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**Nevada Statewide Independent Living Council (NV SILC)**

**State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) Workgroup**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Date and Time of Meeting:**

Monday, December 11, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

**Location of Meeting:**

This meeting will be held via video-conference only:

The public may observe this meeting and provide public comment on Zoom.

**To Join the Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9299041434?pwd=NmM5Tk1Od3ltRzg1enhRYTU3WDdUZz09>

Meeting ID: 929 904 1434

Password: NVSILC (case sensitive)

**Date Published:**

**Draft Minutes**

1. **Welcome and Introductions:**

Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh, Chair

Participants: Dee Dee Foremaster, Margaret Marcucci, Mark Tadder, Mary Evilsizer, Ace Patrick, Autumn Blattman, Lori Lutu, Alicia Santiago, Kelcy Meyer, Jen Landman

CART Provider: Romona Malnerich

Staff: Dawn Lyons and Wendy Thornley

1. **Public Comment:** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comment telephonically, dial **+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)**. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter **929 904 1434** and passcode **707401**. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

Dee Dee Foremaster: She has Jen Landman with her.

Dawn Lyons: Read bullet points from a letter sent in February from Program Analyst in the Office of Independent Living Programs, Administration for Community Living ACL.

“Hi Dawn

I wanted to follow up our phone call with an email clarifying the statements I made regarding Part B CILs and the signatories on the SPIL.

1. Any entity receiving Part B funds should be included in the SPIL as a recipient of Part B funds and the purpose for which those funds are to be used by that entity.
2. Part B funds can be used by an entity to perform IL services within a catchment area of an existing Part C CIL.
3. An entity receiving Part B funds can be designated a CIL for purposes of being identified as part of the statewide network of CILs if they meet 725 requirements in the rehab act. This determination would be made by the DSE as to whether they meet the requirements. If they do meet the requirements and they will have a vote on the SPIL.
4. If a Part B CIL meets 725 requirements and is designated as a CIL you are not have any impact on Part C funding amounts to the existing Part C CILs. However, any future Part C funding that is designated in the SPIL to establish a new CIL and they would be eligible to apply for those Part C funds, as would either of the other two-Part C CILs in Nevada.”

Dawn hoped this helped with the question raised in Nevada regarding Part B CILs. Mary had asked about who must determine whether a Part B CIL meets compliance and that would be Cheyenne. Cheyenne said she may come to this meeting although she may be a little late. Maybe this group could bring this up later when they would be talking about SPIL and that portion of it that hasn't been done yet. Dawn wanted to mention that and read the letter that she had received, so everyone would be on the same page.

1. **For Possible Action:**

Approve Minutes from SPIL Workgroup on October 23, 2023. Mary Evilsizer had sent a few comments to Wendy regarding the draft minutes.

Ace Patrick motioned to approve the draft minutes. Mary Evilsizer seconded. The motion carried.

1. **For Possible Action:**

Review, Discussion, Make Any Necessary Changes and Approve the FFY25-27 Budget to be Incorporated into the SPIL.

Dawn updated this with the feedback she received from members and John Rosenlund.

Mary Evilsizer: Liked the budget, especially the increase in the legislative action where the SILC has its strongest impact.

Mark Tadder: Also liked the budget and feels that it is a great use of money.

1. **For Possible Action:**

Review, Discussion, Make Any Necessary Changes, and Approve All Drafted Portions of the FFY25-27 SPIL.

Dawn Lyons: Dawn updated based on discussions from the last meeting.

Goal 1. Improve Access to Independent Living Supports and Services Statewide

Objective 1A. Build a stronger alliance within the IL Network and with Network partners.

Indicators:

1. SILC will hire and supervise a new staff contracted position to work with the IL network exclusively to address disability needs and concerns within the legislative process in the state, including presenting employment, housing, transportation and mental health data and information outside of legislative sessions.

Goal 2. The SILC will set aside $54,000 each year for a collaborative legislative education initiative to be coordinated by all the IL network together during the interim and Nevada 84th session and into the beginning of the 85th session.

Goal 3. New staff will educate at least three legislators and policymakers regarding employment, housing, transportation mental health support shortfalls and potential solutions across the state for people with disabilities in the next legislative interim session.

Goal 4. SILC will provide an additional $20,000 each year for partners who provide IL services or promote IL to address housing, employment, transportation, and mental health supports.

Those categories were based on the SILC's assessments, the consumer assessment survey that was done, and other Nevada assessments where people have made it clear that those are the priorities and those that are the SILC’s biggest shortfalls that they need to address.

Objective 1B: The SILC will continue to support the Statewide Independent Living Council

Indicator 1. Part B will provide the SILC with quarterly updates.

Indicator 2. The SILC will provide $86,000 each year to support the State IL program that services all Nevada counties.

IL program progress report will be shared biannually or more often if services and/or service providers change.

The SILC was discussing maintaining the $140,000 every year and what that goal and indicator would look like and how that tied into the SILC’s needs in the community. According to John Rosenlund, the SILC was never meant to continue funding the state IL program, it's a last resort set of services and although they follow the Independent Living Philosophy, it's not all encompassing for everything that people with disabilities need.

She redistributed the funding to cover legislative and other Independent Living partner contributions to what the SILC and what the IL Network is trying to accomplish in the State Plan and reduced the amount that the SILC is supporting the state IL program with.

Mary Evilsizer: Thanked Dawn for checking with John Rosenlund, its good to see the IL Program becoming more self-sustaining.

Dee Dee Foremaster: Asked if there was any additional funding for Part B centers.

Dawn Lyons: Its not listed that way in the SILC’s budget because there's a combination of categories that it would fall into and that would be Outreach to Partners and the SILC’s outreach in SILC expansion through Community Chest funding. The SILC moved more money to Community Chest and to outreach to partners, so that they could have the option to fund situations as they come up.

The SILC is planning on having employment fairs. The SILC will not be putting out Notice of Funding Opportunities, but rather, when they know about something that fits into their State Plan goals and that fits into their budget, they can help where needed in that sense. It allows more freedom to utilize the funding.

When COVID happened, they didn't have that in the State Plan and couldn’t use their funds in a direct way, they had to continue using their funds as outlined in the State Plan. Now, they just need to make sure that it's part of what their goals are and that it would accomplish their SPIL in some way.

Dee Dee Foremaster: Is concerned with Part B Centers’ abilities to provide direct services in the rural areas.

Dawn Lyons: If a service comes up and it fits into the SPIL and under that budget, the Council can determine at that time as a council if that’s the appropriate way to spend the money.

Dee Dee Foremaster: Asked if that made the financial situation more fluid.

Dawn Lyons: With a category of outreach to partners and another category of money that's designated for outreach and expansion, that allows for say if one of the Centers finds an area of need and it's underserved and they need to address that because they didn't plan on budgeting that or that wasn't in their budget, but now it's a need.

RCIL has their subaward from SILC for Fiscal Year 24, that should cover them through October. Starting October, if it's a large amount that they need, they would ask the SILC and the SILC would decide if it's appropriate, according to the SPIL.

If it's a small amount for something immediate, RCIL can reach out and the Executive Team could make that executive decision and then it would be presented to the SILC at the next meeting. Dawn is open to hearing from the other Centers about that.

Mary Evilsizer: Prefers fluidity and feels that it will better benefit the state and help when they are faced with new challenges.

Dee Dee Foremaster: Sees that it might be easier to address natural disasters in the state.

Dawn Lyons: Agreed that a lot can happen quickly, and those emergencies seem to come up more and more often.

Ace Patrick: This makes a lot of sense and Ace appreciates being in the SPIL and wanted to know if these funds would be in addition to the $20,000 each year for Partners.

Dawn Lyons: No, in the next SPIL budget, there is $20,000 all together for outreach to partners, and then another ‑‑ less the 10 percent that goes with the subaward, it's $17,500 in addition that they have through Community Chest for outreach and youth expansion. That has more utility to it than just the Centers for Independent Living, but the $20,000 is basically for outreach for Independent Living. There's no designated $20,000 for each Center for this next coming SPIL.

Mark Tadder: Also likes the fluidity because of some of the issues that NNCIL has dealt with throughout the 16 counties like the food emergency that happened, and it exhausted their funding, and they had to lower the amount of money that they were able to provide people who were isolated in their homes and NNCIL had to have food delivered to them, people with disabilities throughout Northern Nevada.

Last winter, the Gardnerville and Minden areas had traffic issues and needed to have transportation sent in to help people get out for medical appointments and other events. There was also last year's four‑day power failure in downtown Reno due to the atmospheric river. NNCIL did not have the budget to help people who not only lost all their food in their refrigerators and freezers, but many needed emergency housing as well. He likes that idea of fluidity because it gives them wiggle room for unexpected things.

Dawn Lyons: Appreciated the feedback and is concerned about only having $20,000 set aside for Outreach Partners. The SILC’s expenses are climbing, like everyone else's. Their meeting expenses went up, they have a Youth Outreach Specialist that they wanted to increase the hours. They did get grant funding for that, but also wages have gone up. The Governor's raises didn't fall on SILC's shoulders so that's something the state supplements and not the SILC.

Even supplies are costing them more. It's a delicate balance. They already have a shortage of funds. The Centers are probably also feeling like having to provide services too and having not enough funds to do it and then all the other expenses going up. The SILC is trying to find that right amount and balance, it was hard to take money away from the IL program.

But with John's feedback, it made sense. If SILC thinks that they need to add more than $20,000, they can pull more out of the IL program to add to that. It’s a little bit more than half of what it was, but it's not $140,000 anymore, it's $86,000. She asked the group to let her know if she needs to cut the IL program funding back anymore, or if that would be too drastic for that program, or if they feel like they need it more for that fund for outreach.

Mary Evilsizer: That amount is a good amount to start out with. This is a pilot year where they will learn things for the coming year.

Dawn Lyons: Thanked everyone for their feedback. Continued with the changes she made to the budget.

Objective 1C, the only part she changed was Indicator 3.

Objective 1C: Collaborate with and provide ongoing support for youth transition services, employment, and education

Indicator 3: CIL's will coordinate with the Department of Education to assist SILC to guide the outreach activities and will provide suggestions at least quarterly about what the Department of Education informed the part C center.

Mary Evilsizer: This is what they are all doing with that program.

Dawn Lyons: Goal 2: Improve awareness of Independent Living network and philosophy statewide.

Objective 2A: SILC will increase its accessibility for youth and adults with disabilities by October 1st, 2027. The only indicator that Dawn changed, was number 8: SILC will coordinate at least one rural employment fair after evaluating the success of the Federal Fiscal Year 25 employment fairs and will determine the location according to outreach data. The rural employment fairs will be held in Federal fiscal year 26.

Dee Dee Foremaster: Asked if the currently planned employment fairs will be held primarily in the Washoe and Las Vegas areas.

Dawn Lyons: They had discussed with Blue Cross, Blue Shield Anthem because they were the ones that asked what they could do for Disability Employment, and it was too short of a time frame to come up with employment fairs in October which would mean it would've been Federal Fiscal Year 24.

They are going to do the employment fairs next year, and if they do them in October, it would be Federal Fiscal Year 25, which is what Anthem wanted to do because it was Disability Employment Month. Based on how well those fairs do, the SILC will be better educated to plan rural fairs at that point, that’s why it was decided to wait until the next year to do the rural ones, plus it's a lot of work to do more.

Dee Dee Foremaster: Now she has a better understanding of what is being done.

Dawn Lyons:

Objective 2B: SILC will increase consumer awareness as measured in their annual consumer survey by September 30th, 2026. She did not change any of the five indicators.. Goal 3: Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Independent Living network statewide.

Objective 3A: SILC will improve their internal processes for SPIL evaluation.

Indicator 1: All conference attendees will report on pertinent material by the next quarterly meeting.

Ace Patrick motioned to approve the changes that Dawn made to the goals, objectives, and indicators. Mary Evilsizer seconded. The members voted and the motion was carried.

Dawn Lyons: Asked for a restated motion.

Mary Evilsizer motioned to accept the budget as displayed at this meeting. Mark Tadder seconded. The members voted and the motion passed.

1. **Presentation and Discussion:**

Discussion Regarding Undrafted Portions of the SPIL and Sections to Address at the next Workgroup Meeting.

Dawn Lyons: Dawn will fill in the financial section and the narrative. She would like the Centers for Independent Living to help complete Section 2 and 2.1 especially where it says, “The services, the cope extent and arrangements of services”, since the Centers are the ones who provide the services. They can have a separate meeting to go through and complete those sections.

Mark Tadder: He has been promoted to Associate Director of the Northern Center for Independent Living. One of his jobs is to report to this workgroup and he would like to be added to the list of participants.

Dawn Lyons: Congratulated Mark on his promotion. She will work with all three Centers before the next SPIL Workgroup meeting on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 5:30pm.

She will isolate that portion of the template and send it to the three Centers. They can fill out their forms and send them to Dawn ahead of that upcoming meeting between the four of them. Dawn will go through the SILC’s last State Plan for Independent Living's verbiage on the network of Centers and try to incorporate what logically makes sense for the next SPIL as well. If she thinks of anything else, she will add it to that section, and they can go through that next time. After that, it's basically just the technicalities of describing what they put in their plan, how their budget looks with their resources and then signatures.

That is all they have left in the SPIL, except for the Executive Summary which comes last. They will have drafted the section by the next SPIL Workgroup meeting and will know whether the DSE has approved the Rural Center for Independent Living as 725 compliant and whether to add them.

1. **For Possible Action:**

Discussion and Approval of Next SPIL Workgroup Meeting Date: Monday, February 12, 2024, at 5:30pm

Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh, Chair

1. **Public Comment:** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comment telephonically, dial **+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)**. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter **929 904 1434** and passcode **707401**. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

Ace Patrick: Thanked Dawn for all the work she did on this

1. **Adjournment (For Possible Action):**

Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh, Chair

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm

**Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:**

**NOTE**:

* In drafting the SPIL on the new template, numerous resources and documents were reviewed and referenced. Due to the voluminous nature of these materials, they have not been added to the supporting materials for this agenda but are available upon request. To request this information, please contact Dawn Lyons at dlyons@adsd.nv.gov.
* The following complete link for the meeting is included below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9299041434?pwd=NmM5Tk1Od3ltRzg1enhRYTU3WDdUZz09>

* Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson’s discretion. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments but may not restrict comments based on viewpoint.
* We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Wendy Thornley in writing at 3208 Goni Road, Building I, Suite 181, Carson City, NV. 89706, email wthornley@adsd.nv.gov or call at (775) 220-7941 as soon as possible.
* If at any time during the meeting an individual who has been named on the agenda or has an item specifically regarding them included on the agenda is unable to participate because of technical or other difficulties, please email Wendy Thornley at wthornley@adsd.nv.gov and note at what time the difficulty started so that matters pertaining specifically to their participation may be continued to a future agenda if needed or otherwise addressed.
* Please be cautious and do not click on links in the chat area of the meeting unless you have verified, they are safe. If you ever have questions about a link in a document purporting to be from ADSD, please do not hesitate to contact wthornley@adsd.nv.gov for verification.
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* Supporting public material provided to the Nevada Statewide Independent Living Council members for this meeting may be requested from Wendy Thornley at wthornley@adsd.nv.gov and is/will be available at any meeting locations and the SILC website <https://www.nvsilc.com/meetings/>

**AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 3208 Goni Road, Building I, Suite 181, Carson City, NV. 89706. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Statewide Independent Living Council website at <https://www.nvsilc.com/> and Nevada Public Notices website at [https://notice.nv.gov](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=e92e5499cb272963JmltdHM9MTY4NjYxNDQwMCZpZ3VpZD0xNGI5ODlmZS05NDliLTZhNGQtMDE3Yi05YjkyOTUxZjZiNTgmaW5zaWQ9NTE4Ng&ptn=3&hsh=3&fclid=14b989fe-949b-6a4d-017b-9b92951f6b58&psq=nevada+public+posting&u=a1aHR0cHM6Ly9ub3RpY2UubnYuZ292Lw&ntb=1)