Q1 Impact Report

July - September 2026

79

teens and adults received independent living education and support from our three programs

6

members moved into a home of their own

66% of members now live independently

2

members started new jobs, including one as our first Peer Mentor

67% of members now work a paid job

Independence Prep

- sold out Independence Prep Summer + Residency in July
- after summer, 3 Independence Prep members moved into Independence College and 1 into Independent Living
- launched new 8-week sessions in September and next session is:
  - November 2 - December 23
  - transportation + safety skills
  - includes overnight experience

Independence College

- fourth year of program started in August
- now a 1-year program (instead of 2) because of strong outcomes
- 8 members currently enrolled and expected to graduate in May

Independent Living

- launched new program model in July
  - 50% of members now paying less
- hosted 53 social activities
- provided weekly or bi-weekly life coaching to 30 members
- launched new apartment trial for members to practice living on their own or try out roommate options
- explored Washington, DC with 15 members in September

Financials

$311,757 expenses

$283,234 revenue

91%

money spent directly on programs
(the rest is administrative + fundraising)

A Podcast Launched by On My Own of Michigan Members

Jen was looking for something meaningful. She was feeling bored, and wanted something to look forward to in her recent retirement.

A caregiver noticed Jen often shared engaging and funny stories with her friends, and suggested Jen might enjoy podcasting. Jen thought about the idea for a while, and asked her friend Nick if he'd be interested in co-creating a podcast, one that would raise awareness and promote acceptance of the neurodivergent community.

After the idea took hold, Jen worked with her On My Own of Michigan Independent Living coach to get started. Together, they talked through possible interview guests and episode ideas, with Jen using these conversations to refine her plans. She was also supported as she worked through frustrations and unexpected challenges—learning to problem-solve and persevere independently. Behind the scenes, Nick, the "tech wizard" as he calls himself, was working independently to design the podcast – creating the logo, launching the online platform, and getting the technology needed to record.

Today, Jen and Nick have grown tremendously through the podcast experience. Jen independently booked guests, wrote scripts, and conducted interviews. Nick grew in his confidence to interact with people and has gained new perspectives. Most importantly, the podcast gave them meaningful work that keeps them engaged and proud of what they're creating. They report feeling more confident and capable, and found special enjoyment in working together.

You can listen to the podcast here: https://outside-the-brain.zencast.website/

Looking Ahead to Quarter Two

In addition to continuing to provide high-quality services through our three programs, we're also preparing to begin enrollment for a new program later this quarter.

Developed for caregiving family members, our new Independence Accelerator will provide hands-on guidance and support to families as they help their loved ones develop and implement a plan to achieve independent living. Using our new guide to independent living (first developed by our friends at SAIL), families will receive in-depth education and individualized support to make independent living possible more quickly.

We'll share enrollment information soon but in the meantime, check out our free guide to independent living here: https://onmyownofmi.org/