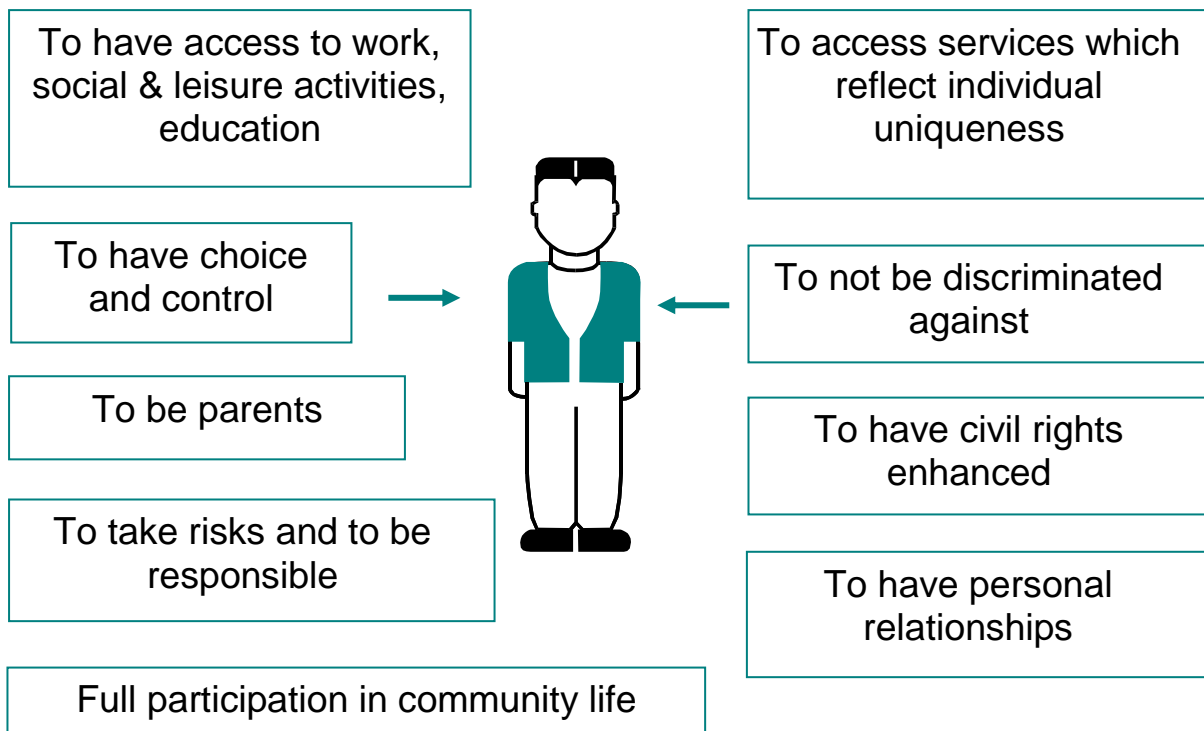


The Model

SYCIL is committed to a Social Model of Disability and this model underpins all developments in services for Disabled people. All staff promote independent living for people who access their particular service by applying the Social Model of Disability in their practice.



The Seven Needs + Three

In 1996, the SYCIL Board of Directors and Advisory Group approved the Centre for Independent/Inclusive Living (CIL) and seven needs approach as a framework for the development of all SYCIL services. Essentially this model recognises that the independence of Disabled people can only be achieved when Disabled people have control over their own lives. In order to achieve this CIL's provide an alternative structure for service delivery, utilising direct experience of disability as a resource. A system of services are created which extend the concept of rehabilitation beyond narrow definitions, based on the medical model of disability, to include a variety of supports designed to facilitate independent/inclusive living opportunities. CIL's relate to

SYCIL & the Ten Needs

and dovetail existing services through the development of joint working relationships and a unified strategy for the delivery of services.

In the early 1980's in Britain, the Disabled people's movement identified seven basic needs which had to be met so that Disabled people could take an active and full part in daily life. The seven needs are strongly inter linked and show the necessity to plan services in an integrated way. The seven needs approach provides SYCIL with a framework for practical action.

The seven needs are:

Information

The provision of accurate up to date information is essential if Disabled people are to make choices and take control over their lives. SYCIL provides specialist information on a range of topics.

Peer Counselling & Support

Disabled people sometimes need emotional support as well as practical support to progress their aim of independent living. Peers counselling is provided by trained disabled volunteer counsellors. SYCIL does not currently provide this service.

Housing

Disabled people need a range of accommodation which is accessible and SYCIL is frequently called upon to provide support with both accessing accommodation and adaptations.

Technical Aids & Equipment

Disabled people require access to accurate, reliable and impartial information and advice about practical aspects of daily living'

SYCIL & the Ten Needs

SYCIL has developed a comprehensive Independent Living Unit that is accessed by both service users and professionals.

Personal Assistance

Through SYCIL's Choosing Independence Project Disabled people have access to a range of support to assist with the employment of Personal Assistants.

Transport

Lack of accessible transport is an isolating factor for Disabled people. SYCIL works with a range of transport providers to ensure that the views of Disabled people are represented.

Access

A whole range of activities are denied to Disabled people because of physical, attitudinal and other barriers which have been designed into the built environment. Since its inception in 1996 SYCIL has been working to remove these barriers. SYCIL has been a key player in raising access as an issue and developed the first Disability Equality Training programmes in Doncaster & Rotherham. Staff and volunteers work with all sectors to promote a barrier free environment.

In addition to the seven needs identified above SYCIL has further recognised the importance of a number of other factors that are essential to Disabled people's independence and adopted the **Ten Needs** approach.

Healthy Lifestyles

Disabled People need to be able to have more choices and control over their own Health and Wellbeing.

All of SYCIL's services actively encourage service users to lead healthy lifestyles. Health and Wellbeing is promoted through;

SYCIL & the Ten Needs

- Working in partnership with other agencies to promote and develop healthy lifestyles e.g. community dieticians, health promotion

SYCIL's staff have worked with Young Disabled People around health and well being issues examples include joint working in schools to provide;

- Training in sexual health
- Independent living skills course

Employment & Volunteering

Disabled People should be able to be socially and economically active citizens through Volunteering and Employment opportunities.

SYCIL has worked with a number of agencies in the past and continues to work towards ensuring Disabled people have equal access to employment. Specifically, support is provided through the ITC service, Advocacy and community development. We also provide work placements and a wide range of volunteering opportunities.

Education & Training

Disabled People need to be able to access high quality Education and Training so that they can develop the knowledge and skills to enable them to improve their opportunities in life.

SYCIL provides training and support to individuals to enable them to access mainstream education.