

SPIL Revisions (July, 2008)

The WV Statewide Independent Living Council, WV Division of Rehabilitation Services, and the WV Centers for Independent Living have cooperatively developed revisions to the current State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) at the request of the Rehabilitation Services Administration, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, US Department of Education (RSA).

The changes will affect the second and third year of the three-year plan (2009 and 2010).

This overview of the significant changes being proposed to the WV State Plan for Independent Living is being provided to facilitate the review of the revised SPIL by the public and other interested parties.

Please note that this document includes only substantive changes and there may be other changes to the SPIL that are not included here because they are minor and do not alter the SPIL in any practical way.

General Changes:

- The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) may not:
 - Administer the Part B funding
 - Administer State IL funding
 - Conduct the Disability Caucus
 - Conduct the Youth Disability Caucus
 - Conduct or provide funding to leadership development activities
 - Conduct resource development activities
 - Monitor legislative activity unless requested to do so by a CIL
 - Speak to legislators or legislative committees/staff unless requested to do so by legislators and/or legislative staff
 - Implement the objectives in the SPIL
 - Provide stipends to people with disabilities for any activity
 - Provide funding to any other entity for any activity

- The Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) must provide Part B funding that is to be utilized for independent living services directly to the service providers – the centers for independent living (CILs).

Specific Changes by Section:

Section 1.2A – Objectives

Goal 1: Develop a statewide network of centers for independent living.

Goal statement is deleted

Objectives 1.a., 1.b., and 1.c. – are moved to Section 3.2

Objective 1.d. involving coordinating with the Bureau of Senior Services is deleted

Objective 1.e. conducting resource development activities is deleted

Objective 1.f. becomes 1.a. and 1.g. becomes 1.c.

Goal 2: Improve transportation for people with disabilities.

Objective 2.a. – clarify that the CILs will implement
Objective 2.b. and 2.c. – clarify that DRS and the CILs will implement

Goal 3: Improve the employment rate for people with disabilities.

Objective 3.a. – clarify that DRS and the CILs will implement
Objective 3.d. – clarify that DRS will implement
Objective 3.e. and 3.f. – clarify that DRS and the CILs will implement

Goal 4: Improve health care services for people with disabilities.

Objectives 4.a. and 4.c. – clarify that CILs will implement
Objective 4.b. – clarify that CILs and DRS will implement

Goal 5: Improve personal assistance services for people with disabilities.

Objective 5.a. – clarify that CILs and DRS will implement
Objectives 5.b., 5.c., 5.d., 5.f., and 5.g. – clarify that CILs will implement
Objective 5.e. regarding developing a personal assistance services match service on the Virtual Web-based CIL is deleted due to liability issues

Goal 6: Improve communication between the SILC and people with disabilities and the general public.

Delete goal and objectives from the SPIL and move to the SILC work plan.

Goal 7: Increase the availability of assistive technology.

Goal and objectives are deleted in order to avoid duplication of WVU CED efforts in this area.

Goal 8: Improve the quality of independent living services in West Virginia.

Renumber and reword to read: “Goal 1: Improve independent living services in West Virginia”

Objective 8.a. – renumbered to be Objective 1.b.
Objective 8.b. – regarding technical assistance for CILs is deleted

Goal 9: Conduct and participate in Advocacy Activities.

Renumbered to be Goal 6

Objective 9.a. – reworded and renumbered to read “Objective 6.a. Coordinate with other councils and agencies to ensure persons who have disabilities have access to community-based resources that promote personal choice and facilitate the achievement of their independent living goals.”

Objective 9.b. – clarify that CILs will implement and renumbered as 6.b.

Objective 9.c. – renumbered as 6.c.

Objective 9.d. – renumbered as 6.d.

Objective 9.e. – reworded and renumbered to read “Objective 6.e. The WVSILC will be an active member of the Fair Shake Network.”

Objective 9.f. – regarding conducting the WV Disability Caucus in 2010 is deleted

Goal 10: Conduct and support leadership development activities for people with disabilities.

Delete from SPIL and move to SILC work plan reworded to read “Conduct and support leadership development activities for membership on the SILC.”

Objective 10.a. – regarding conducting the Youth Disability Caucus in 2009 is deleted

Objective 10.b. – regarding supporting youth outreach and training/learning opportunities is deleted

Objective 10.c. – regarding providing scholarships for Partners in Policymaking is deleted

Objective 10.d. – regarding providing support for technical assistance and training for CILs is deleted

Objective 10.e. – regarding supporting other leadership development activities is deleted

Objective 10.f – moved to SILC work plan

Section 1.3 – Financial Plan

All Title VII, Part B funding, except \$5,000 held by DRS for administrative costs, will go to the CILs to provide IL services to people with significant disabilities.

All State IL funding, except 5% held by DRS for administrative costs, will go to the CILs for the Community Living Services Program (CLSP).

All funding for SILC operations will come from Title I, Section 101(a)(18) Innovation and Expansion. The amount for FFY 2009 will be \$210,000 and will be evaluated and adjusted if needed for FFY 2010.

No specific amount of funding will be designated for “expansion projects” but the CILs will have the discretion to use Title VII, Part B dollars to continue those projects, fund CLSP activities, fund administrative costs, etc. as long as they “provide independent living services to people with significant disabilities”.

Amounts in the Financial Plan Tables are “pending Federal/State budget appropriations” as indicated.

The SILC resource development initiative will cease given current guidance from RSA that such activity is “beyond SILC statutory duties and responsibilities”.

Section 1.5 Cooperation, Coordination, and Working Relationships Among Various Entities.

This section has been expanded somewhat as this is one area the SILC is permitted to pursue vigorously, according to RSA.

Language has been added that “The WVSILC, WVCIL, and WVDRS will cooperate and coordinate with any agency, council, or public or private entity when such relationship is consistent with the SPIL and the Act.” (meaning the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended).

Language has been added that “The WVSILC, WVCIL, and WVDRS will cooperate and coordinate with the Legislature and Congress by providing information and technical assistance upon request from legislators and/or legislative staff.”

Section 2: Scope, Extent and Arrangements of Services

2.1A IL Services Table has been updated to reflect what services are being provided by DRS through contract and/or grant to the CILs.

2.2 Arrangements for State-Provided Services:

2.2A This section has been clarified to indicate that all IL services under Title VII, Part B are provided through grants from DRS to the Part C funded CILs to provide independent living services to people with significant disabilities. That State IL funds will be provided through grants to the Part C funded CILs for the CSLP.

Section 3: Expansion of Network

3.2 Title VII, Part B:

1. – regarding funding CIL expansion projects is deleted
2. – regarding funding the CLSP is deleted
3. – regarding bringing expansion projects to a minimum funding level is deleted
- New 1. Provide independent living services to people with significant disabilities using Part B funds.
4. is now 2.

Section 4: DSU

4.1A – reworded to explain how DRS will monitor the SPIL grant projects of the CILs and to ensure that DRS will not monitor general operations of CILs or micromanage the SPIL grant projects.

Section 5: SILC

5.1 Resource Plan:

5.1A – revised to indicate the SILC resource plan includes \$210,000 Title I, I&E funds for FFY 2009, the amount will be re-evaluated for FFY 2010, and that interest earned on the funds will be budgeted and spent by the SILC.

5.1B – revised to simplify language about financial controls over SILC resource plan.

5.4 Staffing:

5.4A – revised to indicate that SILC staff includes 2.3 FTEs – executive director (90%), administrative assistant (90%), and program assistant (50%) funded by the SILC resource plan – rather than three full-time staff. The balance of the staff salaries will come from other funding sources outside the SILC resource plan.

Section 7: Evaluation

7.1A – revised to clarify that the SILC will not evaluate the SPIL grant programs, only the SPIL goals and objectives.

Bullet points about the Youth Disability Caucus, the Administrative Committee reviewing fiscal and programmatic data, and WVSILC conducting quarterly reviews have been deleted.

The last bullet point has been revised to clarify that progress reports will come from “one grantee of IL service funds from the DSU” (meaning DRS) at each SILC meeting.