

**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: PENNSYLVANIA

FISCAL YEARS: 2021-2023

Effective Date: October 1, 2020

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number (OMB 0985-0044). Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 240 hours per response, including time for gathering and maintaining the data needed and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to receive financial assistance (Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.)

Executive Summary

The mission statement for the Independent Living (IL) Network in Pennsylvania is “The mission of this SPIL is to ensure the best quality of life for people with disabilities through improved access, increased funding, full inclusion, integration and the support and cooperation of governmental entities, key stakeholders and the network of Centers for Independent Living (CILs).” In keeping with that mission, the 2021-2023 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) is focused on the maintenance and expansion of the CIL (Center for Independent Living) network. Additionally, as is demonstrated below, there is an overriding effort to increase statewide collaboration and activities to bring Pennsylvania’s IL network together to achieve improvements in the lives of people with disabilities in every corner of the state.

In order to accomplish this statewide initiative, a polished and reinvigorated statewide action team (SWAT) has been designed, which will focus on the following key areas that will benefit people with disabilities that are both new advocates, as well as, those that “have been around the block a few times already.” The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) held several Public forums in order to gather information from the disability community across the state. The feedback collected from those forums has been used to identify the core issues, as indicated in the goals throughout this document. The attention of this SWAT will direct its’ focus primarily on the following core issues:

1. Implementing strategies to create social change that will lead to full inclusion and integration for all Pennsylvanians with disabilities (PWD).
 - a. The IL Network will work with the PA state and federal CILs as affiliates of a Statewide Coalition Project to empower PWDs to become self-advocates and promote the IL philosophy.
 - b. Statewide Coalition affiliates will coordinate Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Training and tools to increase statewide accessibility for PWD.
 - c. Based on priorities set by the Statewide Coalition Project, which are consistent with the following objectives, affiliates will work to increase the number of PWD’s in groups that make policy decisions or provide advice that directly impacts the lives of PWD.
2. Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to transportation.
 - a. The PA IL Network will develop and implement a community needs assessment to obtain data regarding available transportation.
 - b. Led by the Statewide Coalition Project, each affiliate will gather and analyze the data to determine gaps in accessible and affordable transportation.
3. Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to housing.
 - a. The IL Network will develop and implement a community needs assessment to obtain baseline data regarding available housing.
 - b. Based on priorities set by the Statewide Coalition Project, which are consistent with the following objectives, affiliates will work to increase the number of PWD’s in groups that make policy decisions or provide advice that directly impacts housing.

- c. Statewide Coalition affiliates will coordinate pre-established and PA recognized housing training and tools to increase statewide accessible and affordable housing for PWD.
4. Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to home and community-based services (HCBS).
- a. The IL Network will assess the status of HCBS in Pennsylvania.
 - b. The IL Network will develop methods for promoting informed consumer choice.

The 2021-2023 SPIL also includes:

1. A chart of services currently being provided by the existing CILs as well as a description of their service areas.
2. A financial plan showing current resources and their uses and a chart with detailed uses of the federal and state funds governed by this plan.
3. An outreach plan detailing activity to be implemented to reach out both statewide and targeting priority areas for unserved/underserved areas and populations.
4. A detailed evaluation plan to monitor, review and evaluate the implementation of this plan.

SILC, CILs, and the Designated State Entity (DSE) will continue to work closely with each other to coordinate efforts to maximize resources to support community life for people with disabilities. Many entities are represented on the SILC, which provides opportunities for coordination, and the SILC participates in many collaborations at the state level, taking every opportunity to ensure CILs are maximized and the IL philosophy is infused.

The latter sections of the plan focus on legal assurances and authorities, as well as, the signatures of the SILC Chairperson and the Executive Director of the Designated State Entity agreeing to comply with them.

The last section includes the signatures of the SILC Chairperson and the CIL Directors agreeing to the content of the plan and authorizing its submission to the Administration for Community Living (ACL), United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

It is not anticipated that all the goals and objectives can be achieved in the three years covered by this plan. But, public input over many years has demonstrated that individuals who have access to a CIL value it greatly and that individuals who do not have access to a CIL decidedly want a CIL in their area. Furthermore, making headway into many of these topics that were drawn from public input at the forums held in Pennsylvania requires a statewide approach. The partners represented on the SPIL Team, which wrote this plan, include the SILC, all of the CILs and the DSE, made the conscious decision to focus the plan on strengthening the network through collaboration and objectives that will result in positive benefits for people with disabilities at the local level and across Pennsylvania. These efforts will be continued until every individual with a disability in Pennsylvania has access to not only a CIL and all the services the CILs provide, but all of the other services that all Pennsylvanians have access to as well.

Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities

1.1 Mission:

Mission of the Independent Living Network and the SPIL

Mission: The mission of this SPIL is to ensure the best quality of life for people with disabilities through improved access, increased funding, full inclusion, integration and the support and cooperation of governmental entities, key stakeholders and the network of CILs.

1.2 Goals:

Goals of the IL Network for the three-year period of the plan.

1. Create and maintain a Statewide Coalition Project in order to strengthen the IL Network and respond to emerging disability issues.
2. Implement strategies to create social change that will lead to full inclusion and integration for all Pennsylvanians with disabilities.
3. Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to transportation.
4. Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to housing.
5. Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to HCBS.

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.

1. The SILC will collaborate with the DSE to develop the framework for a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Statewide Coalition Project which will develop and maintain a Federal and State affiliate team/group in order to strengthen the IL Network statewide and respond to emerging disability issues.

Action Steps:

- 1.1.a A non-profit, professional association that supports the IL Network that, espouses the IL Philosophy will be sought to administer the Statewide Coalition Project.
- 1.1.b The IL Network will ensure the participation of all state and federally funded CILs as affiliates in the Statewide Coalition Project.
- 1.1.c A stakeholder group will be established to advise the Statewide Coalition Project. The initial stakeholder group will consist of the following:
 - i. 2 CIL Directors
 - ii. 2 Statewide Coalition Project affiliates
 - iii. 2 SILC Representatives
 - iv. 1 DSE Representative
 - v. 2 Disability Community Partners with similar missions
 - vi. The Statewide Coalition Project Administrator
- 1.1.d The stakeholder group will operate under the following guidelines:
 - i. serve 6 months
 - ii. the group will convene quarterly

- iii. no two stakeholders can work for the same organization
 - iv. Membership of the stakeholder group will select new members with approval from the SILC chair.
2. The IL Network will work with Statewide Coalition Project affiliates to empower PWDs to become self-advocates and promote the IL philosophy.
- Action Steps:
- 2.1.a The IL Network will:
 - i. Work with the Statewide Coalition to cultivate a group of new advocates representing all centers for independent living.
 - ii. Work with the Statewide Coalition Project to train the next generation of disability advocates on issues represented in this state plan and priorities set by the IL Network.
 - iii. Develop and coordinate an IL Philosophy and history training statewide.
 - iv. Disseminate and promote IL Philosophy training to CILs and other stakeholders. The IL Network will work with Statewide Coalition affiliates to empower PWDs to become ADA Compliance Assessors.
 - 2.1.b Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will coordinate the use of pre-established ADA Training and tools to increase statewide accessibility by 5%. Affiliates will:
 - i. Disseminate and promote ADA training to CILs and other stakeholders.
 - ii. Using the ADA tools, establish a team of ADA compliance assessors throughout the state.
 - iii. Based on details compiled by the ADA compliance assessors, the Statewide Coalition Project will analyze what larger ADA compliance needs remain unaddressed in each federal and state CIL region and determine and implement advocacy and education or legal strategies as appropriate, with the goal of improving ADA compliance in Pennsylvania by 5%.
 - 2.1.c Based on priorities assessed by the Stakeholder group, which are consistent with the following objectives, affiliates will work to increase the number of PWDs in groups that make policy decisions or provide advice that directly impacts the lives of people with disabilities.
 - iv. Statewide Coalition Project affiliates and CILs will work with advocates to determine gaps in membership in groups that make policy decisions.
 - v. Identify and increase the number of PWDs interested in applying for and participating in groups that make policy decisions affecting people with disabilities.
 - i. The Statewide Coalition Project will support advocates to be active members of policy decision making groups that promote the IL Philosophy.
 - ii. The Statewide Coalition Project will track and share best practices in supporting advocates to be active members of the policy decision making groups, and outcomes/results of their participation related to IL improvements made by the groups.

3. The PA IL Network will develop and implement a community needs assessment to obtain baseline data regarding statewide transportation needs.

Action Steps:

- 3.1.a PA IL Network will develop a statewide transportation assessment(s).
 - i. The PA IL Network will reach out to state agencies for summary of consumer data on transportation needs.
 - ii. Led by the Statewide Coalition Project affiliates, each CIL will gather and analyze the data to determine gaps in accessible and affordable transportation.
- 3.1.b The Statewide Coalition Project will develop and promote strategies for addressing statewide regional gaps in transportation by increasing availability by 5%.
 - i. Each CIL must identify and address at least 1 strategy to address a transportation issue in counties served for CIL services.
- 3.1.c Each CIL will identify and address at least 1 strategy to address an Uber/Lyft accessibility issue in the counties they provide CIL services

4. The PA IL Network will develop and implement a community needs assessment to obtain baseline data to improve access to services and supports by increasing access to housing.

Action Steps:

- 4.1.a The PA IL Network will develop (a) statewide housing assessment(s).
 - i. The PA IL Network will reach out to state agencies for summary of consumer data on housing needs.
 - ii. The PA IL Network will collaborate with state agencies and organizations that are developing strategies to increase affordable, accessible housing for individuals with disabilities.
 - iii. Led by the Statewide Coalition affiliate, each CIL will implement the housing assessment(s) in their region.
 - iv. Led by the Statewide Coalition affiliate, each CIL will gather and analyze the data to determine gaps in accessible and affordable housing.
 - v. The Statewide Coalition will develop and promote strategies for addressing regional gaps in housing to increase availability.
- 4.1.b Based on priorities assessed by the Statewide Coalition Project, which are consistent with the following objectives, CILs will work to increase the number of PWDs in groups that make policy decisions or provide advice that directly impacts housing.
 - i. The IL Network will work with advocates to determine gaps in membership in groups that make policy decisions on housing.
 - ii. The Statewide Coalition will identify and increase the number of PWDs interested in applying for and participating in groups that make policy decisions affecting housing.
 - iii. The Statewide Coalition will support advocates to be active members that promote accessible and affordable housing.

- iv. The Statewide Coalition will track and share best practices in supporting advocates to be active members of their groups, and outcomes/results of their participation related to housing IL improvements made by the groups.
- 4.1.c The Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will coordinate the use of pre-existing, recognized housing training and tools to increase statewide accessible and affordable housing by 5%.
- i. Statewide Coalition Affiliates will disseminate and promote housing training to CILs and other stakeholders.
 - ii. Statewide Coalition Affiliates will coordinate with the CILs to assist consumers to locate accessible housing of their choice.
 - iii. Statewide Coalition Affiliates will coordinate with the CILs to conduct outreach with local developers to increase accessible housing options.
 - iv. The Statewide Coalition will track and share best practices in supporting advocates and outcomes/results with their participation related to IL improvements made by the local developers.
5. The IL Network will assess the current status of HCBS in Pennsylvania to improve access to services and supports by increasing access to HCBS.
- 5.1.a Action Steps:
- i. Each Statewide Coalition Project affiliate will organize people with disabilities in their local community to discuss ways to address the impact of this issue.
 - ii. Each Statewide Coalition Project affiliate will identify and address at least 2 HCBS barriers in their local community.
- 5.1.b, The IL Network will develop methods for promoting informed consumer choice for service providers.
- Action Steps:
- i. Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will coordinate training and tools for understanding/navigating/accessing to provider networks and services to increase statewide informed choice by 5%.
 - ii. Disseminate and promote HCBS training to CILs and other stakeholders.
 - iii. Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will ensure that local advocates that have received HCBS training are supported to participate on Managed Care Organization (MCO) advisory boards.
 - iv. Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will ensure that local advocates, equipped with HCBS training are supported to preserve and expand consumer choice in HCBS.

Goal(s) from Section 1.2	Objective(s) to be achieved	Indicators	Time frame start date	Time frame end date
<p>Goal 1: Create and maintain a Statewide Coalition Project in order to strengthen the IL Network and respond to emerging disability issues.</p>	<p>1.1 The SILC will collaborate with the DSE to develop the framework for a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Statewide Coalition Project which will develop and maintain a Federal and State affiliate team/group in order to strengthen the IL Network statewide and respond to emerging disability issues.</p> <p>Action Steps: 1.1.a. A non-profit, professional association that supports the IL Network that, espouses the IL Philosophy will be sought to administer the Statewide Coalition Project.</p>	<p>MOU will be created with SILC, DSE, and Professional Association</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-21</p>
<p>Goal 1: Create and maintain a Statewide Coalition Project in order to strengthen the IL Network and respond to emerging disability issues.</p>	<p>Action Steps: 1.1.b. The IL Network will ensure the participation of all state and federally funded CILs as affiliates in the Statewide Coalition Project.</p>	<p>MOU or Contract will be established by a professional organization with SILC and the DSE</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-21</p>

<p>Goal 1: Create and maintain a Statewide Coalition Project in order to strengthen the IL Network and respond to emerging disability issues.</p>	<p>Action Steps: 1.1.c. A stakeholder group will be established to advise the Statewide Coalition Project. The initial stakeholder group will consist of the following: i. 2 CIL Directors ii. 2 Statewide Coalition Project affiliates iii. 2 SILC Representatives iv. 1 DSE Representative v. 2 Disability Community Partners with similar missions vi. The Statewide Coalition Project Administrator</p>	<p>Individual (s) that fit these criteria will be sought and they will agree to participate</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-21</p>
<p>Goal 1: Create and maintain a Statewide Coalition Project in order to strengthen the IL Network and respond to emerging disability issues.</p>	<p>Action Steps: 1.1.d The stakeholder group will operate under the following guidelines: i. serve 6 months ii. the group will convene quarterly iii. no two stakeholders can work for the same organization iv. Membership of the stakeholder group will select new members with approval from the SILC chair.</p>	<p>Above mentioned guidelines will be adhered to.</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>9-30-23</p>
<p>Goal 2: Implement strategies to create social change that will lead to full inclusion and integration for all Pennsylvanians with disabilities.</p>	<p>2.1 The IL Network will work with Statewide Coalition Project affiliates to empower PWDs to become self-advocates and promote the IL philosophy. Action Steps: 2.1.a. The IL Network will: i. work with the Statewide Coalition to cultivate a group of new advocates representing all centers for independent living. ii. Work with the Statewide Coalition Project to train the next generation of disability advocates on issues represented in this state plan and priorities set by the IL Network.</p>	<p>Each CIL will recruit and cultivate an advocate by the end of the SPIL cycle</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-23</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Develop and coordinate an IL Philosophy and history training statewide. iv. Disseminate and promote IL Philosophy training to CILs and other stakeholders. The IL Network will work with Statewide Coalition affiliates to empower PWDs to become ADA Compliance Assessors. 			
Goal 2: Implement strategies to create social change that will lead to full inclusion and integration for all Pennsylvanians with disabilities.	<p>Action Steps:</p> <p>2.1.b Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will coordinate the use of pre-established ADA Training and tools to increase statewide accessibility by 5%. Affiliates will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Disseminate and promote ADA training to CILs and other stakeholders. ii. Using the ADA tools, establish a team of ADA compliance assessors throughout the state. iii. Based on details compiled by the ADA compliance assessors, the Statewide Coalition Project will analyze what larger ADA compliance needs remain unaddressed in each federal and state CIL region and determine and implement advocacy and education or legal strategies as appropriate, with the goal of improving ADA compliance in Pennsylvania by 5%. 	<p>Through the use of pre-established ADA Training and tools, increase statewide accessibility by 5%.</p> <p>By region, the SWAT will recruit 8 new or existing ADA Compliance Assessors and establish a team throughout the state regionally</p>	10-01-20	09-30-23
Goal 2: Implement strategies to create social change that will lead to full inclusion and integration for all Pennsylvanians with disabilities.	<p>Action Steps:</p> <p>2.1.c. Based on priorities assessed by the Stakeholder group, which are consistent with the following objectives, affiliates will work to increase the number of PWDs in groups that make policy decisions or provide advice that directly impacts the lives of people with disabilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Statewide Coalition Project affiliates and CILs will work with advocates to determine gaps in 	Recruit 1 advocate per CIL per year to participate on an advisory board, or decision policy making group	10-01-20	09-30-23

	<p>membership in groups that make policy decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Identify and increase the number of PWDs interested in applying for and participating in groups that make policy decisions affecting people with disabilities. iii. The Statewide Coalition Project will support advocates to be active members of policy decision making groups that promote the IL Philosophy. iv. The Statewide Coalition Project will track and share best practices in supporting advocates to be active members of the policy decision making groups, and outcomes/results of their participation related to IL improvements made by the groups. 			
<p>Goal 3: Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to transportation.</p>	<p>3.1 The PA IL Network will develop and implement a community needs assessment to obtain baseline data regarding statewide transportation needs. Action Steps: 3.1.a PA IL Network will develop a statewide transportation assessment (s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The PA IL Network will reach out to state agencies for summary of consumer data on transportation needs. ii. Led by the Statewide Coalition Project affiliates, each CIL will gather and analyze the data to determine gaps in accessible and affordable transportation. 	<p>The assessment will be reviewed by 15 advocates per CIL to ensure it aligns with their transportation needs</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-23</p>

<p>Goal 3: Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to transportation.</p>	<p>Action Steps: 3.1.b The Statewide Coalition Project will develop and promote strategies for addressing statewide regional gaps in transportation by increasing availability by 5%. i. Each CIL must identify and address at least 1 strategy to address a transportation issue in counties served for CIL services.</p>	<p>Increase statewide regional gaps and availability in transportation by 5%.</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-23</p>
<p>Goal 3: Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to transportation.</p>	<p>Action Steps: 3.1.c Each CIL will identify and address at least 1 strategy to address an Uber/Lyft accessibility issue in counties they provide CIL services</p>	<p>Each CIL will identify and address at least 1 strategy to address transportation accessibility issues in their CIL Counties served</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-23</p>
<p>Goal 4: Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to housing.</p>	<p>4.1 The PA IL Network will develop and implement a community needs assessment to obtain baseline data to improve access to services and supports by increasing access to housing. Action Steps: 4.1.a The PA IL Network will develop a statewide housing assessment(s) i. The PA IL Network will reach out to state agencies for summary of consumer data on housing needs. ii. The PA IL Network will collaborate with state agencies and organizations that are developing strategies to increase affordable, accessible housing for individuals with disabilities. iii. Led by the Statewide Coalition affiliate, each CIL will implement the housing assessment(s) in their region. iv. Led by the Statewide Coalition affiliate, each CIL will gather and analyze the data to</p>	<p>Assessment has been completed</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-23</p>

	<p>determine gaps in accessible and affordable housing.</p> <p>v. The Statewide Coalition will develop and promote strategies for addressing regional gaps in housing to increase availability.</p>			
<p>Goal 4: Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to housing</p>	<p>Action Steps: 4.1.b. Based on priorities assessed by the Statewide Coalition Project, which are consistent with the following objectives, CILs will work to increase the number of PWDs in groups that make policy decisions or provide advice that directly impacts housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The IL Network will work with advocates to determine gaps in membership in groups that make policy decisions on housing. ii. The Statewide Coalition will identify and increase the number of PWDs interested in applying for and participating in groups that make policy decisions affecting housing. iii. The Statewide Coalition will support advocates to be active members that promote accessible and affordable housing. iv. The Statewide Coalition will track and share best practices in supporting advocates to be active members of their groups, and outcomes/results of their participation related to housing IL improvements made by the groups. 	<p>Increase statewide regional gaps and availability in housing by 5%.</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-23</p>
<p>Goal 4: Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to housing</p>	<p>Action Steps: 4.1.c The Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will coordinate the use of pre-existing, recognized housing training and tools to increase statewide accessible and affordable housing by 5%.</p>	<p>Increase statewide regional gaps and availability in housing by 5%.</p> <p>Each CIL will identify and</p>	<p>10-01-20</p>	<p>09-30-23</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Statewide Coalition Affiliates will disseminate and promote housing training to CILs and other stakeholders. ii. Statewide Coalition Affiliates will coordinate with the CILs to assist consumers to locate accessible housing of their choice. iii. Statewide Coalition Affiliates will coordinate with the CILs to conduct outreach with local developers to increase accessible housing options. iv. The Statewide Coalition will track and share best practices in supporting advocates and outcomes/results with of their participation related to IL improvements made by the local developers. 	address at least 1 strategy to address housing accessibility issues in their counties for CIL services		
Goal 5: Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to HCBS.	<p>5.1. The IL Network will assess the current status of HCBS in Pennsylvania to improve access to services and supports by increasing access to HCBS.</p> <p>Action Steps:</p> <p>5.1.a.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Each Statewide Coalition Project affiliate will organize people with disabilities in their local community to discuss ways to address the impact of this issue. ii. Each Statewide Coalition Project affiliate will identify and address at least 2 HCBS barriers in their local community. 	<p>Each CIL will contact 1 state agency and attend at least one meeting per year and collaborate with state agencies and organizations</p> <p>Each CIL will have one advocate participate on an MCO advisory board.</p>	10-01-20	09-30-23
Goal 5: Improve access to services and supports by increasing access to HCBS.	<p>5.1.b. The IL Network will develop methods for promoting informed consumer choice for service providers.</p> <p>Action Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will coordinate training and tools for understanding/navigating/accessing to provider 	Each CIL will make a presentation once a year to emphasize the importance of informed consumer choice.	10-01-20	09-30-23

	<p>networks and services to increase statewide informed choice by 5%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Disseminate and promote HCBS training to CILs and other stakeholders. iii. Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will ensure that local advocates that have received HCBS training are supported to participate on Managed Care Organization (MCO) advisory boards. iv. Statewide Coalition Project affiliates will ensure that local advocates, equipped with HCBS training are supported to preserve and expand consumer choice in HCBS 			
--	--	--	--	--

1.4 Evaluation

Methods and processes the SILC will use to evaluate the effectiveness of the SPIL including timelines and evaluation of satisfaction of individuals with disabilities. Strategies for monitoring and evaluating objectives in the SPIL work plan include the following:

1. SILC will review the SPIL at Quarterly SILC meetings and evaluate whether grant agreement timelines of the Statewide Coalition Project are being met. If action steps and/or objectives have not been accomplished, analyze why and determine what adjustments need to be made. The IL Network will utilize a consumer satisfaction survey in SILC/DSE approved Federal and State CIL data collection software. SILC will also review the annual Consumer Satisfaction Survey Report summarizing responses from consumers receiving independent living services during the year.
1. SILC will review the quarterly and annual Community Living Services Program reports as well as the 704 Report (Part I) for Pennsylvania and (Part II) from the PA CIL members and the ACL/ILA Site Review reports of CILs when available.
2. SILC will invite each CIL to do a presentation at a SILC meeting to discuss their programs and operations.

1.5 Financial Plan

Sources, uses of, and efforts to coordinate funding to be used to accomplish the 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): 2021, 2022, 2023					
Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses				
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Administrative costs (applies only to Part B funding)
Title VII Funds					
Chapter 1, Part B	321,511	3,400	0	345,841	35,154
Chapter 1, Part C	0		0	0	
Other Federal Funds (CARE)	0		0	0	
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and	0		0	35,000	

Expansion)					
Social Security Reimbursement	0		0	0	
Other	0		0	0	
Non-Federal Funds (include the match amount in non-federal funds)	35,125			35,125	
State Funds	0	0	0		94,818.75
Other	1,000	0	0	0	

Part B funding is received from DSE with a 10% state match. This is our only source of income. Pending the availability of funds which will be reviewed on an annual basis, the DSE will contribute at least \$35,000 toward SPIL activities via I & E funds as indicated above.

According to Federal law and regulations, autonomy of the SILC is paramount. It is essential for PASILC to have an accessible office space independent of any other organization. PASILC staff has diligently spent a considerable amount of time looking into the possibility of acquiring a separate office space current lease expiring in 2021 which will force us to find a new space within the vicinity of policy makers, law makers, legislators and their staff.

Financial Plan Narratives

- Part B funds will further all objectives.
- Part C funds will further all objectives.
- No Chapter 2 (Older Blind) funds will be used to further SPIL objectives. Only Part B, Sec. 101 (a) (18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion) funds will be used to fund the SILC.

Efforts to coordinate Federal and State funding for centers and IL services, including the amounts, sources and purposes of the funding to be coordinated.

We are continuing to work with the DSE and other state entities to ensure fee for service opportunities are available for the CILs.

The SILC is awarded a contract by the DSE after submitting a letter that explains why the SILC should be considered for a sole source contract, to provide the services of the state’s independent living council. The SILC is funded by a mix of I&E and State General Funds, so the I&E funding is transferred to OVR through a Reimbursable Services Agreement prior to distribution to the SILC. The SILC fulfills its reporting requirements by submitting a report to OVR annually.

Future Funding

Wherever possible this plan assumes the same level of funding for CILs as the preceding year, unless there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. not meeting the standards and indicators or decrease or increase in funding).

Future Increases in Federal Part C, Federal Part B and/or State IL funds:

If there are any increases in federal Part B and/or state funding during any year of the SPIL or should Part B and or state funds become available, all CILs will receive a commensurate increase in funding.

PA Federal CIL Funds from CARES Act -\$ 2,775,287

With regards to Federal CIL Funds under the CARES Act noted below, these CILs have until September 30, 2021 to obligate funds.

<u>CIL</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Obligated</u>
CIL of Central PA (CIL CP)	\$227,067	\$57,312	\$169,755
CIL of North Central PA (CILNCP)	\$276,046	\$143,954	Unknown
CIL of South Central PA (CILSCPA)	\$252,952	\$88,514	\$164, 438
Community Resources for IL (CRI)	\$229,862	\$131,986	\$97,876
Disability Options Network (DON) 2 Grants	\$486,276	\$89,234	\$397,042
DON (Original- Beaver, Butler, Mercer Lawrence)	\$296,249	\$48,048	\$248,201
DON (Former TRCIL area- Allegheny, Armstrong, Westmoreland)	\$190,027	\$41,186	\$148.841
Disability Empowerment Center (DEC)	\$340,585	\$36,056	\$304,525
Liberty Resources, Inc. (LRI)	\$197,424	\$62,220	\$135,204
Transitional Paths to IL (TRPIL)	\$440,687	Unknown	Unknown
Voices for Independence (VFI)	\$340,626	Unknown	Unknown

Section 2: Scope, Extent, and Arrangements of Services

2.1 Services

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

Table 2.1.A: Independent living services	Provided using Part B (check to indicate yes)	Provided using other funds (check to indicate yes; do not list the other funds)	Entity that provides (specify CIL, DSE, or the other entity)
Core Independent Living Services, as required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Information and referral – IL skills training – Peer counseling – Individual and systems advocacy – Transition services including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transition from nursing homes & other institutional care (including correctional facilities) ▪ Diversion from nursing homes & institutions ▪ Transition of youth (who were eligible for an IEP) to post-secondary life 		X X X X X	CIL
Counseling services, including psychological, psychotherapeutic, and related services		X	DSE
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.		X	CIL
Rehabilitation technology		X	DSE
Mobility training		X	DSE
Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life skills training, and interpreter and reader services		X	DSE CIL
Personal assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services		X	CIL
Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation opportunities, and accessible transportation, and other support services		X	CIL

Table 2.1.A: Independent living services	Provided using Part B (check to indicate yes)	Provided using other funds (check to indicate yes; do not list the other funds)	Entity that provides (specify CIL, DSE, or the other entity)
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	X	X	CIL
Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities		X	CIL
Supported living Note: CILs are not allowed to own or operate housing.			
Transportation, including referral and assistance for such transportation and training in the use of public transportation vehicles and systems		X	CIL DSE
Physical rehabilitation		X	DSE
Therapeutic treatment		X	DSE
Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices		X	DSE
Individual and group social and recreational services		X	CIL
Training to develop skills specifically designed for youths who are individuals with disabilities to promote self-awareness and esteem, develop advocacy and self-empowerment skills, and explore career options		X	DSE CIL
Services for children		X	DSE 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		X	SILC DSE CILs
Appropriate preventive services to decrease the need of individuals with disabilities for similar services in the future		X	SILC DSE CILS
Community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with disabilities	X	X	CILS SILC
Such other services as may be necessary and not inconsistent with the Act		X	CILS

2.2 Outreach

Identify steps to be taken regarding statewide outreach to populations that are unserved or underserved by programs that are funded under Title VII, including minority groups and urban and rural populations.

Rural Outreach: PA SILC will continue collaborations with the Center for Rural Pennsylvania and APRIL (IL issues) regarding rural concerns for the IL network.

Minority Outreach: PA SILC will collaborate with IL network in performing outreach with minority populations, including PA Governor's Advisory Commissions on African, Asian Americans and Latino Affairs along with other non-profit organizations serving these populations.

Definitions of Unserved and Underserved

A CIL territory is defined as served if the population of individuals with disabilities in that service area have full access to a CIL.

Several factors are to be considered, including data for each of Pennsylvania's 67 counties on numbers of consumers and demographic groups served. This is an issue that SILC will seek to collaborate with all CILs and DSE to make stronger determinations in improving and increasing CIL services across PA.

A community may be defined as unserved if there is no local presence or on-going communication with residents to provide any of the five core services. A community could be defined as underserved if there is only periodic in-person presence to provide one or more of the five core services to one or more individuals. A sector of the disability population within a service region could be defined as underserved if that sector is not represented in the consumer base of the CIL responsible for that service region. Likewise, a sector of the disability population within a service region will be defined as underserved if that sector is underrepresented in the consumer base of the CIL responsible for that service region when compared to the most current census data.

Those communities and population sectors that are unserved or are the most severely underserved will receive priority for outreach. Also see Section 3.2 for further considerations.

Additional details under this section will be determined based upon statewide data gathered through the CIL reporting data base.

Current methods of data collection are inconclusive and do not provide direct correlations to indicate whether a county is unserved or underserved. The IL Network has implemented the following plan to gather this information.

The IL Network will utilize the consumer satisfaction survey in SILC approved data collection software. The SILC will review the annual Consumer Satisfaction Survey Report summarizing available responses from consumers receiving independent living services during the year.

Upon review of the Consumer Satisfaction Survey Report, the SILC will determine counties that are being underserved/unserved and develop strategies for improved service and possible expansion of the CIL network.

The SILC will determine the underserved and unserved population by requesting that all CILS will share consumer data in SILC approved data collection software. CILs will report data quarterly to SILC.

Based upon data from the US Census and the Penn State Data Center, Pennsylvania has an estimated population just above 12.8M. Their survey indicates that 1.775 M (July 1, 2018 numbers) Pennsylvania citizens self-identify as having disabilities. Minority populations in Pennsylvania total 23.9% of the total population. African Americans make up 10.8%, Hispanic / Latino 7.6%, Asian Americans 3.5% and other populations (Native American, Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders) with 0.1%. Another 1.7% self-identify as being of two or more races. 7.2% also identify as foreign-born and some will fit into the minority categories of race and ethnicity. Recent data trends indicate strong growth for Hispanic and Asian populations, particularly in Central and Eastern Pennsylvania. While the CILs are serving a number of individuals with disabilities from minority populations, outreach efforts will continue to focus on Hispanic and Asian minorities with disabilities.

Geographic Areas

Pennsylvania is a geographically large state with pockets of densely populated areas. To target one or more geographic regions seems disingenuous, because of the expanse of the state and the relatively small areas that are routinely covered by the IL staff members. We know that our network needs to find new ways to reach out to more communities and find ways to bring services to individuals with disabilities living in the periphery of the service areas. During COVID-19, more use of technology has been used to address outreach where appropriate. Use of current technology is helpful here but lack of rural broadband and cell phone service is still a challenge for many parts of PA. Nearly all major regions of PA have rural populations where this is an issue that state and federal governments need to collaborate with the private sector to resolve.

As noted by the Center for Rural Pennsylvania (2018), nearly 3.4 million people, or about 26 percent of the state's 12.8 million residents, lived in Pennsylvania's 48 rural counties. (U.S. Census Bureau)

Outreach activities

In addition to the activities as indicated above, many new outreach efforts have been started. Every CIL and the SILC uses email, websites, and social media to get the word out to the

community about core CIL services and other supports they offer. This includes greater efforts to obtain earned media in news publications, television and radio. In recent discussions with CILs during both the prior SPIL and for this one, we have encouraged CILs to reach into their entire CIL service areas and not just the counties where their offices are located.

2.3 Coordination

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

The SILC and the IL Network partner with the following organizations to promote and expand community living:

1. PA Council on Independent Living (PCIL)
2. National Council on Independent Living (NCIL)
3. Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL)
4. Client Assistance Program (CAP)
5. PA Transportation Alliance
6. Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation (PATF)
7. Disability Rights Pennsylvania (DRP)
8. Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Council (PaRC)
9. Pennsylvania Development Disabilities Council (PA DDC)
10. The Arc of Pennsylvania
11. Rehabilitation & Community Providers Association (RCPA)
12. Pennsylvania Advocacy and Resources for Autism and Intellectual Disability (PAR)
13. Pennsylvania Homecare Association (PHA)
14. Disability Budget Coalition (DBC)
15. Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania
16. Tech OWL (Institute on Disabilities at Temple University)
17. Pennsylvania Council of the Blind (PCB)
18. Pennsylvania Society for Advancement of the Deaf (PSAD)
19. Pennsylvania Health Access Network (PHAN)
20. Self Determination Housing Project (SDHP)

State Agencies:

1. Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry
 - a. Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
 - i. Bureau of Blind and Visual Services (BBVR\S)
 - ii. Bureau of Vocational and Rehabilitation Services (BVRS)
 - b. Office for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (ODHH)
2. Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS)
 - a. Office of Long Term Living (OLTL)
 - b. Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)
 - c. Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP)
 - d. Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP)

3. Pennsylvania Department of Aging
4. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
5. Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH)
6. Pennsylvania Department of State (PA DOS)
7. Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
8. Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA)
9. Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED)

All 16 CILs in Pennsylvania utilize a SILC/DSE approved software to coordinate services and report data to highlight and focus on improving services for people with disabilities in the community.

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 (e.g., Part B, Part C, state funds, etc.) and oversight entity.

In addition to the chart in this section, here the following CILs (8) regarding current sources of CIL funding for the PA CIL network: Federally funded only: CIL CP, CIL NCP (Roads To Freedom), CIL of South Central PA (CIL SCPA), Community Resources for Independence (CRI), Disability Empowerment Center (DEC), Disability Options Network (DON-2 contracts), Liberty Resources (LRI) and Voices For Independence (VFI -2 contracts.)

The following CILs (8) receive their CIL allocations through our state budget (CIL line item): Abilities In Motion (AIM), Anthracite Region CIL (ARCIL), Center for Independent Living of Bucks County (CIL of Bucks, formerly CIL BC), Center for Independent Living Opportunities (CILO), Freedom Valley (FVDC), My CIL (Formerly CIL of North Eastern Pa , NEPA CIL), Life and Independence Today (LIFT), Lehigh Valley (LV CIL) and Voices For Independence (VFI).

Legal name	Counties served	Oversight process	Oversight entity(ies)	SPIL Signatory (yes/no)
Abilities in Motion	Berks	Oversight for this CIL is set by state legislation and this SPIL	DSE/SILC/CILS	No
Anthracite Region CIL	Carbon, Luzerne (Hazleton Area), Schuylkill	Oversight for this CIL is set by state legislation and this SPIL	DSE/SILC/CILS	Yes
Center for IL of Bucks County	Bucks	Oversight for this CIL is set by state legislation and this SPIL	DSE/SILC/CILS	Yes

Center for Independent Living Opportunities	Adams, Franklin, York	Oversight for this CIL is set by state legislation and this SPIL	DSE/SILC/CILS	Yes
Freedom Valley Disability Enablement	Chester, Delaware, Montgomery	Oversight for this CIL is set by state legislation and this SPIL	DSE/SILC/CILS	Yes
Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living	Lehigh, Northampton	Oversight for this CIL is set by state legislation and this SPIL	DSE/SILC/CILS	Yes
Life & Independence for Today	Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, Potter	Oversight for this CIL is set by state legislation and this SPIL	DSE/SILC/CILS	Yes
(MyCIL) Northeast PA Center for Independent Living	Bradford, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne (Hazleton), Pike, Monroe, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming	Oversight for this CIL is set by state legislation and this SPIL	DSE/SILC/CILS	Yes
CIL of Central PA	Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry, Juanita, Mifflin	Oversight for this CIL is set by federal legislation and this SPIL	ACL/SILC/CILS	Yes
CIL of South Central PA	Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Indiana, Somerset	Oversight for this CIL is set by federal legislation and this SPIL	ACL/SILC/CILS	Yes
Community Resources for Independence	Clarion, Crawford, Warren, Forest, Venango, Erie	Oversight for this CIL is set by federal legislation and this SPIL	ACL/SILC/CILS	Yes
Disability Empowerment Center	Lancaster, Lebanon	Oversight for this CIL is set by federal legislation and this SPIL	ACL/SILC/CILS	Yes
Disability Options Network	Lawrence, Beaver, Butler, Mercer, Allegheny, Armstrong,	Oversight for this CIL is set by federal legislation and this SPIL	ACL/SILC/CILS	Yes

	Westmoreland			
Liberty Resources, Inc	Philadelphia	Oversight for this CIL is set by federal legislation and this SPIL	ACL/SILC/CILS	No
CIL of North Central PA	Centre, Clinton, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Tioga, Union	Oversight for this CIL is set by federal legislation and this SPIL	ACL/SILC/CILS	Yes
Voices for Independence/ Transitional Paths to Independent Living	Clarion, Crawford, Warren, Forest, Venango, Erie Fayette, Greene, Washington	Oversight for this CIL is set by state and federal legislation and this SPIL	ACL/SILC/CILS DSE	Yes

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 state wideness of Network.

PA does not receive Part C funds, PA is not distributing one-time funds. Part B funds for distribution are used collectively for one statewide project which addresses the specific Project activities in the SPIL. The DSE uses a competitive bid process and advertises request for application or a request for proposal. The DSE provides the scoring committee with evaluation instructions and each scoring committee member signs a certificate of confidentiality and no conflict of interest. The DSE and SILC appointment members of the scoring committee to review the applications. Scoring criteria is based upon the following:

1. eligibility criteria for meeting the definition of a CIL
2. project approach and management plan including but not limited to measurable goals for accomplishing the objective/s of the project, and project evaluation plan
3. project outcomes
4. sustainability of the project
5. a complete and accurate budget
6. realistic timeline

4.2 Does not include the description of the process, policies, and procedures for the DSE to follow in the awarding of grants of Part B funds. SILC DSE uses the Commonwealth Procurement Code, 62 Pa. C.S. 101 *et seq.*, and the Procurement Handbook.

The process for soliciting proposals is not included. There is only one State Independent Living Council, as provided for in the Independent Living Services Act, 1994-139, as a result, the

contract must be a sole source procurement. Accordingly, the DSE uses § 515 of the Procurement Code: Sole source procurement. The contracting officer must first determine in writing that only a single contractor the SILC, can provide the services pursuant to State statute. The written determination authorizing sole source procurement shall be included in the contract file and signed by the head of the purchasing agency when over \$250,000. The request for a proposal including a statement of work, deliverables with a timeline, and budget is then made to the SILC to draft a contract.

The SILC must submit a scope of work/program description, list of deliverables with a timeline, and a proposed budget. Generally, the DSE works with the SILC to open and review proposals submitted prior to the deadline issued in the Notice for Application. The proposals are evaluated based on which proposal best meets the objectives of the Request for Application.

The CILs will use Part B and/or C funds, I & E, state funds, individual and corporate donations, municipal grants, foundation grants, fees for service, other state grants, and other federal grants. The SILC will use I&E, State General Funds, administrative fees from foundation grants, and donations.

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 state wideness of Network.

SILC and the IL Network will give priority to unserved and underserved areas as indicated by data submitted from each CIL.

The IL Network recognizes the need to update its minimum funding level for CILs, not only to account for inflation, but also to acknowledge different conditions and circumstances that each CIL operates under. Arriving at more accurate minimum funding levels across all of Pennsylvania's CILs will require much deeper discussion and study, as will the development of a plan or formula to bring each CIL up to its minimum funding level. Minimum funding levels may be different for each CIL's service region.

Pennsylvania's CIL network has been focused on increasing levels for the established 16 CILs. Action/process for distribution of funds relinquished or removed from a Center and/or if a Center closes.

In the event that funds are relinquished or removed from a CIL (either Part B or Part C) and/or a CIL closes, the following steps will be taken:

1. Upon approval of the SPIL, the SILC SPIL committee will be charged with reviewing the SPIL and data from all CILS to determine unmet needs across the state and assist with monitoring of state funded CILs. The SPIL committee will with representation from the SILC, DSE, and the IL Network, will issue a competitive RFP to all remaining CILs to redistribute unencumbered funds.

2. The remaining CILs may submit a single proposal, which outlines a plan for serving one, more or all of the communities formerly served by the CIL in question.
3. The review committee will meet to approve plans of service on a community by community basis.
4. Notice of approval will be issued immediately as decisions are made, in order to minimize lapses in service for each community that is up for review.
5. The funding formula will be updated to reflect the change in service areas and include only the CILs that remain.
6. If there are no respondents to the RFP or some communities are not included in CIL proposals, funds will go back into the funding formula for redistribution. Additional Part C funds will be distributed according to a formula developed by the IL Network.

Unserved/Underserved

The SPIL committee will determine unserved / underserved populations by examining CIL data by county from both 704 reports and information collected by DSE for state funded CILs. The following initial priorities will be addressed:

1. Age Ranges: Seniors with disabilities, Youth with disabilities
2. Gender/Sexual Orientation: LGBTQ
3. Disability types: People with the following disabilities-intellectual/ autism, traumatic brain injuries, mental illness, deaf and hard of hearing, blind-visual challenges, deafblind, cognitive and other physical or developmental barriers.
4. Race and ethnicity: African, Asian, Hispanics, and Native Americans, Alaskans, Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders

In the event that a Part C grant recipient is in danger of not being able to fulfill its statutory obligations and could possibly be relinquished/closed for any reason, that CIL is required to notify ACL and make available to ACL any review, audits, survey of customers, potential legal action, etc. to determine all steps necessary in order to ameliorate the pressing situation and assist management to prevent an interruption of services. ACL should then make available to SILC any necessary documentation that will assist ACL and SILC in preventing an interruption of services.

An expectation of privacy will be observed by all parties with regard to a CILs consumer records in the database. However, a reasonable sampling of consumer files must be available for review during an annual in person monitoring.

In the event that a Part C grant is relinquished or terminated by dissolution or crisis operation of a CIL, etc., the SILC will work with the CILs and ACL to adopt a plan for intervention as soon as possible to ensure the immediate and continued provision of core independent living services to the impacted consumers, retain funding in that Center's service area and establish a new CIL in the relinquished/closed grant's service area(s), all while ensuring that any applicant for the unserved service area(s) has a successful background before being considered to fulfill the statutory obligation.

In the event that a State-funded CIL is in danger of not being able to fulfill its statutory obligations and/or its funding is relinquished or terminated by dissolution or crisis operation of the CIL, that CIL is required to notify the DSE and accordingly, follow a similar course as outlined above. The DSE and SILC will work with the network of CILs to intervene as soon as possible to ensure the immediate and continued provision of core independent living services to the impacted consumers. The DSE, SILC and the network of CILs will, as necessary, adopt a plan to help the CIL out of the crisis, retain funding in that Center's service area and establish a new CIL in the relinquished/closed grant's service area(s), all while ensuring that any applicant for the unserved service area(s) has a successful background before being considered to fulfill the statutory obligation.

SILC encourages all CILs to seek out and acquire alternative means of funding (other public and private grants, donations, fundraising) to reduce the impact that any adjustment in the distribution of funds has on the provision of services.

The SILC SPIL committee will evaluate SPIL compliance with statutory standards and assurances. The committee must consist of the SILC chair, a DSE representative and representatives of at least the following groups: Part C CILs, and State funded CILs, consumers, and disability advocates.

It will be the duty of the SPIL committee to determine if a state funded CIL has failed to meet the standards and assurances as stated in the Rehabilitation Act as amended and PA Act 1994-139 as amended.

The SPIL committee will assist the DSE in determining the need for a Corrective Action Plan for the CIL if it is determined that the CIL fails to fulfill its statutory duties. All decisions of SPIL committee will be reviewed and approved by SILC board and the DSE/ACL.

Corrective Action Plans may include:

1. Rehabilitating the existing CIL.
2. If a state CIL has been determined by the SILC and DSE that it is no longer eligible based upon eligibility criteria, collaboration with DSE to pursue administrative actions to decertify a state CIL for purposes of restructuring; or to reissue the Support Grant to a new or existing CIL for that service area.
3. If ACL has determined that a federal CIL is no longer eligible based upon eligibility criteria, collaboration with ACL to pursue administrative actions to decertify a state CIL for purposes of restructuring; or to reissue the Support Grant to a new or existing CIL for that service area.

Section 4: Designated State Entity

PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation will serve as the entity in Pennsylvania 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. (*Sec. 704(c)*).

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 Grant Process & Distribution of Funds

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

PA Department of Labor & Industry Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) is the Designated State Entity (DSE) for administration of the State plan for independent living. The SILC has selected OVR to serve as the DSE for the State Independent Living Services program (Part B). With their signature on this document, OVR has agreed to accept that responsibility.

The SILC has selected OVR to serve as the Designated State Entity (DSE) for the State Independent Living Services program (Part B). With their signature on this document, OVR has agreed to accept that responsibility.

In carrying out its' duties as DSE, OVR assures that it will abide and adhere to the DSE indicators as outlined in the Rehabilitation Act. Section 706 as amended.

4.3 Oversight Process for Part B Funds

The oversight process to be followed by the DSE.

4.3 Part B funds are not used for basic support/CIL operations. Part B funds are used to support a statewide coalition action group (federal and state funded CILs) in which one CIL is awarded funds to support a collaborative effort to toward the expansion of Core Services per the activities as identified in the SPIL. The DSE will utilize the competitive bid process of Request for Proposal. The DSE creates a sole source contract with the established SILC. The DSE monitors

the contract on at least a quarterly basis requiring a narrative report which must address each of the deliverables and timeline as well as fiscal supporting documentation for expenditures. Then an onsite annual monitoring is completed which reviews the progress of each of the deliverables. The work plan and deliverables should align with the standards and assurances that have been set forth per the Rehab Act not only for the SILC, but also this SPIL. The DSE provides ongoing assistance and utilizes the monitoring report as a tool to identify areas in need of improvement or which do not meet the standards and assurances. PA SILC and DSE work collaboratively to determine a plan and timeline for making corrections and/or improvements.

The 10% of state matching funds is allocated to the SILC in addition to the Part B funding which is utilized to support the operation of the SILC. Thus, reducing the amount of Part B funds that the SILC would require for their operating budget. An additional 10% match in the form of I&E VR funds will be allocated to the SPIL project in addition to the Part B funds in order to support the activities in the SPIL which will lead to employment and independence for people with disabilities. All funds raised through resource development methods will be used in accordance with the SPIL.

The DSE assures that it will carry out its other responsibilities under the Act, including, but not limited to, work with the SILC and CILs to develop delivery of independent living services under Part B of the Act, and for the necessary and sufficient resources needed by the SILC to fulfill its statutory duties and authorities, as authorized in the approved SPIL. This includes continued use of the Innovation and Expansion funds to fund the SILC. The DSE maintains the OIB funding. The DSE performs monitoring and reviews to ensure SILC and CILs maintain good standing on grant compliance measures. The DSE further assures that it will to best of its ability respect and promote the autonomy of the SILC and the SPIL.

4.4 Administration and Staffing

The PA SILC does not employ any DSE staff.

SILC is a separate non-profit entity (See Section 5.1), not located within any branch of state government or DSE. The DSE maintains two staff designated as program and fiscal liaisons for the SILC, SPIL activities and state funded CILs. Administrative and staffing support provided by the DSE.

The DSE Executive Director serves on the SILC as an ex-officio member and has been active in the development of the new SPIL. Fiscal staff from SILC and DSE have worked together to provide input into the resource plan. Both are available to the PA IL Network.

The SILC's autonomy is recognized by the DSE, so as not to create any conflict. The DSE does not hire, fire or supervise any SILC staff. It does not interfere with the day-to-day operation of the SILC. DSE does not participate in the approval of the SILC budget developed by the Executive Director and Office Manager in consultation with the SILC treasurer. Finally, the DSE ex officio representative on the SILC cannot participate in any motion or vote of the SILC board.

4.5 State Imposed Requirements

State-imposed requirements contained in the provisions of this SPIL including: (45 CFR 1329.17(g)) and in accordance with PA Act 139 of 1994

- State law, regulation, rule or policy (including management directives) relating to the DSE's administration or operation of IL programs
- 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

The DSE issues IL Part B contracts to each CIL annually and monitors each contract for compliance with state and federal regulations including the federal standards and indicators for Centers for Independent Living. The DSE also has performance measures to ensure cost effective services are being provided to as many individuals as possible. Also, the DSE plans to reinvigorate the review program for both CILs and the SILC. The DSE will review financials and service delivery data on a quarterly basis and provide recommendations for improvement as necessary. For further guidance on SILC autonomy and fulfillment of duties, see Sections 4.4 and 5.2.

4.5 List any state law, regulations, rule, or policy relating to the DSE's administration or operation of IL programs.

The DSE utilizes INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES ACT of Dec. 12, 1994, P.L. 1023, No. 139 Cl. 35 AN ACT to monitor and administer the State funded CILs. State appropriations for these Centers is determined and mandated by this Act. DSE also uses the Grant Administration Management Directive of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Governor's Office Number 305.20 Amended. This directive establishes policy, responsibilities, and procedures for awarding and administering commonwealth grants. Marginal dots are excluded due to major changes.

The DSE has requested and received approval from the PA Bureau of Payable Services to use an alternate payment method for HHS grant funds. This approval allows the DSE to advance payment requests for working capital. Otherwise, the DSE is bound by Management Directive 305.20 Section 5.g., which states "[p]ayments for grant agreements shall be made on a reimbursement basis, except when the director of the Bureau of Payable Services or designee has approved an alternate payment method. An approved Request for Approval to Use an Alternate Payment Method for Grant Funds form is required before awarding a grant using a payment method other than the reimbursement method ... Typically, advance payment requests for working capital, or for any other reason, should be limited to 25% of the first year grant amount. No payment shall be made to a grantee until the respective grant agreement is fully executed and all payments will be made through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) in keeping with Management Directive 310.30, Pennsylvania Electronic Payment Program."

The SILC is established under Act of Dec. 12, 1994, P.L. 1023, No. 139 and as a result, the DSE contracts with the entity to ensure a non-competitive bid process and SILC autonomy.

4.6 722 vs. 723 State

Check one:

- 722 (if checked, will move to Section 5)
 723 (if checked, will move to Section 4.7)

4.7 723 States

Order of priorities for allocating funds amounts to Centers, agreed upon by the SILC and Centers, and any differences from 45 CFR 1329.21 & 1329.22.

How state policies, practices, and procedures governing the awarding of grants to Centers and oversight of the Centers are consistent with 45 CFR 1329.5, 1329.6, & 1329.22.

Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

5.1 Establishment of SILC

How the SILC is established and SILC autonomy is assured.

Pennsylvania Statewide Independent Living Council (PA SILC) was formed in 1987, in compliance with the Federal "Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1986" (Public Law 99-506, 1986) as a consumer-controlled advisory committee to the Independent Living (IL) services program within the PA Department of Labor & Industry's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) When the Rehabilitation Act was amended in 1992, the SILC was given co-signatory authority on the federally mandated State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL). PA SILC is now a governor-appointed, consumer-controlled Council comprised of statewide and cross-disability representation. PA SILC started its separation from OVR in 1994. Governor Casey signed the Independent Living Services Act (Act 139 of 1994) which establishes PA SILC as the chief planning body for IL programs in the state. In 1995, PA SILC became a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

PA SILC recently formed a Resource Development Committee to empower our organization toward greater autonomy, become less dependent on the flow of governmental resources, raise public awareness and provide more support for IL to better assist Pennsylvanians with disabilities. Our purpose in raising additional revenues is to improve collaboration with, strengthen and expand the network of 16 PA Centers for Independent Living (CILs), identify systemic issues important to all PA disability populations to be addressed at various levels (local, state, national) which are consistent with IL values and public input received for our SPIL.

The SILC is an independent 501(C)(3) entity that operates with a governing board of directors. The DSE and the SILC work in collaboration as described by the Rehabilitation Act, *as amended*. ACT 139 of 1994 establishes the SILC in Pennsylvania code as well as certifies its autonomy. For additional information, please refer to Section 4.5 of this document.

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.

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.

Process used to develop the Resource Plan.

The contract is negotiated with the DSE every five years with the option to amend if and when necessary. The annual contract does not include any conditions or requirements that would compromise the independence of the SILC.

The SPIL goals, objectives, and activities and the SILC Resource Plan are developed based on the understanding that federal and state funds may fluctuate. The financial tables are developed based on conservative estimates, using current fiscal indicators and trends from the previous two years as guides for cost estimations. It is important to recognize that the SILC has limited staff and resources; therefore, it is critical to collaborate and partner with the CILs, the DSE and other agencies to complete the goals, objectives and activities identified in the SPIL.

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

Funds for the SILC Resource Plan will be disbursed by the DSE, upon receiving monthly invoices with supporting documentation. Per the SILC's contract with the DSE, all invoices are to be paid within no more than 30 days of receipt. However, the SILC and DSE are working together to ensure more timely reimbursement, in order to prevent any undue hardship on the SILC, which could disrupt continuous and effective ongoing operations.

The SILC resource plan remains level funded. PA SILC participates within state and national disability or related stakeholder groups on a regular basis to address concerns of both the IL Network (See Section 2.3). In addition, SILC's current lease is expiring and concerns have been raised about SILC being located within a particular CIL. Additional resources are required to address an SILC office that is both accessible and affordable within our resources. SILC is also starting to examine raising additional revenues through efforts of our recent Resource Development but with recent economic challenges and the COVID-19 pandemic, those efforts have been limited.

The DSE has established two single points of contact (SPOC) for the SILC. One fiscal contact and one program contact. Both SPOCs are continuously available for technical assistance, sit on SILC committees when necessary to provide technical assistance, attend all SILC board meetings to provide updates and technical assistance. The fiscal SPOC submits to the comptroller for a 10-day expedited reimbursement of SILC funds in order to ensure the timeliness of reimbursements.

The SILC writing team included members of all three partners (SILC, CILs and DSE) to the SPIL to establish consensus on the distribution of the resource plan

See chart above for description of funding and the following is a breakdown of how SILC develops its resource plan to fulfill its duties.

The PASILC resource plan includes:

Salaries and Benefits - projected expenses needed to employ SILC staff.

Equipment Purchase - projected expenses to purchase equipment as necessary.

Equipment Lease & Maintenance - cost of leasing and/or maintenance agreements.

Audit- projected cost of an annual audit to fulfill state and federal contract requirements.

Computer Software - projected cost to purchase computer software.

Consultation - consultation services in specialized areas related to the SILCs mission.

Dues/Subscriptions/Fees - costs related to memberships in disability related organizations/groups.

Educational Fees - projected expenses for training in personal development.

Insurance/Directors & Officers - projected cost for Directors- and Officers- insurance.

Insurance/Property - projected cost for property insurance.

Meeting Charges - Funds to cover the costs of having quarterly and committee meetings.

Payroll Services - projected cost for payroll services, reports, and tax filing purposes.

Postage - projected cost for typical mailings of correspondence.

Printing - projected cost of purchasing professional printing services.

Reasonable Accommodations - projected cost for disability-related support.

Rent - projected cost for office space and off-site storage.

Supplies - typical clerical supplies, binders, miscellaneous materials and supplies.

Telephone - projected cost for telephone and computer network expenses.

Travel//Lodging, Meals, PAS, and Transportation - projected cost of expenses for board.

In carrying out its duties as DSE, assures that it will abide and adhere to the DSE indicators as outlined in the Rehabilitation Act, Section 706, *as amended*.

The SILC has an internal process for proper expenditure of funds. In addition to this process, the Finance Committee meets regularly to ensure the funds meet the program responsibilities as well

as being properly accounted for. The SILC also has an annual program audit. The SILC is in continual communication with the DSE to ensure the resources are expended properly both before the passage of the plan and during the implementation.

As a contractor, SILC agrees, as follows, to be responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate procedures and internal financial controls governing the management and utilization of funds provided hereunder which will be in the form pursuant to generally accepted accounting procedures.

In addition, the SILC has in place fiscal policies and procedures which address internal controls, safe-guarding assets, expenditures, inventory, cash receipts, cash disbursements, bank statement reconciliation, management information systems, inter-fund borrowing, non-expendable property, compliance with all federal and state laws and regulations, and the annual budget process. SILC develops a budget, to the maximum extent possible, based on existing net assets and anticipated assets under current agreements. Budget revisions are made, as needed, when new funding is received during the fiscal year.

- Non-inclusion of conditions or requirements in the SILC resource plan that may compromise the independence of the SILC.

There are no conditions or requirements that are imposed by the DSE or any other entity that may compromise the independence of the SILC, and the SILC relies to the maximum extent possible on the resources in existence during the period of the implementation of the SPIL.

- Reliance, to the maximum extent possible, on the use of resources in existence during the period of implementation of the State plan.

All funds included in the SPIL are based on current fiscal year appropriations and are subject to continued appropriations. Should appropriations cease, be decreased, or be increased, the SILC and CILs will review, and revise as needed, the funding amounts in the SPIL. Any circumstances impacting the availability of funds for the SILC resource plan will result in the SILC and DSE renegotiating the funding for the SILC resource plan.

5.3 Maintenance of SILC

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

Members of the SILC are appointed by the Governor of the state of Pennsylvania. An application process is in place to ensure the SILC composition and qualification requirements are met. The chairperson is elected, from among the voting members of the SILC, by the voting members of the SILC. Term limits are maintained through record-keeping and by filling vacancies for full terms or partial terms, as applicable. Vacancies are filled in the following manner: the appointed members of the SILC conduct an annual solicitation of applications for SILC membership statewide. Applications include demographics, background information, experience, and other information necessary to ensure compliance with the composition requirements and to bring the skills, experience, and representation needed for effective

functioning of the SILC. Applications received are reviewed by a committee of the SILC considering all federal requirements, current make-up of the SILC, and upcoming vacancies. The committee develops recommendations for appointment and presents them to the full SILC for consideration. Final recommendations are approved by the SILC and are submitted to the Governor as nominations for appointment. Information presented to the Governor includes the demographic mix of the PASILC and how each nomination lends to compliance with composition requirements, any resumes provided by applicants, justification for the appointment of each nominee, and the recommended appointment term for each nominee.

Section 6: Legal Basis and Certifications

6.1 Designated State Entity (DSE)

The state entity/agency designated to receive and distribute funding, as directed by the SPIL, under Title VII, Part B of the Act is Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor and Industry, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Authorized representative of the DSE Shannon Austin M.S., CRC, CWDP, GCDP, OWDS
Title: Executive Director .

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 Pennsylvania 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:

Abilities in Motion
Anthracite Region CIL
Center for Independent Living Opportunities
Center for IL of Bucks County
CIL of Central PA
CIL of South Central PA
Community Resources for Independence
Disability Empowerment Center
Disability Options Network
Freedom Valley Disability Enablement
Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living
Liberty Resources, Inc.
Life & Independence for Today (LIFT)
(MyCIL) Northeast PA Center for Independent Living
CIL of North Central PA
Voices for independence/Transitional Paths to Independent Living

6.4 Authorizations

6.4.a. The SILC is authorized to submit the SPIL to the Independent Living Administration, Administration for Community Living. yes_ (Yes/No)

6.4.b. The SILC and CILs may legally carryout each provision of the SPIL. yes__ (Yes/No)

6.4.c. State/DSE operation and administration of the program is authorized by the SPIL.
yes____ (Yes/No)

Section 7: DSE Assurances

Shannon Austin, M.S., CRC, CWDP, GCDP, OWDS acting on behalf of the DSE,
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation located at _____ 1521 N. Sixth Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102
Telephone#: 717-783-3784, email address: shaaustin@pa.gov 45 CFR 1329.11 assures that:

- 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;¹
- 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).

The signature below indicates this entity/agency's agreement to: serve as the DSE and fulfill all the responsibilities in Sec. 704(c) of the Act; affirm the State will comply with the aforementioned assurances during the three-year period of this SPIL; and develop, with the SILC, and ensure that the SILC resource plan is necessary and sufficient (in compliance with section 8, indicator (6) below) for the SILC to fulfill its statutory duties and authorities under Sec. 705(c) of the Act, consistent with the approved SPIL.¹

Shannon Austin, M.S., CRC, CWDP, GCDP, OWDS, Executive Director

Name and Title of DSE director/authorized representative

Signature

Date

Electronic signature may be used for the purposes of submission, but hard copy of signature must be kept on file by the SILC.

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

8.1 Assurances

Susan Tomasic acting on behalf of the SILC, located at 207 House Avenue Suite 107 Camp Hill, PA 17011 | Telephone#: 717-364-1732 | email address: susant318@yahoo.com
 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;¹
- (3) The SILC terms of appointment adhere to the Act;¹
- (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.¹
- (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.¹
- (9) All recipients of financial assistance under Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act will notify all individuals seeking or receiving services under this Title about the availability of the Client Assistance Program (CAP), the purposes of the program, the services the program provides, and how to contact such program.

Section 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 timeline for advance notice to the public for SILC “Executive Session” meetings, that are closed to the public, that follow applicable federal and State laws;
 - 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;
 - 1. 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;
 - ii. Funds for innovation and expansion activities under Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 721(a)(18), as applicable;
 - iii. 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.

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

Susan Tomasic
 Name of SILC chairperson

Susan Tomasic 6/25/20
 Signature Date

Electronic signature may be used for the purposes of submission, but hard copy of signature must be kept on file by the SILC.

Section 9: 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 _____
 _____ Pennsylvania 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 October 1, 2020

Susan Tomasic

06/25/20

SIGNATURE OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

DATE

Susan Tomasic

NAME OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

Abilities in Motion

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Stephanie Quigley

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Anthracite Region CIL

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Denise Corcoran

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Center for Independent Living Opportunities

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Hillary Hasson

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Center for IL of Bucks County

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR DATE

Caitlin Chaser
NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

CIL of Central Pa
NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR DATE

Janetta Green
NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

CIL of South Central Pa
NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR DATE

George Palmer
NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Community Resources for Independence
NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR DATE

Carl Berry
NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Disability Empowerment Center
NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR DATE

Daniel Stroup
NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Disability Options Network

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Chris Lloyd

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Freedom Valley Disability Enablement

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Michael Burke

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Amy Beck

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Liberty Resources, Inc.

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Thomas Earle

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Life and Independence for Today (LIFT)

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Robert Mecca

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

(MyCIL) Northeast Center for Independent Living

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Timothy Moran

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

CIL of North Central PA

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Misty Dion

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Voices for Independence/Transitional Paths to Independent Living

NAME OF CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL)

SIGNATURE OF CIL DIRECTOR

DATE

Shona Eakin

NAME OF CIL DIRECTOR

Electronic signatures may be used for the purposes of submission, but hard copy of signature must be kept on file by the SILC.