

State Plan For Independent Living (SPIL)

Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as Amended, Chapter 1,
Title VII

Part B - INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

Part C - Centers for Independent Living

State: New Jersey

FISCAL YEARS: 2025-2027

Effective Date: 10/01/2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The entities developing this State Plan (SPIL) include NJ Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) the Designated State Entity (DSE) and the NJ Network of Centers for Independent Living (NJNCIL).

To ensure the needs of people living with disabilities, centers for independent living (CILs), the DSE and SILC members are reflected in the SPIL, the SILC convened several meetings to determine SPIL goals for the next three years. SILC members, CIL directors and the DSE liaison provided invaluable feedback throughout the drafting process which included but was not limited to: creating goals, objectives, action steps, indicators, gathering financial information and identifying signatories for the Plan. The draft SPIL was placed on the SILC website and two forums were scheduled to solicit input from consumers. Additionally, several dozen disability-related organizations and partner agencies were contacted to encourage their consumers to provide input on the plan as well. Comments were collected via email, social media and through CIL websites. Comments made during the forums or via phone calls to the CILs and/or partner organizations were communicated to the SILC Chair and Program Coordinator and recorded.

Throughout the pandemic, the SILC saw several significant transitions occur regarding its membership and composition. Such transitions come with a loss of institutional memory and a need to create, standardize, improve how an organization operates often becomes readily apparent. The SILC, CILs, DSE and consumers are excited to get "back to basics", as we strive to fulfill the SILC's mission to advocate and coordinate cost-effective, consumer-driven services that provide persons with disabilities an equal opportunity to choose their lifestyle, to contribute to the economy and to live life in an inclusive environment.

The SILC will continue to amplify independent living (IL) in New Jersey by: growing the SILC to better support the IL- related needs of people with disabilities statewide, increasing access to, and awareness of, the core services that the CILs provide, expanding the visibility of IL throughout the state and strengthening the administrative infrastructure of the SILC to support its long-term growth and success.

The following goals have been established for the 2024-2027 SPIL:

Goal #1: Grow the Statewide Independent Living Council, to better support the IL- related needs of people with disabilities throughout the state of New Jersey.

Goal #2: Ensure all New Jersey residents with disabilities will have access to, and increased awareness of, the core services and other related services and supports the Centers for Independent Living provide.

Goal #3: Expand visibility of independent living and its philosophies by partnering with the CILs to launch a statewide digital/virtual public awareness campaign.

Goal #4: Strengthen the SILC's administrative infrastructure to more closely align with its mission and its current and long-term goals.

Creating a SPIL is always a lengthy, collaborative process allowing all involved to reflect upon the challenges and successes of the last three years while planning for the next three. This plan centers the mission of the SILC/CILs and is the result of forward-thinking input by consumers, the SILC and the CILs.

Section 1: Mission, Goals, Objectives, and Activities

1.1 - MISSION

Mission of the Independent Living Network and the SPIL

NJSILC MISSION STATEMENT

To advocate and coordinate cost-effective, consumer-driven services that provide persons with disabilities an equal opportunity to choose their lifestyle, to contribute to the economy and to live life in an inclusive environment.

1.2 - GOALS

Goal #1: Grow the Statewide Independent Living Council, to better support the IL- related needs of people with disabilities throughout the state of New Jersey.

Goal #2: Ensure all New Jersey residents with disabilities will have access to, and increased awareness of, the core services and other related services and supports the Centers for Independent Living provide.

Goal #3: Expand the awareness of independent living by partnering with the CILs to launch a statewide digital/virtual public awareness campaign.

Goal #4: Strengthen the SILC's administrative infrastructure to more closely align with its mission and its current and long-term goals.

1.3 - OBJECTIVES

Objectives for the three-year period of the plan – including geographic scope, desired outcomes, target dates, and indicators. Including compatibility with the purpose of Title VII, Chapter 1.

Goal #1: Grow the Statewide Independent Living Council, to better support the IL- related needs of people with disabilities throughout the state of New Jersey.

Objective #1.1: 1.1: Maintain and improve relationships with disability-related state partner agencies to engage in and amplify IL activities.

Action Steps

1.1: Seven or more non-DSE related state agencies aligned with the IL philosophy will participate in SILC meetings and activities at least three times per plan year.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #1.1.1: By the end of the Plan, representatives from seven disability related non-DSE state agencies will have participated in SILC meetings.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #1.2: Increase SILC membership with the goal of filling all 17 seats.

Action Steps

1.2a: The SILC Recruitment Committee will meet at least quarterly.

1.2b: At least one person will be nominated to join the SILC per plan year.

1.2c: When Council vacancies occur, someone will be nominated to fill the seat within two months.

1.2d: The Governor's Office for Appointments will be contacted monthly to ensure the timely appointment of nominees.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #1.2.1: By the end of the Plan, NJSILC will have 13 voting members.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #1.3: Expand IL knowledge and skills of SILC members and CIL directors and consumers.

Action Steps

One or more in-person trainings, SILC meetings or IL- related events will occur per plan year.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #1.3.1: By the end of the Plan, SILC will have held 3 in-person events (training sessions, meetings or IL-related events). Event evaluations will assess acquisition of new knowledge or IL related skills. Evaluation results will inform future CIL/SILC events.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #2: Ensure all New Jersey residents with disabilities will have access to, and increased awareness of, the core services and other related services and supports the Centers for Independent Living provide.

Objective #2.1: Increase awareness of, and opportunities to participate in individual and systems advocacy among new and existing consumers.

Action Steps

The SILC will promote and support opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in individual and systems advocacy with the CILs. among new and existing consumers

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.1.1: Per plan year, the SILC will participate in, promote and support at least one individual or systems advocacy initiative centers are involved in per geographic region (north, central south). The SILC will use advocacy engagement tools such as VoterVoice to amplify these efforts.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #2.2: Increase awareness of and opportunities to participate in peer support activities among new and existing consumers.

Action Steps

The SILC will promote and support opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in peer support activities offered by the CILs.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.2.1: By the completion of the plan, the SILC will create and disseminate at least one public facing document that highlights peer support initiatives offered by the CILs.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #2.3: Increase awareness of and opportunities to participate in independent living skills training among new and existing consumers.

Action Steps

The SILC will promote and support opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in independent living skills training programs offered by the CILs.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.3.1: By the completion of the plan, the SILC will create and disseminate at least one public facing document that highlights independent living skills training initiatives offered by the CILs.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #2.4: Increase awareness of the breadth and width of information and referral assistance available to new and existing consumers.

Action Steps

The SILC will promote the breadth and width of information and referral assistance available to people with disabilities at CILs.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.4.1:By the completion of the plan, the SILC will create and disseminate at least one public facing document that highlights the breadth and width of information and referral assistance offered by the CILs.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #2.5: Increase awareness of transition supports available to new and existing consumers.

Action Steps

The SILC will promote the transition supports The CILs offer to people with disabilities.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.5.1: By the completion of the plan, the SILC will create and disseminate at least one public facing document that highlights transition supports offered by the CILs.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #2.6: Grow the collaborative relationship between the SILC and the NJ Network of Centers for Independent Living (NJNCIL)

Action Steps

The SILC will work with NJNCIL to ensure CILs have access to adequate resources and the capacity to provide the five federally mandated core services, as identified as essential to the underserved communities they serve.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.6.1: Throughout the plan, the SILC will advocate at NJNCIL's discretion to the CILs continue to have adequate capacity and resources to provide the five federally mandated core services, as identified as essential to the underserved communities they serve.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #2.7: Address IL related- SPIL goals and ensure CILs receive the support needed to continue providing core services statewide and to communicate the value of the CILs to NJ residents with disabilities.

Action Steps

2.7: A SILC designee will participate in quarterly NJNCIL meetings and provide updates on its SPIL- related activities.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.7.1: 2.7: Throughout the plan, the SILC will complete quarterly SPIL implementation reports.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #3: Expand the awareness of independent living by partnering with the CILs to launch a statewide digital/virtual public awareness campaign.

Objective #3.1: 3.1: Collaborate with NJNCIL to contract with consultant to create accessible materials that promote the CILs and SILC activities.

Action Steps

3.1a: SILC/NJNCIL will identify topics an IL public awareness plan should include.3.1b: SILC/NJNCIL will identify consultants/agencies that can create and launch of a public awareness campaign.3.1c: SILC/NJNCIL designees will work closely with the consultant to provide information as requested and to review all materials produced for the campaign

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #3.1.1: 3.1a: During the first year of the plan, SILC and NJNCIL will identify key areas of focus for a public awareness campaign3.1b: By the completion of year two of the plan a consultant will be hired3.1c: By the completion of the plan, an IL public awareness campaign will be launched

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #3.2: Plan and host a statewide IL Education Day, for SILC members, CIL consumers, staff, community providers and partners organizations to amplify the importance of IL.

Action Steps

SILC will collaborate with the CILs and partner organizations to host an IL Education Day for potential and existing IL consumers and allied organizations.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #3.2.1: By the completion of the plan, SILC and NJNCIL will have hosted an IL Education Day.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #3.3: Create a plain language publication highlighting the dynamic relationship between the NJSILC and NJNCIL which will include consumer stories, press mentions, and systems and legislative advocacy efforts.

Action Steps

SILC will collect and compile CIL successes for inclusion in an annual publication which will communicate the importance of IL in NJ.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #3.3.1: By the completion of the plan, the SILC will create and disseminate plain language publication highlighting the dynamic relationship between the NJSILC and NJNCIL which will include consumer stories, press mentions, and systems and legislative advocacy efforts.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #4: Strengthen the SILC's administrative infrastructure to more closely align with its mission and its current and long-term goals.

Objective #4.1: Review and update Council bylaws
Action Steps
The SILC will review and update Council bylaws

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #4.1.1: By the end of the first year of the plan, the council will review and update its bylaws

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Other(Internal)

Objective #4.2: Review and update policies and procedures.

Action Steps

The SILC will review and update policies and procedures

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #4.2.1: By the end of the first year of the plan, the council will review and update its policies and procedures.

Indicator #4.2.2: By the end of the first year of the plan, the council will review and update its policies and procedures.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Other(Internal)

Objective #4.3: Review and update membership/officer materials

Action Steps 4.3: The SILC will review and update membership/officer materials

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #4.3.1: By the end of the second year of the plan, the SILC will review and update membership/officer materials.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Other(Internal)

Objective #4.4: Digitize existing SILC materials and records.

Action Steps

The SILC will digitize existing SILC materials and records

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #4.4.1: By the end of the second year of the plan, the SILC will digitize its existing material and records.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Other(Internal)

Objective #4.5: Develop a strategic plan
Action Steps
The SILC will develop a strategic plan

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #4.5.1: By the end of the plan, the SILC will develop a strategic plan.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Other(Internal)

1.4 - EVALUATION

1. At the end of the Plan period, eighty-five percent of the Outcomes listed under the 4 Goals and Objectives are met
2. Where noted in the Indicators, stated time lines are met
3. Committees or Individuals assigned to goal implementation give quarterly Progress Reports at SILC meetings
4. Each Plan year, quarterly consumer surveys are provided on the SILC's website and Facebook page through the CILs via a paid Internet survey application.
5. Each year, at least one consumer/stakeholder Public Forum is held (public health conditions permitting)
6. Each January of the Plan, SILC will hold a Special CIL Meeting for all NJ CILs (B and C) to share their PPR service provision statistics, consumer survey info, and problem areas.

1.5 - PART I: FINANCIAL PLAN

Sources, uses of, and efforts to coordinate funding to be used to accomplish the SPIL Goals and Objectives. Process for grants/contracts, selection of grantees, and distribution of funds to facilitate effective operations and provision of services.

Fiscal Year(s): 2025

October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025

Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$0	\$493162	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$493162
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$2297185	\$0	\$0		\$2297185
						\$2790347
Other Federal Funds						
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$85140	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$85140
Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other	\$0	\$360412	\$0	\$0		\$360412
						\$445552

Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$0	\$3000000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3000000
Other	\$0	\$890355	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$890355
						\$3890355
TOTAL	\$85140	\$7041114	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7126254

Fiscal Year(s): 2026

October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026

Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$0	\$493162	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$493162
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$2297185	\$0	\$0		\$2297185
						\$2790347
Other Federal Funds						
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation	\$85140	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$85140

and Expansion)						
Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other	\$0	\$360412	\$0	\$0		\$360412
						\$445552
Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$0	\$3000000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3000000
Other	\$0	\$890355	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$890355
						\$3890355
TOTAL	\$85140	\$7041114	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7126254

Fiscal Year(s): 2027

October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027

Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$0	\$493162	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$493162
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$2297185	\$0	\$0		\$2297185
						\$2790347
Other Federal Funds						
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$85140	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$85140
Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other	\$0	\$360412	\$0	\$0		\$360412

						\$445552
Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$0	\$3000000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3000000
Other	\$0	\$890355	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$890355
						\$3890355
TOTAL	\$85140	\$7041114	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7126254

1.5.2 - PART II: FINANCIAL PLANNING NARRATIVE

Sources, uses of, and efforts to coordinate funding to be used to accomplish the SPIL Goals and Objectives. Process for grants/contracts, selection of grantees, and distribution of funds to facilitate effective operations and provision of services.

Financial Plan Narrative

Overall, *anticipated sources for this three-year plan include the usual yearly Part B (\$493,162), Part C (\$2,297,185) and (\$85,140) grants and State Funds (\$890,355), Public Health ACL (\$360,412) and DHS funds (\$3,000,000)*

Both B and C centers will use their respective funding towards center operations and IL services provision, including the federally mandated core services, and additional IL-related programming the nature of which depends upon the individual center. Some of the services provided by every center address SPIL goals. For the 2024-27 Plan, CILs/NJNCIL will help implement: goal 1 by facilitating connections with governmental and non-governmental disability-related programs, identifying SILC candidates for Council seats, and participating in, or assisting with, training events; goal 2 by informing the SILC what resources are the

most needed to continue providing core services and collaborating with the SILC on all aspects of goal 3.

State match funds for the B centers also support CIL operations and IL service provision including core services, the latter including activities that help implement SPIL goals (as identified above).

The SILC is funded solely by federal Innovation and Expansion funds. SILC will use these funds to support SILC operations (Coordinator, Fiscal Agent and Webmaster contracts, for example) and SILC activities including holding conference information tables, membership in partner organizations and implementation of the SPIL goals.

Use of Funding for Un-served/Under-served Populations and Locations - these groups/areas are listed under Section 2.2 Outreach. SILC will provide informational materials in English and Spanish to CILs for catchment-area distribution. Along with centers, SILC will use its website and social media to share general IL concepts and IL-related activities and issues, to promote the Network of Centers, and to obtain consumer input.

Along with CILs, SILC will provide IL material to faith-based and ethnic-based community programs for the groups and locales listed in 2.2.

Along with the CILs and the DSE, SILC will outreach to/provide IL materials to 1) schools with transitioning students 2) state agencies serving people with disabilities including students.

DHS via DDS Distributions

NJNCIL Administration Fees \$60,000.00

Alliance Center for Independence \$287,661.00

Atlantic Center for Independent Living \$226,931.00

Camden City Independent Living Center \$173,353.57

Center for Independent Living/South Jersey \$226,931.46

DAWN Center for Independent Living \$341,298.37

DIAL Independent Living Center \$301,541.34

Heightened Independence and Progress Bergen \$234,761.22
 Heightened Independence and Progress Hudson \$229,975.00
 MOCEANS Center for Independent Living \$226,931.46
 Progressive Center for Independent Living \$230,664.03
 Resources for Independent Living Burlington \$229,975.00
 Resources for Independent Living CSC \$229,975.41

Section 2: Scope, Extent and Arrangements of Services

2.1 - SERVICES

Services to be provided to persons with significant disabilities that promote full access to community life including geographic scope, determination of eligibility, and statewide reach.

Core Independent Living Services: Information and referral

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Core Independent Living Services: IL skills training

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Core Independent Living Services: Peer counseling

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	No
Provided By	CIL

Core Independent Living Services: Individual and systems advocacy

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Transition Services: Transition from nursing homes and other institutions

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Transition Services: Diversion from institutions

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Transition Services: Transition of youth (who were eligible for an IEP) to post-secondary life

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Services related to securing housing or shelter, including services related to community group living, and supportive of the purposes of this Act and of the titles of this Act, and adaptive housing services (including appropriate accommodations to and modifications of any space used to serve, or occupied by, individuals with disabilities) Note: CILs are not allowed to own or operate housing.

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Rehabilitation technology

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes

Provided By	CIL
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Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life skills training, and interpreter and reader services

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Personal assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation opportunities, and accessible transportation and other support services

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Consumer information programs on rehabilitation and independent living services available under this Act, especially for minorities and other individuals with disabilities who have traditionally been unserved or underserved by programs under this Act

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Transportation, including referral and assistance for such transportation and training in the use of public transportation vehicles and systems

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Individual and group social and recreational services

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Training to develop skills specifically designed for youths who are individuals with significant disabilities to promote self-awareness and esteem, develop advocacy and self-empowerment skills, and explore career options

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Services for children

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Services under other Federal, State, or local programs designed to provide resources, training, counseling, or other assistance, of substantial benefit in enhancing the independence, productivity, and quality of life of individuals with disabilities

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Appropriate preventive services to decrease the need of individuals with disabilities for similar services in the future

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes

Provided By	CIL
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Community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with disabilities

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Such other necessary services as may be necessary and not inconsistent with the Act

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

2.1 - OPTIONAL MAP ATTACHMENT

Uploaded Document Name:

2.2 - OUTREACH TO UNSERVED AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

2.2 Statewide Outreach to Un-served and Underserved Populations and Locations

1. Definition of Terms

2.2 Statewide Outreach to Un-served and Underserved Populations and Locations

1. Definition of Terms

SILC is using the definitions established by USDOE Rehabilitation Services Administration, the decades-long Federal Administrator of Disability Independent Living Programs prior to DHHS ACL.

Un-served populations or locales where IL services have not 'penetrated'; i.e., a very small portion of the population or area *may* know about IL or even seek services, but there is no significant knowledge/use of IL philosophy or programs, no receipt of Core Services.

Underserved specific populations or localities which *can* be identified as needing more contact and/or more service provision; a 'connection' with the group or place already exists.

1. How Populations/Locales Are Determined

Several resources are used: CIL Performance Reports and CILs' quarterly reports to SILC (both B and C centers); Federal or State Department of Health data.

1. Targeted Populations and/or Geographic Areas (not in order of priority)
2. Asian Community (particularly Korean in some areas and Indian in some areas)
3. Black Community (statewide)
4. Hispanic (statewide)
5. Rural sections of south Jersey (especially in Cape May, Gloucester, Salem counties)
6. Rural sections of northwest Jersey (especially in Sussex and Warren)
7. Rural sections of east central Jersey (especially in Atlantic, Ocean counties)
8. All of Union County in central NJ (a populated, developed county with high IL need)
9. Disability groups: adults with Intellectual/Developmental impairments, disabled vets, Pw/D transitioning from nursing homes to community living

1. Statewide Outreach Methods/Activities and Their 'Conductors'

- SILC and CIL websites and social media - SILC, CILs
- DSE presentations to schools, businesses, medical service providers - Local/Central Office staff

- Print material and presentations to faith-based organizations - SILC, CILs
- Print material and presentations to ethnic-specific/disability-specific community organizations -

SILC, CILs (may require translation of print material into languages other than English)

- Print material and presentations at public sites/programs, such as libraries and community centers - SILC, CILs, DSE

Evaluation Plan: SILC and all CIL PPRs will address these Outreach Activities in the narratives of Sections 18 (CILs) or 19 (SILC). NJSILC is using the definitions established by USDoE Rehabilitation Services Administration, the decades-long Federal Administrator of Disability Independent Living Programs prior to DHHS ACL.

2.3 - COORDINATION

Plans for coordination of services and cooperation between programs and organizations that support community life for persons with disabilities.

Section 2.3 Coordination of Services/Cooperation Among Entities

SILC/CILs/DSE - attend assorted meetings, keep in touch/share tasks on projects, share IL-related information, provide contracts/reports as needed.

State Disability-Related Agencies - per SPIL Objective 1.1, outreach to agencies such as NJ Developmental Disabilities Council, Division of Disability Services, Offices of Special Education, Division for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Office on Aging Services, Governor's Ombudsman for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and their Families, to attend SILC meetings several times a year and to provide presentations at meetings or trainings; and for SILC to do likewise. With Governor's Office, follow up monthly on Council candidate submissions.

A SILC member participates in the Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Network and spearheads an employment-related work group.

Other State Agencies -maintain partnerships with Office on Emergency Management and NJ Transit via attendance at their sessions, communication with their leadership and regular invitation to SILC meetings.

Community-Based Agencies - per SPIL Objectives, develop contact with statewide and local disability-specific groups, ethnic-specific associations, high school special services departments, faith-based organizations, community services sites such as libraries and senior centers.

Other Community-Based Agencies - maintain partnerships via membership with housing organizations such as Housing and Community Development Council of NJ and Supported Housing Association; with these two, the Housing Subject Matter Expert (SME) continues to attend their meetings and maintain contact with their directors; maintain partnership with Association for Persons Supporting Employment via membership and attendance at the annual state conference.

Section 3: Network of Centers

3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

Current Centers for Independent Living including: legal name, geographic area and counties served, and source(s) of funding. Oversight process, by source of funds, and oversight entity.

3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

Alliance Center for Independence

Counties Served: Middlesex, Somerset, Union

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR, and other reports as requested, to DSE

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR, and other reports as requested, to grant provider and DSE.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to DSE.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits reports as required to the grant provider.

Oversight Entity: DSE, Other (Governmental and on-governmental grant providers)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Middlesex (Full Services)

Somerset (Full Services)

Union (Full Services)

Atlantic Center for Independent Living

Counties Served: Atlantic

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR, and other reports as requested, to DSE

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits reports as requested to grant provider and DSE.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to DSE.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits reports as requested to grant provider.

Oversight Entity: DSE, Other (governmental and non-governmental grant providers)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Atlantic (Full Services)

CAMDEN CITY INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER, INC.

Counties Served: Camden

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR to ACL

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits reports as requested to grant provider and DSE.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to DSE.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits reports as required to grant provider

Oversight Entity: DSE, Other (Governmental and non-governmental grant providers)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Camden (Full Services)

Center for Independent Living - South Jersey

Counties Served: Camden, Gloucester

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR, and other reports as required, to DSE.

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits reports as requested to grant provider and DSE.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to DSE.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits reports as required to grant provider.

Oversight Entity: DSE, Other (Non-governmental grant providers)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Camden (Full Services)

Gloucester (Full Services)

DAWN Center for Independent Living

Counties Served: Morris, Sussex, Warren

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR, and other requested reports, to DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR to ACL.

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider, sometimes via ACL.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR, and other requested reports, to DSE. CIL submits some requested reports to another state funding source.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP, Other (Governmental and non-governmental grant providers)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Morris (Full Services)

Sussex (Full Services)

Warren (Full Services)

DIAL-Center for Independent Living

Counties Served: Essex, Passaic

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR to ACL.

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider, sometimes via ACL

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP, Other (Non-governmental grant provider)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Essex (Full Services)

Passaic (Full Services)

Heightened Independence and Progress

Counties Served: Bergen

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR to ACL.

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider, sometimes via ACL.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider and sometimes ACL.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider.

Oversight Entity: ACL/OILP, Other (Non-governmental grant provider)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Bergen (Full Services)

Heightened Independence and Progress

Counties Served: Hudson

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR to ACL.

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider, sometimes via ACL.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider and sometimes ACL.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider.

Oversight Entity: ACL/OILP, Other (Governmental and non-governmental grant providers)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Hudson (Full Services)

MOCEANS Center for Independent Living

Counties Served: Monmouth, Ocean

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR, and other reports as requested, to DSE.

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider and DSE.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to DSE.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider.

Oversight Entity: DSE, Other (Governmental and non-governmental grant providers)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Monmouth (Full Services)

Ocean (Full Services)

Progressive Center for Independent Living, Inc.

Counties Served: Hunterdon, Mercer

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits PPR, and other requested reports, to ACL.

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider, sometimes via ACL.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider and sometimes ACL.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant providers.

Oversight Entity: ACL/OILP, Other (Governmental and non-governmental grant providers)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Hunterdon (Full Services)

Mercer (Full Services)

Resources for Independent Living, Inc.

Counties Served: Burlington, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to ACL.

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider and sometimes ACL.

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits requested reports to grant provider.

Oversight Entity: ACL/OILP, Other (Governmental and non-governmental grant providers)

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Burlington (Full Services)

Cape May (Full Services)

Cumberland (Full Services)

Salem (Full Services)

3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

CIL Network

Explain the criteria for defining the CIL network, bearing in mind that those CILs included in the network should be those eligible to sign the SPIL.

Criteria for Defining the CIL Network/SPIL Signatories

Pursuant to 45 CFR 1329.17 (d)(2)(iii), New Jersey shall adhere to the following process to verify which Centers for Independent Living are eligible to sign the SPIL (State Plan for Independent Living):

- 1.) Centers designated as "Part B" Centers: those sub-grantees receiving federal Chapter 1 Title VII Part B funds through the DSE (Currently the NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services) shall be non-profit corporations in compliance with Section 725 of the federal Rehabilitation Act as Amended and pursuant to NJ Executive Order #106 (10/15/93). Compliance will be determined by acceptance/approval of the most recent Program Performance Report (PPR)/704 Report by the DSE (Designated State Entity).
- 2.) Centers designated as "Part C" Centers: those grantees receiving federal Chapter 1 Title VII Part C funds as a federal grantee through Independent Living Administration of Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shall be non-profit corporations in compliance with Section 725 of the federal Rehabilitation Act as Amended and pursuant to NJ Executive Order #106 (10/15/93). Compliance will be determined by acceptance/approval of the most recent Program Performance Report (PPR)/704 Report by ACL (Administration for Community Living).
- 3.) Prior to the signing of the SPIL, the SILC Chair shall request formal notice from executive leadership at Part B and Part C Centers by written verification of their Center's compliance with requirements for eligibility as a signatory.
- 4.) A minimum of 51% of the Centers in New Jersey determined to be in compliance with the requirements defined above must sign the NJ State Plan for Independent Living for the document to be in-force. For purposes of this provision, if a legal entity that constitutes the "Center"

has multiple Part C grants considered as separate Centers for all other purposes, for SPIL signature purposes, it is only considered as one Center. An eligible signatory shall routinely be defined as President/CEO; Executive Director; or other individual with the vested legal authority to transact business on behalf of the Center.

3.2 - EXPANSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF NETWORK

Plan and priorities for use of funds, by funding source, including Part B funds, Part C funds, State funds, and other funds, whether current, increased, or one-time funding, and methodology for distribution of funds. Use of funds to build capacity of existing Centers, establish new Centers, and/or increase the statewide reach of the Network.(Follow the instructions in Title VII, Part C of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.)

Definition of served, unserved, and underserved.

3.2 Expansion and Adjustment of Network

Definition of served, unserved, and underserved.

SILC is using the definitions established by USDoE Rehabilitation Services Administration, the decades-long Federal Administrator of Disability Independent Living Programs prior to DHHS ACL.

Unserved - populations or locales where IL services have not 'penetrated'; i.e., a very small portion of the population or area *may* know about IL or even seek services, but there is no significant knowledge/use of IL philosophy or programs, no receipt of Core Services.

Underserved - specific populations or localities which *can* be identified as needing more contact and/or more service provision; a 'connection' with the group or place already exists.

Served - populations and localities that are 'penetrated' by IL; they are familiar with IL philosophy, CILs and their available services, know how to contact them.

Minimum funding level for a Center and formula/plan for distribution of funds to ensure that each Center receives at least the minimum.

The minimum funding level for a CIL - B or C - is \$380,000. This cost is not unreasonable since NJ is in the top 10 most expensive states to live which effects site rental, personnel costs, transportation, and other CIL expenses.

None of the centers - either B or C - receive this level or more of federal, or state, or other funding to provide IL services.

In NJ, the B centers are essential to IL service provision, covering 9 of the 21 counties.

There is no way to distribute funding more evenly unless B sites became Cs OR State Match funds were dramatically increased.

Priorities for establishment of new CIL(s)

For many years, the underserved counties/sites identified for a new CIL have been Union and Ocean, in that order. (Union is a highly populated county with a large city that has several underserved ethnic populations and low-income populations. Ocean is a less populated, higher-income county but has many rural areas with reduced access to all types of service programs.)

Action/process for distribution of funds relinquished or removed from a Center and/or if a Center closes.

Based on past experience with a C CIL suddenly closing, the SILC and CIL Network would want remaining funds (if any) for that FY to be awarded to the geographically closest C center to continue services in the closed center's catchment area through that FY OR until a new C CIL was established via the usual RFP process, whichever came first.

Plan to build capacity of existing CILs and/or expand statewide by establishing branch offices and/or satellites of existing CILs.

Branch offices or satellites already exist for B and C centers, for them to have a presence in each county they serve.

Plan/formula for distribution of new funds (Part B, Part C, one-time funds, etc.)

1) Should the minimum funding of at least \$380,000 of new, above-COLA Part C funds and/or State funds to establish a new CIL become available, Union and Ocean counties would be the priorities for a new CIL competition, per the RFP process. The CIL selection will be made with input from SILC and key selection criteria will be not only the program plans of but also the resources of the applicants.

2) Should additional above COLA, permanent, regular Part C funds be available that are less than the \$380,000 minimum level mentioned previously becomes available, the funds will be distributed proportionally to the existing C centers whose funding bases are below that level in order to bring them as close as available funding permits to that minimum funding level.

3) If State funds become available at less than the \$380,000 level recommended for a new center, the money should be divided first equally to the existing B centers whose funding bases are below that level to bring them as close as available funding permits and if additional funds are available, the balance distributed amongst existing C CILs to raise them to the minimum level. The option chosen will be guided by the federal and state regulations at that time.

4) Any amount of new, Part C funds, above COLA but under \$380,000 remaining after under-base-funding centers reach the \$380,000 level will be distributed equally amongst the Part C centers, including the centers just brought up to base funding.

Plan/formula for adjusting distribution of funds when cut/reduced.

For both C and B centers (i.e., State and Federal funds), such a challenging situation probably would result in a proportional reduction in each center's funding.

The Network already has established a proportional guide for the B centers use and would create one for the Cs.

Plan for changes to Center service areas and/or funding levels to accommodate expansion and/or adjustment of the Network. State the needed change(s) as concretely and succinctly as possible.

Service Area Changes: If new CILs were opened in one or both counties identified as priorities for such funding (Union and Ocean) by CILs not currently serving those areas, then Alliance CIL would serve only Middlesex and Somerset Counties and MOCEANS CIL would serve only Monmouth County.

Funding Changes: If funding levels increase or decrease in such a manner that impacts service areas negatively, the SILC will work with the Association of Centers to determine how service areas may be combined, divided up, or served in a different method to mitigate the negative impact.

Minimum funding level for a Center and formula/plan for distribution of funds to ensure that each Center receives at least the minimum.

Priorities for establishment of new CIL(s).

Action/process for distribution of funds relinquished or removed from a Center and/or if a Center closes.

Plan to build capacity of existing CILs and/or expand statewide reach by establishing branch offices and/or satellites of existing CILs.

Plan/formula for distribution of new funds (Part B, Part C, one-time funds, etc.)

1) Should the minimum funding of at least \$380,000 of new, above-COLA Part C funds and/or State funds to establish a new CIL become available, Union and Ocean counties would be the priorities for a new CIL competition, per the RFP process. The CIL selection will be made

with input from SILC and key selection criteria will be not only the program plans of but also the resources of the applicants.

2) Should additional above COLA, permanent, regular Part C funds be available that are less than the \$380,000 minimum level mentioned previously becomes available, the funds will be distributed proportionally to the existing C centers whose funding bases are below that level in order to bring them as close as available funding permits to that minimum funding level.

3) If State funds become available at less than the \$380,000 level recommended for a new center, the money should be divided first equally to the existing B centers whose funding bases are below that level in order to bring them as close as available funding permits and if additional funds are available, the balance distributed amongst existing C CILs to raise them to the minimum level. The option chosen will be guided by the federal and state regulations at that time.

4) Any amount of new, Part C funds, above COLA but under \$380,000 remaining after under-base-funding centers reach the \$380,000 level will be distributed equally amongst the Part C centers, including the centers just brought up to base funding.

Plan/formula for adjusting distribution of funds when cut/reduced.

For both C and B centers (i.e., State and Federal funds), such a challenging situation probably would result in a proportional reduction in each center's funding.

The Network already has established a proportional guide for the B centers use and would create one for the Cs.

Plan for changes to Center service areas and/or funding levels to accommodate expansion and/or adjustment of the Network. State the needed change(s) as concretely and succinctly as possible.

Service Area Changes: If new CILs were opened in one or both of the counties identified as priorities for such funding (Union and Ocean) by CILs not currently serving those areas, then Alliance CIL would serve only Middlesex and Somerset Counties and MOCEANS CIL would serve only Monmouth Counties.

Funding Changes: If funding levels increase or decrease in such a manner that impacts service areas negatively, the SILC will work with the Association of Centers to determine how service areas may be combined, divided up, or served in a different method to mitigate the negative impact.

Temporary Changes (if applicable) Other (if applicable)

Section 4: Designated State Entity

4.0 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

NJ Department of Labor and Workforce will serve as the entity in New Jersey designated to receive, administer, and account for funds made available to the state under Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B of the Act on behalf of the State.

4.1 - DSE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. receive, account for, and disburse funds received by the State under this chapter based on the plan;
2. provide administrative support services for a program under Part B, and a program under Part C in a case in which the program is administered by the State under section 723;
3. keep such records and afford such access to such records as the Administrator finds to be necessary with respect to the programs;
4. submit such additional information or provide such assurances as the Administrator may require with respect to the programs; and
5. retain not more than 5 percent of the funds received by the State for any fiscal year under Part B for the performance of the services outlined in paragraphs (1) through (4).

4.2 - ADMINISTRATION AND STAFFING: DSE ASSURANCES

Administrative and staffing support provided by the DSE.

The DSE uses no more than 10% of the Part B appropriation. Oversight is provided by the DOL fiscal and internal audit departments to ensure compliance.

No DSE employees serve as staff to the SILC.

4.3 - STATE-IMPOSED REQUIREMENTS

State-imposed requirements contained in the provisions of this SPIL including:

- State law, regulation, rule, or policy relating to the DSE's administration, funding, or operation of IL programs and/or establishment, funding, and operations of the SILC
- Rule or policy implementing any Federal law, regulation, or guideline that is beyond what would be required to comply with 45 CFR 1329
- That limits, expands, or alters requirements for the SPIL

State-imposed requirements do exist in terms of the SILC's 'Composition and Funding use'.

DSE has IL Liaison that attends and report on activities.

Section 705 of the Rehab Act requires one CIL Director as a member, a representative from the DSE as a non-voting member, and representatives from other State Agencies that serve people with disabilities but does not state specific number of representatives or from which specific agencies.

Executive Order 106 (1993) which established the SILC in NJ requires not only an ex officio DSE representative (#3a) but also ex officio members from 6 specific State Agencies that provide services to people with disabilities (#3b) and also 3 CIL Directors from 3 specific sections of the State (3c).

Funding Use - There are no carryover of funding from one (1) fiscal year to a totally new fiscal year. Contract Extensions and Contract Modifications can be done with a formal request to change contract terms in order to complete goals and deliverables.

Jointly develops and signs (in conjunction with DVRS) the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) required in Title VII, Chapter 1, Part A, Section 704 of P.L. 105-220, and any amendments if required during the project period.

Prepares in conjunction with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) a resource plan for the provision of resources, including staff and personnel that may be necessary to carry out the functions of the SILC under Section 705.

Monitors, reviews and evaluates the implementation of the approved SPIL.

Coordinates activities with the State Rehabilitation Council and other entities established under Title I, Part A, Section 101 (a)(3c) and Section 105 of P.L. 102-569 that address the needs of specific disability populations and are issued under other Federal law (WIOA 475).

Ensures that all regularly scheduled meetings of the council are open to the public, meetings are accessible, and that sufficient notice is provided.

Submits to the Director of Administration for Community Living, United States Department of Health and Human Services, such periodic reports as the Director may request and keeps such records and afford such access to such records as the Director finds necessary to verify such reports.

SILC concerns and observations were promptly reported to DSE Leadership and if needed, appropriate action implemented.

4.4 - GRANT PROCESS and DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

Grant processes, policies, and procedures to be followed by the DSE in the awarding of grants of Part B funds.

Instructions: Describe the processes, policies, and procedures to be followed by the DSE in the awarding of grants of Part B funds including: (all of the following are required)

Process for soliciting proposals

The Grants of Part B funds proposals details were appropriately communicated to the Five (5) IL B Centers The following actions were implemented:

- Prompt and clear communication to IL B Centers about proposals and timeline for submission of proposals.
- DSE receives the proposals which includes Budget for review.
- DSE IL Liaison and designated DSE Professionals' reviews proposals and make recommendations.
- The Part B grants were awarded with terms of reporting, evaluation, fiscal reviews and monitoring - Mandated audit reviews, Monthly reports sent to DSE, Scheduled visits to IL B Centers to ensure compliance, and work with IL B Centers in conducting internal

self-audits.

- Overall, DSE receive, account for, and disburse funds received by the State under Chapter 1 and Section 705 of Title VII of the Act (and 34 CFR parts 364 and 365, as applicable) based on the plan.
- Provide applicable administrative support services for the New Jersey SILC and under Part B of Chapter 1 and 34 CFR parts 364 and 365; and keep records and afford access to these records as necessary with respect to the New Jersey SILC and other Part B authorized activities.
- Grants are awarded each year to the IL B Centers and the CILS. The state funding awarded is contingent upon the state fiscal budget allocated each year.

Development of format for proposals

Process for reviewing proposals and who reviewers will be

Process for evaluating performance and compliance of grantees

4.5 - OVERSIGHT PROCESS FOR PART B FUNDS

The oversight process to be followed by the DSE.

Below are DSE oversight process:

DSE comprehensive audits - evaluation, fiscal reviews and monitoring.

DSE mandated IL B Centers monthly reports.

DSE IL Liaison scheduled visits to IL B Centers to ensure compliance.

Action plans of IL B Centers DSE audits and internal self-audits

DSE also provides feedback, technical assistance and trainings.

Provides support for IL B Centers with respects to programmatic issues.

The DSE not only monitors these contracts but is available for technical assistance to both B and C centers. Monthly reports are provided by the B Centers throughout the year and services and financial information is monitored as it comes in. The Part B Centers allots funds to cover the costs of private accountants to handle the auditing responsibility. The DSE assists in formalizing SILC membership, keeps records regarding the SILC and the Part B Centers, and provides technical assistance in the completion of the SPIL and the 704 report and modifications to either, if necessary. DVRS has a central office liaison assigned to the SILC. This individual provides monthly updates at meetings on contract issues, state and federal regs and procedures, technical assistance and the other relevant DSE activities.

4.6 - 722 VS. 723 STATE

722 State

Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

5.1 - ESTABLISHMENT OF SILC

How the SILC is established and SILC autonomy is assured.

NJ Statewide Independent Living Council was established by Governor's Executive Order #106 in 1993.

Administratively, it is 'placed' in the NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) which is part of the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD); however, it is not an office within either of those entities and they in turn have no authority over the Council.

LWD receives federal IL funding for the SILC and B Centers, passes it on to DVRS, which in turn distributes it to SILC and B Centers. DVRS maintains contracts with those two groups and oversees their fiscal functioning and federal/state regulation compliance for B-funded CILs.

Although DVRS does not control SILC decision-making or operations, the method for distributing funds to SILC (and B CILs) on a quarterly schedule sometimes has presented cash-flow and operational problems. The SILC cannot envision hiring a salaried staff with this kind of uncertain cash flow procedure. Nevertheless, this is a money-management effort on LWD's part, not an effort by DVRS/DSE to control SILC.

DVRS also contracts with C centers for projects (special grants such as Fee for Service) but does not oversee those centers' programming except for those contracted activities.

NJSILC is a non-profit and as such has the capacity to develop its own funds.

DSE liaisons attend SILC meetings both to share DVRS information and to hear about SILC's concerns and activities.

The New Jersey SILC has 17 voting member seats and now works directly with the Governor's Office for Appointments in having nominees' applications processed as quickly as possible. As a federal compliance matter, SILC also follows-up with that Office on the appointment of Ex-Officios, even though those nominations are made by the State programs they represent.

5.2 - SILC RESOURCE PLAN

Resources (including necessary and sufficient funding, staff/administrative support, and in-kind), by funding source and amount, for SILC to fulfill all duties and authorities.

Funding sources may include "Innovation and Expansion (IandE) funds authorized by 29 U.S.C. 721(a)(18); Independent Living Part B funds; State matching funds; [state allotments of Vocational Rehabilitation funding;] other public funds (such as Social Security reimbursement funds); and private sources."

5.2 SILC Resource plan

A) Descriptions of Resources

SILC is funded by Innovation and Expansion monies. The \$85,140 is used for SILC operations and activities per the Budget Pages included in its yearly contract with the DSE.

1. Auditor (\$3,000) - performs the required annual review of the SILC accounting records. The auditor contract is arranged by the Fiscal Agent but the agreement is signed by the SILC Chair.

2. Fiscal Agent (\$10,000) - Manages the SILC's financial activities, at the SILC's direction. Makes some SILC member travel and site reservations

(such as Expo). Maintains and implements information technology contracts and payments. Assists with the preparation of budgets and modifications. Arranges the annual audit. Communicates with vendors to resolve delivery or billing issues. Financial duties including bank reconciliation, payment of bills, maintenance of fiscal records and preparation of expenditure reports and communicating with DVRS/DOL on funding transmittal.

3. Personal Assistants (\$1,000) - used by several Council members to assist them during SILC related activities

4. Sign Language Interpreters/CART (\$1,000) - hired on an as needed basis for SILC activities, as a disability accommodation.

5. SILC Coordinator (\$26,300) - paid as an Independent Contractor with billing submitted for payment each month and receives no fringe benefits. The Coordinator is responsible for assisting with preparation of the 704 report, contracts and budgets; for organizing Council and Executive Board meetings; for arranging speakers, special projects, trainings and public forums; for staffing SILC information tables at conferences.

6. Website (\$1,500) - covers purchase of host services and maintenance of site via webmaster.

Travel - \$2,000.

1. This budget line covers travel expenses for Council members or their representatives at events such as meetings, trainings and conferences. Travel will be reimbursed at the state mileage rate of .47 cents per mile and per receipted amounts for tolls and train fare.

Materials and Supplies - \$6,000.

1. This budget line covers consumable office items such as stamps, stationery and ink cartridges, printing of materials which include brochures and business cards and meeting costs. In addition to reprinting existing materials, the SPIL requires creation, printing and wide distribution of new IL-related flyers or brochures, contributing to higher costs.

Other - \$34,340.

1.Expo (\$2,000) - to reserve exhibit tables for three days at the 2025 Disabilities Expo.

2.Advertising (\$2,500) - newspaper notices for meetings/forums, member recruitment, public relations including promotion of IL/SILC philosophy and activities.

3.Alternate Media (\$750) - brailing of meeting minutes and official SILC documents if needed.

4.Conferences and Trainings (\$19,540) - cover participation fees for Council members or SILC representatives for conferences (in or out of state), classroom or online trainings and the annual training.

5.Dues and Subscriptions (\$7,000) - annual membership in independent living and disability-related organizations including but not limited to subscriptions to virtual platforms (Zoom) and ReciteMe, a website accessibility tool.

6.Insurance (\$2,550) - the SILC carries its own policies for directors and officers, general liability and a dishonesty bond

Process used to develop the Resource Plan.

Process for disbursement of funds to facilitate effective operations of SILC.

Justification if more than 30% of the Part B appropriation is to be used for the SILC Resource Plan

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5.3 - MAINTENANCE OF SILC

How State will maintain the SILC over the course of the SPIL.

Instructions: Describe the process used by the State to appoint members to the SILC who meet the composition requirements in section 705(b). Indicate who appoints members to the SILC, how the State ensures that the SILC composition and qualification requirements are met, how the chair is selected, how term limits are maintained, and how SILC vacancies are filled. Describe how the specific SILC-staffing requirements listed in the SPIL Instrument will be addressed. Concisely describe or cite relevant written policies, procedures, by-laws, technical assistance, and monitoring activities, or other practices.

Describe how the State will ensure that: (all of the following are required)

The SILC is established and operating

5.3 Maintenance of SILC

SILC is a 17-member voting body.

Per NJ regulations, three members must be 1) CIL Directors who 2) represent the northern, central, and southern areas of the state. (Note: for disability composition purposes, this state requirement can present compliance problems).

In New Jersey, the SILC Appointing Authority is the Governor's Appointments Office (GAO).

In NJ, non-CIL Director applicants for SILC membership can come from the community or from the Governor's Office by submission of a note/email of interest in serving and a resume.

NJACIL selects the Directors who will be nominated for SILC membership.

The SILC Recruitment Committee does ongoing outreach to develop other applicants.

Applicants are interviewed by the Coordinator to ensure their qualifications for Council membership and to meet composition guidelines. Questions are drawn from Section 705.

The Coordinator prepares a summary of the interview and submits it to the Council for review and a vote on whether or not to nominate the applicant for a seat.

If nominated, the resumes and Membership Forms of nominees are sent simultaneously to the DSE and to the SILC contact at the GAO.

The SILC Coordinator follows up on the status of those nominations via monthly contact with the GAO. This may involve providing information about federal SILC composition and term limits regulations.

That office advises the nominees and the Council when it makes appointments.

The Coordinator also advises the GOA and the DSE when a member's term has ended or if a member has left, as soon as either situation occurs.

SILC appointees serve 3- year terms and may be re-appointed to a second 3 year term. Members appointed to complete a former member's term, may seek two full terms 'of their own' after the partial term.

Twice a year, the DSE requests a SILC Membership List with start and end dates of each member's appointment. This helps it ensure that members are gubernatorially appointed and do not remain on the Council after their terms have ended.

With those lists, SILC includes information on Council's disability composition.

Also, the DSE Ex Officio attends meetings and SILC activities and thus helps the DSE keep informed about SILC functioning.

The DSE submits its own nominee to the GAO for appointment to an Ex-Officio (EO) seat.

EO appointments also are subject to the three- year term length and two term maximum.

If the EO member is reassigned by the DSE, it is the DSE's responsibility to ensure that a new appointment is made by the GAO, to ensure composition compliance.

Per SILC By-Laws, the Council has four officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, who are elected to two-year terms. The Chair and Secretary are elected in the even years; the Vice-Chair and Treasurer, in odd years. Although the Chair is a voting member, per By-Laws he/she does not vote except to break a tie.

As noted previously, SILC has no employees. It uses Independent Contractors, via yearly contracts, to act as Coordinator and Webmaster and contracts with a CIL to act as its Fiscal Agent. When an Executive Director and Secretarial Support Person are hired, they will operate as Independent Contractors, at least for the first year.

SILC does not use DSE staff to help perform its duties (although the DSE naturally has some of its staff assigned to IL-related duties, e.g., the Ex Officio/SILC Liaison and the DSE's Contract Administrator) nor does SILC use DSE space or equipment to perform SILC activities.

NJ Statewide Independent Living Council was established by Governor's Executive Order #106 in 1993. Administratively, it is 'placed' in the NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) which is part of the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD); however, it is not a an office within either of those entities and they in turn have no authority over the Council. No state employees work for the SILC as staff. As stated elsewhere, the DSE fiscal policies imposed by its parent organization may hinder timely payment of future staffing, but SILC does not perceive this as intentional hindrance of its autonomy.

Beginning with the last SPIL and new leadership at the DSE, the SILC assumed a more prominent role in the Resource Plan and began to

negotiate with the DSE for increased funding. For its part, the SILC does not control its own funding level and relies on the DSE to make this assurance.

Appointments are made in a timely manner to keep the SILC in compliance with the Act

The SILC is organized in a way to ensure it is not part of any state agency

The SILC has the autonomy necessary to fulfill its duties and authorities, including “[working] with CILs to coordinate services with public and private entities, . . . conducting resource development, and performing such other functions . . . as the [SILC] determines to be appropriate

Necessary and sufficient resources are provided for the SILC Resource Plan to ensure the SILC has the capacity to fulfill its statutory duties and authorities

Section 6: Legal Basis and Certifications

6.1 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

The state entity/agency designated to receive and distribute funding, as directed by the SPIL, under Title VII, Part B of the Act is NJ Department of Labor and Workforce.

Authorized representative of the DSE Charyl Yarbrough. Title: Assistant Commissioner.

6.2 - STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)

The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) that meets the requirements of section 705 of the Act and is authorized to perform the functions outlined in section 705(c) of the Act in the State is New Jersey Statewide Independent Living Council.

6.3 - CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CILS)

The Centers for Independent Living (CILs) eligible to sign the SPIL, a minimum of 51% whom must sign prior to submission, are:

Alliance Center for Independence

Atlantic Center for Independent Living

CAMDEN CITY INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER, INC.

Center for Independent Living - South Jersey

DAWN Center for Independent Living

DIAL-Center for Independent Living

Heightened Independence and Progress

Heightened Independence and Progress

MOCEANS Center for Independent Living

Progressive Center for Independent Living, Inc.

Resources for Independent Living, Inc.

6.4.A

The SILC is authorized to submit the SPIL to the Independent Living Administration, Administration for Community Living.

Yes

6.4.B

The SILC and CILs may legally carryout each provision of the SPIL.

Yes

6.4.C

State/DSE operation and administration of the program is authorized by the SPIL.

Yes

Section 7: DSE Assurances

DSE ASSURANCES

Charyl Yarbrough acting on behalf of the DSE NJ Department of Labor and Workforce located at:

Street: John Fitch Plaza 12th FL Box 398

City: Trenton

State: NJ

Zip Code: 8625

7.1

The DSE acknowledges its role on behalf of the State, as the fiscal intermediary to receive, account for, and disburse funds received by the State to support Independent Living Services in the State based on the plan;

7.2

The DSE will assure that the agency keeps appropriate records, in accordance with federal and state law, and provides access to records by the federal funding agency upon request;

7.3

The DSE will not retain more than 5 percent of the funds received by the State for any fiscal year under Part B for administrative expenses;

7.4

The DSE assures that the SILC is established as an autonomous entity within the State as required in 45 CFR 1329.14;

7.5

The DSE will not interfere with the business or operations of the SILC that include but are not limited to:

1. Expenditure of federal funds

2. Meeting schedules and agendas
3. SILC board business
4. Voting actions of the SILC board
5. Personnel actions
6. Allowable travel
7. Trainings

7.6

The DSE will abide by SILC determination of whether the SILC wants to utilize DSE staff:

1. If the SILC informs the DSE that the SILC wants to utilize DSE staff, the DSE assures that management of such staff with regard to activities and functions performed for the SILC is the sole responsibility of the SILC in accordance with Sec. 705(e)(3) of the Act (Sec. 705(e)(3), 29 U.S.C.796d(e)(3)).

7.7

The DSE will fully cooperate with the SILC in the nomination and appointment process for the SILC in the State;

7.8

The DSE shall make timely and prompt payments to Part B funded SILCs and CILs:

1. When the reimbursement method is used, the DSE must make a payment within 30 calendar days after receipt of the billing, unless the agency or pass-through entity reasonably believes the request to be improper;
2. When necessary, the DSE will advance payments to Part B funded SILCs and CILs to cover its estimated disbursement needs for an initial period generally geared to the mutually agreed upon disbursing cycle; and
3. The DSE will accept requests for advance payments and reimbursements at least monthly when electronic fund transfers

are not used, and as often as necessary when electronic fund transfers are used, in accordance with the provisions of the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (15 U.S.C. 1693-1693r).

DSE SIGNATURE SECTION

Charyl Yarbrough

Name of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Director - Interim

Title of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Charyl Yarbrough

Electronic Signature

09/24/2024

Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

Section 8: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) Assurances and Indicators of Minimum Compliance

8.1 - SILC ASSURANCES

Colleen Roche acting on behalf of the SILC New Jersey Statewide Independent Living Council located at:

Street: c/o PCIL 3635 Quakerbridge Rd .Ste. 40

City: Hamilton

State: NJ

Zip Code: 08619

45 CFR 1329.14 assures that:

1. The SILC regularly (not less than annually) provides the appointing authority recommendations for eligible appointments;
2. The SILC is composed of the requisite members set forth in the Act;
3. The SILC terms of appointment adhere to the Act;
4. The SILC is not established as an entity within a State agency in accordance with 45 CFR Sec. 1329.14(b);
5. The SILC will make the determination of whether it wants to utilize DSE staff to carry out the functions of the SILC;
 - a. The SILC must inform the DSE if it chooses to utilize DSE staff;
 - b. The SILC assumes management and responsibility of such staff with regard to activities and functions performed for the SILC in accordance with the Act.
6. The SILC shall ensure all program activities are accessible to people with disabilities;
7. The State Plan shall provide assurances that the designated State entity, any other agency, office, or entity of the State will not interfere with operations of the SILC, except as provided by law and regulation and;
8. The SILC actively consults with unserved and underserved populations in urban and rural areas that include, indigenous populations as appropriate for State Plan development as described in Sec. 713(b)(7) the Act regarding Authorized Uses of Funds.

8.2 - INDICATORS OF MINIMUM COMPLIANCE

Indicators of minimum compliance for Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILC) as required by the Rehabilitation Act (Section 706(b), 29 U.S.C. Sec 796d-1(b)), as amended and supported by 45 CFR 1329.14-1329.16; and Assurances for Designated State Entities (DSE) as permitted by Section 704(c)(4) of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. Sec. 796c(c)(4)), as amended.

(a) STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL INDICATORS -

1. SILC written policies and procedures must include:
 - a. A method for recruiting members, reviewing applications, and regularly providing recommendations for eligible appointments to the appointing authority;
 - b. A method for identifying and resolving actual or potential disputes and conflicts of interest that are in compliance with State and federal law;
 - c. A process to hold public meetings and meet regularly as prescribed in 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
 - d. A process and timelines for advance notice to the public of SILC meetings in compliance with State and federal law and 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
 - e. A process and timelines for advance notice to the public of SILC meetings in compliance with State and federal law and 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
 - i. “Executive Session” meetings should be rare and only take place to discuss confidential SILC issues such as but not limited to staffing.
 - ii. Agendas for “Executive Session” meetings must be made available to the public, although personal identifiable information regarding SILC staff shall not be included;

- f. A process and timelines for the public to request reasonable accommodations to participate during a public Council meeting;
 - g. A method for developing, seeking and incorporating public input into, monitoring, reviewing and evaluating implementation of the State Plan as required in 45 CFR 1329.17; and
 - h. A process to verify centers for independent living are eligible to sign the State Plan in compliance with 45 CFR 1329.17(d)(2)(iii).
- 2. The SILC maintains regular communication with the appointing authority to ensure efficiency and timeliness of the appointment process.
- 3. The SILC maintains individual training plans for members that adhere to the SILC Training and Technical Assistance Center's SILC training curriculum.
- 4. The SILC receives public input into the development of the State Plan for Independent Living in accordance with 45 CFR 1329.17(f) ensuring:
 - a. Adequate documentation of the State Plan development process, including but not limited to, a written process setting forth how input will be gathered from the state's centers for independent living and individuals with disabilities throughout the state, and the process for how the information collected is considered.
 - b. All meetings regarding State Plan development and review are open to the public and provides advance notice of such meetings in accordance with existing State and federal laws and 45 CFR 1329.17(f)(2)(i)-(ii);
 - c. Meetings seeking public input regarding the State Plan provides advance notice of such meetings in accordance with existing State and federal laws, and 45 CFR 1329.17(f)(2)(i);

- d. Public meeting locations, where public input is being taken, are accessible to all people with disabilities, including, but not limited to:
 - i. proximity to public transportation,
 - ii. physical accessibility, and
 - iii. effective communication and accommodations that include auxiliary aids and services, necessary to make the meeting accessible to all people with disabilities.
 - e. Materials available electronically must be 508 compliant and, upon request, available in alternative and accessible format including other commonly spoken languages.
5. The SILC monitors, reviews and evaluates the State Plan in accordance with 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(2) ensuring:
- a. Timely identification of revisions needed due to any material change in State law, state organization, policy or agency operations that affect the administration of the State Plan approved by the Administration for Community Living.
6. The SILC State Plan resource plan includes:
- a. Sufficient funds received from:
 - i. Title VII, Part B funds;
 - ii. If the resource plan includes Title VII, Part B funds, the State Plan provides justification of the percentage of Part B funds to be used if the percentage exceeds 30 percent of Title VII, Part B funds received by the State;
 - iii. Funds for innovation and expansion activities under Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 721(a)(18), as applicable;
 - iv. Other public and private sources.
 - b. The funds needed to support:
 - i. Staff/personnel;
 - ii. Operating expenses;

- iii. Council compensation and expenses;
- iv. Meeting expenses including meeting space, alternate formats, interpreters, and other accommodations;
- v. Resources to attend and/or secure training and conferences for staff and council members and;
- vi. Other costs as appropriate.

SILC SIGNATURE SECTION

The signature below indicates the SILC's agreement to comply with the aforementioned assurances and indicators:

Colleen Roche

Name of SILC Chair

Colleen Roche

Electronic Signature

09/22/2024

Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

Section 9: Signatures

SIGNATURES

The signatures below are of the SILC chairperson and at least 51 percent of the directors of the centers for independent living listed in section 6.3. These signatures indicate that the New Jersey Statewide Independent Living Council and the centers for independent living in the state agree with and intend to fully implement this SPIL's content. These signatures also indicate that this SPIL is complete and ready for submission to the Independent Living Administration, Administration for

Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The effective date of this SPIL is 10/01/2024

SILC SIGNATURE SECTION

Colleen Roche Name of SILC Chair Colleen Roche Electronic Signature 09/22/2024 Date I understand that this constitutes a legal signature
--

CIL SIGNATURE SECTION

Resources for Independent Living, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living Lisa Killion-Smith Name of CIL Director Lisa Killion-Smith Electronic Signature 09/24/2024 Date
DIAL-Center for Independent Living Name of Center for Independent Living John Petix, Jr. Name of CIL Director John Petix, Jr. Electronic Signature 09/24/2024 Date
Heightened Independence and Progress Name of Center for Independent Living

Brian Fitzgibbons
Name of CIL Director
Brian Fitzgibbons
Electronic Signature
09/24/2024
Date

CAMDEN CITY INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER, INC.
Name of Center for Independent Living
Veda Smith
Name of CIL Director
Veda Smith
Electronic Signature
09/24/2024
Date

Progressive Center for Independent Living, Inc.
Name of Center for Independent Living
Scott Elliott
Name of CIL Director
Scott Elliott
Electronic Signature
09/24/2024
Date

DAWN Center for Independent Living
Name of Center for Independent Living
Carmela Slivinski
Name of CIL Director
Carmela Slivinski
Electronic Signature
09/24/2024
Date

Alliance Center for Independence
Name of Center for Independent Living

Carole Tonks Name of CIL Director carole tonks Electronic Signature 09/24/2024 Date
Atlantic Center for Independent Living Name of Center for Independent Living Donald Campbell Name of CIL Director Donald Campbell Electronic Signature 09/24/2024 Date
Center for Independent Living - South Jersey Name of Center for Independent Living Theresa Rohlfing Name of CIL Director Theresa Rohlfing Electronic Signature 09/25/2024 Date
MOCEANS Center for Independent Living Name of Center for Independent Living Judyth Brown Name of CIL Director Judyth Brown Electronic Signature 09/24/2024 Date