

Executive Director

# Stuart James

Stuart joined the independent living movement as the Executive Director at the historic Center for Independent Living in Berkeley (TheCIL). During his seven-year tenure, he renewed TheCIL's commitment and vision for a truly inclusive world and nearly tripled the organization's endowment.

TheCIL adopted the "Be Your Own Normal" slogan and reorganized its services, communications, and operating philosophy around the idea that "normal" is everyone and that we all possess talents, skills, qualities, and responsibilities that contribute to our community. Stuart led the organization in developing and updating programs, including an expanded AT

program, new Lifestyles events, a life-changing Residential Access program, and the evolution of TheCIL's Youth programs. Additionally, he brought new corporate partnerships and attention to TheCIL through the PowerOn! web series and its annual Ed Roberts Day event.

Before his tenure at TheCIL, Stuart spent more than twenty years as an executive in the sports and entertainment industry, living and working across four continents. He is an avid sports fan with allegiances to his childhood teams—the New York Giants and Knicks—but he's vowed to be a die-hard fan of the Toledo Mud Hens and University of Toledo Rockets.

Stuart has a master's degree from the New York Institute of Technology and was a graduate assistant in their nationally ranked lacrosse program.



**The Ability Center**

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