

# Smart Self Reliance

## OUTREACH INITIATIVE: Overview

*Supporting Independence & Aging in Place through Smart Technology*

### **Purpose:**

This initiative is intended to inform Illinois's older adults and people with disabilities, their family members, and care providers about a new set of information resources on smart devices and services that support greater independence and better aging in place. These include:

- The **Smart Self Reliance Resource (SSRR) Clearinghouse** – An online information clearinghouse containing: guidance on assessing a consumer's smart device needs; a database of devices in 14-product categories; current news on related topics; links to other helpful organizations, and soon; a directory of trained device installers across Illinois. Visit the SSRR Clearinghouse at: [www.smartselfreliance.org](http://www.smartselfreliance.org)
- **The Consumer Guide to Aging in Place** – The Guide describes how smart home technology can benefit any consumer by enhancing the safety, security, comfort and convenience of their homes, while reducing utility costs. The Guide also provides descriptions of many devices currently on the market and tips on selection, purchase and installation. Download the Guide at: <https://bit.ly/30v21sb>

**Directory of Senior Specialist Device Installers** (in production) – The Directory will list all home improvement contractors and device installers that have successfully completed the *I-STAR Senior Specialist Training Program* that equips them to address the specific needs and preferences of seniors aging in place. The online program was developed by aging and housing experts at Eastern Illinois University and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. To learn more about the training and directory, visit: <http://smartselfreliance.org/installer-training--directory.html>

### **Invitation to Join Us!:**

With grant support from the Illinois Science & Energy Innovation Foundation, the Seniors Independent Living Collaborative (SILC) works with community-based service organizations to inform older adults and people with disabilities about the availability of these new resources. To aid these collaborators, SILC provides a number of outreach tools that are available on the SSRR Clearinghouse website. These include: a press release; a glossary of terms; frequently asked questions; key messages and tips on communicating technology to older adults; custom presentations for older adults, people with disabilities, and for internal collaborator staff briefings.

These materials are designed to accommodate co-branding and the contact information for each collaborating organization. Find these under "Collaborator Resources" on the clearinghouse website at [www.smartselfreliance.org](http://www.smartselfreliance.org). Please Join Us in this effort to improve the lives of Illinois's older adults and people with disabilities!

**To Learn More, Contact :** Doug Newman / 773-899-0801 / [doug.newman@silcresearch.org](mailto:doug.newman@silcresearch.org)

**Seniors Independent Living Collaborative**  
[www.silcresearch.org](http://www.silcresearch.org)