

SPIIL Revision Instrument - FINAL

State: RHODE ISLAND

DRAFT- MAY 11
STATE PLAN FOR
INDEPENDENT LIVING
(SPIIL)

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

STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES (SILS) PROGRAM
PART B

CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL) PROGRAM
PART C

FISCAL YEARS 2008 - 2010

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part I: Assurances

Section 1: Legal Basis and Certifications	3
Section 2: SPIL Development	3
Section 3: Independent Living Services	5
Section 4: Eligibility	5
Section 5: Staffing Requirements	5
Section 6: Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting	6
Section 7: Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting	6
Section 8: Protection, Use and Release of Personal Information	7
Section 9: Signatures.....	7

Part II: Narrative

Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities.....	8
Section 2: Scope, Extent, and Arrangements of Services	12
Section 3: Design for the Statewide Network of Centers	14
Section 4: Designated State Unit (DSU)	14
Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)	15
Section 6: Service Provider Requirements	16
Section 7: Evaluation	17
Section 8: State-Imposed Requirements	17

PART I: Assurances

State of: Rhode Island

Section 1: Legal Basis and Certifications

- 1.1 The designated State unit (DSU) eligible to submit the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL or the plan) and authorized under State law to perform the functions of the State under [the State Independent Living Services \(SILS\) and Centers for Independent Living \(CIL\) programs is Office of Rehabilitation Services](#). *34 CFR 76.104(a)(1) and (2); 34 CFR 364.22(a)*
- 1.2 The separate State agency eligible to submit the plan and authorized under State law to provide vocational rehabilitation (VR) services to individuals who are blind is N/A (insert name of separate State agency). Indicate N/A if not applicable. *34 CFR 76.104(a)(1) and (2); 34 CFR 364.20(d) and 364.22(c)N/A*
- 1.3 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 Rhode Island Statewide Independent Living Council](#). *34 CFR 364.21(a)*
- 1.4 The DSU and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, and the SILC are authorized to jointly develop, sign and submit this SPIL on behalf of the State, and have adopted or otherwise formally approved the SPIL. *34 CFR 76.104(a)(7); 34 CFR 364.20(c) and (d)*
- 1.5 The DSU, and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, may legally carry out each provision of the plan and will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the three-year period it receives funding under the SPIL. *34 CFR 76.104; 34 CFR 80.11(c)*
- 1.6 The SPIL is the basis for State operation and administration of the program. All provisions of the SPIL are consistent with State law. *34 CFR 76.104(a)(4) and (8)*
- 1.7 The representative of the DSU and, if applicable, of the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, who has the authority under State law to receive, hold, and disburse Federal funds made available under the SPIL and to submit the SPIL jointly with the SILC chairperson is [Donald K. Phelps and Raymond A. Carroll, Administrator, Office of Rehabilitation Services](#). *34 CFR 76.104(a)(5) and (6)*

Section 2: SPIL Development

- 2.1 The plan shall be reviewed and revised not less than once every three years, to ensure the existence of appropriate planning, financial support and coordination, and other assistance to appropriately address, on a statewide and comprehensive basis, the needs in the State for:
 - The provision of State independent living services;

- The development and support of a statewide network of centers for independent living; and
 - Working relationships between programs providing independent living services and independent living centers, the vocational rehabilitation program established under title I, and other programs providing services for individuals with disabilities. *34 CFR 364.20(f)*
- 2.2 The DSU and SILC conduct public meetings to provide all segments of the public, including interested groups, organizations and individuals, an opportunity to comment on the State plan prior to its submission to the Commissioner and on any revisions to the approved State plan. *34 CFR 364.20(g)(1)*
- 2.3 The DSU and SILC establish and maintain a written description of procedures for conducting public meetings in accordance with the following requirements. The DSU and SILC shall provide:
- appropriate and sufficient notice of the public meetings (that is, at least 30 days prior to the public meeting through various media available to the general public, such as newspapers and public service announcements, and through specific contacts with appropriate constituency groups and organizations identified by the DSU and SILC);
 - reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication in the conduct of the public meetings, including providing sign language interpreters and audio-loops; and
 - public meeting notices, written material provided prior to or at the public meetings, and the approved State plan in accessible formats for individuals who rely on alternative modes of communication. *34 CFR 364.20(g)(2)*
- 2.4 At the public meetings to develop the State plan, the DSU and SILC identify those provisions in the SPIL that are State-imposed requirements beyond what would be required to comply with the regulations in 34 CFR parts 364, 365, 366, and 367. *34 CFR 364.20(h)*
- 2.5 The DSU will seek to incorporate into, and describe in, the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under a project funded under chapter 2 of title VII of the Act and that the DSU determines to be effective. *34 CFR 364.28*
- 2.6 The DSU and SILC actively consult, as appropriate, in the development of the State plan with the director of the Client Assistance Program (CAP) authorized under section 112 of the Act. *34 CFR 364.20(e)*

Section 3: Independent Living Services

- 3.1 The State, directly or through grants or contracts, will provide IL services with Federal, State, or other funds. *34 CFR 364.43(b)*
- 3.2 Independent living services shall be provided to individuals with significant disabilities in accordance with an independent living plan mutually agreed upon by an appropriate staff member of the service provider and the individual, unless the individual signs a waiver stating that such a plan is unnecessary. *34 CFR 364.43(c)*
- 3.3 All service providers will use formats that are accessible to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about:
 - the availability of the CAP authorized by section 112 of the Act;
 - the purposes of the services provided under the CAP; and
 - how to contact the CAP. *34 CFR 364.30*
- 3.4 Participating service providers meet all applicable State licensure or certification requirements. *34 CFR 365.31(c)*

Section 4: Eligibility

- 4.1 Any individual with a significant disability, as defined in 34 CFR 364.4(b), is eligible for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs authorized under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act. Any individual may seek information about IL services under these programs and request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities, as appropriate. The determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs meets the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51. *34 CFR 364.40(a), (b) and (c)*
- 4.2 Service providers apply eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services. *34 CFR 364.41(a)*
- 4.3 Service providers do not impose any State or local residence requirement that excludes any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services from receiving IL services. *34 CFR 364.41(b)*

Section 5: Staffing Requirements

- 5.1 Service provider staff includes personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of centers. *34 CFR 364.23(a)*
- 5.2 To the maximum extent feasible, a service provider makes available personnel able to communicate:
 - with individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication devices,

Braille or audio tapes, and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act; and

- in the native languages of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act. *34 CFR 364.23(b)*

5.3 Service providers establish and maintain a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services and, if appropriate, in administering the CIL program. The staff development programs emphasize improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of IL services, including knowledge of and practice in the IL philosophy. *34 CFR 364.24*

5.4 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act. *34 CFR 364.31*

Section 6: Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting

6.1 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will comply with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements and will adopt those fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for those funds. *34 CFR 364.34*

Section 7: Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting

7.1 In addition to complying with applicable EDGAR recordkeeping requirements, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will maintain records that fully disclose and document:

- the amount and disposition by the recipient of that financial assistance;
- The total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which the financial assistance is given or used;
- the amount of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources;
- compliance with the requirements of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act and Part 364 of the regulations; and
- other information that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate to facilitate an effective audit. *34 CFR 364.35(a) and (b)*

7.2 With respect to the records that are required by *34 CFR 364.35*, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will submit reports that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate. *34 CFR 364.36*

7.3 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will provide access to the Commissioner and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly

authorized representatives, to the records listed in 34 CFR 364.37 for the purpose of conducting audits, examinations, and compliance reviews. *34 CFR 364.37*

Section 8: Protection, Use, and Release of Personal Information

8.1 Each service provider will adopt and implement policies and procedures to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names in accordance with the requirements of 34 CFR 364.56(a)(1-6). *34 CFR 364.56(a)*

Section 9: Signatures

After having carefully reviewed all of the assurances in sections 1 - 8 of this SPIL, the undersigned hereby affirm that the State of Rhode Island is in compliance and will remain in compliance with the aforementioned assurances during [the three year period of the SPIL, October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2010.](#)

The effective date of this SPIL is October 1, 2007 (year)

SIGNATURE OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

DATE

Donald K. Phelps

SIGNATURE OF DSU DIRECTOR

DATE

Raymond A. Carroll, Administrator – Office of Rehabilitation Services

State of: **Rhode Island**

Part II: Narrative

Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities

1.1 Goals and Mission – 34 CFR 364.42(b)(1)

Describe the overall goals and mission of the State's IL programs and services. The SPIL must address the goals and mission of both the SILS and the CIL programs, including those of the State agency for individuals who are blind as they relate to the parts of the SPIL administered by that agency.

1.2 Objectives – 34 CFR 364.42(a)(1) and (d); 34 CFR 364.32; 34 CFR 364.33

1.2A Specify the objectives to be achieved and the time frame for achieving them.

1.2B Describe the steps planned regarding outreach to populations in the State that are unserved or underserved by programs under title VII, including minority groups and urban and rural populations. This section of the SPIL must:

- Identify the populations to be designated for targeted outreach efforts;
- Identify the geographic areas (i.e., communities) in which the targeted populations reside; and
- Describe how the needs of individuals with significant disabilities from minority group backgrounds will be addressed.

I. GOAL:

Increase access to least restrictive environment, based on informed choice of consumer.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Transition 75 individuals with significant disabilities from nursing homes or other restrictive environments to community living.

Need: Identified through CILs work plans, information and referral calls Long Term Care.

Evaluation: Measure number transitioned and survey for increased independence.

Activities:

Year One

1. Increase capacity of CILS to serve this population.
2. Establish baseline of numbers transitioned in Federal Fiscal Year 2007.
3. Develop survey to measure increased independence.
4. Transition 15 individuals.
5. Measure results annually. Provide a written report and status presentation at the annual (September) SILC meeting.

Year Two

1. Transition 25 individuals.
2. Measure results annually. Provide a written report and status presentation at the annual (September) SILC meeting.

Year Three

1. Transition 35 individuals.
2. Measure results annually. Provide a written report and status presentation at the annual (September) SILC meeting.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Participate in development of R.I. Olmstead Plan for least restrictive environment.

Need: Supreme court ruling requires each state to have a plan.

Evaluation:

Plan developed and practical applications further defined.

Activities:

Year One

1. CILs participate in planning commission.
2. Legislative advocacy to support plan as needed.
3. Measure results annually. Provide a written report and status statement presentation at the annual (September) SILC meeting.

Year Two

1. Continue planning process or adopt approved plan.
2. Legislative advocacy to support plan as needed or start implementation.
3. Measure results annually. Provide a written report and status statement presentation at the annual (September) SILC meeting.

Year Three

1. Continue planning process or adopt approved plan.
2. Legislative advocacy to support plan as needed or start implementation.
3. Measure results annually. Provide a written report and status statement presentation at the September SILC meeting.

OBJECTIVE 3:

Increase access to community and achieve independent living goals through removing physical barriers in residences and through increasing access to assistive technology.

Need: Identified through waiting lists of CILs, public testimony at Governor's Commission annual meetings and information and referral calls.

Evaluation:

Independent living goals achieved in home and community through physical barrier removal in residences and through increasing access to assistive technology.

Activities:

Year One

1. Publicity on availability.
2. Develop survey measuring increased independence
3. Establish baseline of Fiscal Federal Year 2007 goals met.
4. Independent Living goals met through physical access (50) and increased access to assistive technology (100). Hearing aids are included in assistive technology.

5. CIL advocates for maintaining and increasing funds.
6. Measure results annually. Provide written report and status presentation at second quarterly (March) SILC meeting. 704 Part II.

Year Two

1. Goals met: physical access (50) and assistive technology (100)
2. Measure results annually. Provide a written report and status presentation at second quarterly (March) SILC meeting. 704 Part II

Year Three

1. Goals met: physical access (50) and assistive technology (100)
2. Measure results annually. Provide a written report and status presentation at second quarterly (March) SILC meeting.

GOAL 2:

Increase access to Independent Living Services including health care for individuals with significant disabilities.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Outreach to non-English speaking Hispanics with significant disabilities and their families.

Need: Identified through census data, demographics of 704 Part II reports, Department of Health.

Evaluation:

Measure outreach efforts, information and referral (I&R) and independent living skills training.

Activities:

Year One:

- 1.) Collaborate with Department of Health, Office of Minority and Disability Health Program, and community agencies serving non-English speaking Hispanics to identify culturally appropriate outreach and any possible funding.
- 2.) Increase capacity of CILs to serve this population.
- 3.) Identify and serve 15 new consumers.
- 4.) Identify funding sources for assistive technology including new technology.
- 5.) Measure results annually. Provide a written report and status presentation at 3rd quarterly (June) SILC meeting.

Year two:

- 1.) Increase capacity of CILs to serve this population.
- 2.) Identify and serve 25 new consumers.

- 3.) Identify funding sources for assistive technology including new technology.
- 4.) Measure results annually. Provide a written status report and a status statement presentation at the 3rd quarterly (June) SILC meeting.

Year three:

- 1.) Increase capacity of CILs to serve this population.
- 2.) Identify and serve 25 new consumers.
- 3.) Identify funding sources for assistive technology including new technology.
- 4.) Measure results annually. Provide a written report and an status statement presentation at the 3rd (June) quarterly SILC meeting.

OBJECTIVE TWO:

Address barriers to independent living through the provision of CIL core services and increase access to transportation, communication, assistive technology, personal care assistants and other support services. ?? Overcome barriers through providing assistance in access to transportation, communication, assistive technology, personal care assistance and other support services???

Need: Identified through multiple sources, including work plans of CILs.

Evaluation:

Year One:

1. Review annual 704 Part II Reports
2. Written report and status presentation at 2nd quarterly (March) SILC meeting.

Year Two:

1. Review annual 704 Part II Reports
2. Written report and status presentation at 2nd quarterly (March) SILC meeting.

Year Three:

1. Review annual 704 Part II Reports
2. Written report and status presentation at 2nd quarterly (March) SILC meeting.

The SILC will support the Centers and collaborate, as appropriate, in the goals and objectives.

1.3 Financial Plan – 34 CFR 364.42(a)(2) and (3); 34 CFR 364.29

Describe in sections 1.3A and 1.3B, below, the financial plan for the use of Federal and non-Federal funds to meet the SPIL objectives.

1.3A Financial Plan Tables

Complete the financial plan tables covering years 1, 2 and 3 of this SPIL. For each funding

source, provide estimated dollar amounts anticipated for the applicable uses. The financial plan table should include only those funding sources and amounts that are intended to support one or more of the objectives identified in section 1.2 of the SPIL. To the extent possible, the tables and narratives must reflect the applicable financial information from centers for independent living. Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about completing the financial tables and narratives.

- Insert additional rows for the specific funding sources and amounts expected within the categories of Other Federal Funds and Non-Federal Funds.

Year 1

Sources	Approximate Funding Amounts and Uses			
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities
Title VII Funds				
Chapter 1, Part B				
Chapter 1, Part C				
Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)				
Other Federal Funds				
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)				
Other				
Non-Federal Funds				
State Funds				
Other				

Year 2

Sources	Approximate Funding Amounts and Uses			
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities
Title VII Funds				
Chapter 1, Part B				
Chapter 1, Part C				

Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)				
Other Federal Funds				
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)				
Other				
Non-Federal Funds				
State Funds				
Other				

Year 3

Sources	Approximate Funding Amounts and Uses			
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities
Title VII Funds				
Chapter 1, Part B				
Chapter 1, Part C				
Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)				
Other Federal Funds				
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)				
Other				
Non-Federal Funds				
State Funds				

Other				
-------	--	--	--	--

1.3B Financial Plan Narratives

1.3B(1) Specify how the part B, part C and chapter 2 (Older Blind) funds, if applicable, will further the SPIL objectives.

1.3B(2) Describe efforts to coordinate Federal and State funding for centers and IL services, including the amounts, sources and purposes of the funding to be coordinated.

1.3B(3) Describe any in-kind resources including plant, equipment or services to be provided in support of the SILC resource plan, IL services, general CIL operations and/or other SPIL objectives.

1.3B(4) Provide any additional information about the financial plan, as appropriate.

1.4 Compatibility with Chapter 1 of Title VII and the CIL Work Plans – 34 CFR 364.42(c) and (e)

1.4A Describe how the SPIL objectives are consistent with and further the purpose of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act as stated in section 701 of the Act and 34 CFR 364.2.

The goals and objectives are consistent with the further the purposes of providing, expanding and improving the provision of independent living services in order to improve the lives of individuals with significant disabilities. The goals further the support of the independent living centers and encourage improvement in working relations among the centers, Office of Rehabilitation Services, the SILC and programs that address the needs of individuals with significant disabilities.

The goals and objectives promote the philosophy of independent living based on consumer control, peer support, self help, self determination, equal access, and advocacy to maximize the leadership, independence and productivity of individuals with significant disabilities. They promote and maximize the integration and full inclusion of individuals with significant disabilities into the mainstream of American society.

1.4B Describe how, in developing the SPIL objectives, the DSU and the SILC considered and incorporated, where appropriate, the priorities and objectives established by centers for independent living under section 725(c)(4) of the Act.

Input from the Centers has been an integral part of the development of the goals and objectives and assists them in meeting the standards and assurances and ensuring implementation of the design of a network of centers in Rhode Island.

1.5 Cooperation, Coordination, and Working Relationships Among Various Entities – 34 CFR

364.26

Describe the steps that will be taken to maximize the cooperation, coordination and working relationships among the SILS program, the SILC, and centers; the DSU, other State agencies represented on the SILC and other councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues; and other public and private entities determined to be appropriate by the SILC.

- The description must identify the entities with which the DSU and the SILC will cooperate and coordinate.
- The SILS program, the SILC, and centers; and
- The DSU, other State agencies represented on the SILC, other councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues, and other public and private entities determined to be appropriate by the SILC.

The description must identify the entities with which the DSU and the SILC will cooperate and coordinate.

The new evaluation plan is a major step toward improved cooperation and coordinating through improved and interactive communication. In addition, SILC members serve on and report back on the work of other Councils, including the Statewide Rehabilitation Council and the Governor's Council on the Blind. The annual report of the Chapter Two Older Blind program is provided to all SILC members. The Director of the client Assistance Program is a member of the SILC. The CILs serve on the Olmstead Commission.

1.6 Coordination of Services – 34 CFR 364.27

Describe how IL services funded under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will be coordinated with and complement other services to avoid unnecessary duplication with other Federal, State, and local programs, including the OIB program authorized by chapter 2 of title VII of the Act, that provide IL- or VR-related services.

The SILC, ORS and CILs review the plans of other state agencies providing services to individuals with significant disabilities (note: need to list) and given limited IL resources, seek to provide unique IL services and provide individual and system advocacy.

1.7 Independent Living Services for Individuals who are Older Blind – 34 CFR 364.28

Describe how the DSU seeks to incorporate into, and describe in, the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under the Older Individuals who are Blind program and that the DSU determines to be effective.

Section 2: Scope, Extent, and Arrangements of Services

2.1 Scope and Extent – 34 CFR 364.42(b)(2)(3); 34 CFR 364.43(b); 34 CFR 364.59(b)

2.1A Check the appropriate boxes in the SPIL Instrument table indicating the types of IL services to be provided to meet the objectives identified in section 1.2 of this SPIL, and whether the services will be provided by the CILs or by the DSU (directly and/or through contract or grant).

Table 2.1A: Independent living services	Provided by the DSU (directly)	Provided by the DSU (through contract and/or grant)	Provided by the CILs (Not through DSU contracts/ grants)
Core Independent Living Services, as follows:	N/A		
- Information and referral	N/A		X
- IL skills training	N/A		X
- Peer counseling	N/A		X
- Individual and systems advocacy	N/A		X
Counseling services, including psychological, psychotherapeutic, and related services	N/A		
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 significant disabilities)	N/A	X	X
Rehabilitation technology	N/A		X
Mobility training	N/A		
Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life skills training, and interpreter and reader services	N/A		X
Personal assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services	N/A	X	X
Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation, accessible transportation and other support services	N/A		X
Consumer information programs on rehabilitation and IL 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	N/A		X

Table 2.1A: Independent living services	Provided by the DSU (directly)	Provided by the DSU (through contract and/or grant)	Provided by the CILs (Not through DSU contracts/ grants)
Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities	N/A		X
Supported living			
Transportation, including referral and assistance for such transportation	N/A		X
Physical rehabilitation	N/A		
Therapeutic treatment	N/A		
Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices			
Individual and group social and recreational services			X
Training to develop skills specifically designed for youths who are individuals with significant disabilities to promote self-awareness and esteem, develop advocacy and self-empowerment skills, and explore career options			X
Services for children with significant disabilities			
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 significant disabilities			X
Appropriate preventive services to decrease the need of individuals with significant disabilities for similar services in the future			X
Community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with disabilities			X
Other necessary services not inconsistent with the Act			X

2.1B Describe any service provision priorities, including types of services or populations, established for meeting the SPIL objectives identified in section 1.2.

1. Increase access to least restrictive environment, based on informed choice of consumer. This includes transition of individuals from nursing homes or other restrictive environments to community living; CILs participating in R.I. Olmstead Planning; removing physical barriers through housing accessibility; developing a strategy for outreach to newly diagnosed individuals.
2. Increased access to health care, including outreach to non-English speaking Hispanics.

Increased access includes increased understanding of chronic conditions to prevent secondary disabilities and knowledge and access to assistive technology, both through independent living skills training on an individual and group basis and information and referral. This also requires communication access, access to transportation to utilize services, other support services and CILs individual and system advocacy.

(Pending response from feds, this is where we need to put any limitations on scope. Or do these need to be through CILs having policies which restrict scope?)

Due to limitations in funding,

A. Part B funding will be used only when other funding is not available,

B. Computers will not be provided except through donation programs,

C. Economic need will be considered

D. No prosthetics except hearing aids provided through the Gift of Hearing Program and non – structural vehicle modifications.

2.1C If the State allows service providers to charge consumers for the cost of services or to consider the ability of individual consumers to pay for the cost of IL services, specify the types of IL services for which costs may be charged and for which a financial need test may be applied, and describe how the State will ensure that:

- Any consideration of financial need is applied uniformly so that all individuals who are eligible for IL services are treated equally; and
- Written policies and consumer documentation required by 34 CFR 364.59(d) will be kept by the service provider.

Indicate N/A if not applicable.

The ability of individual consumers to pay is uniformly considered for the cost of home modifications, adaptive equipment and Gift of Hearing program. There are standard reporting forms for this information and such information is filed in the individual's case record. The Centers use the Office of Rehabilitation Services policy; however they are in the process of developing their own.

2.2 Arrangements for State-Provided Services – 34 CFR 364.43(d) and (e)

2.2A If the DSU will provide any of the IL services identified in section 2.1A through grants or contractual arrangements with third parties, describe such arrangements.

Office of Rehabilitation Services, the DSU, contracts with the two Centers for Independent Living. For SILS- Part B services

2.2B If the State contracts with or awards a grant to a center for the general operation of the center, describe how the State will ensure that the determination of an individual's eligibility for services from that center shall be delegated to the center.

If any contracts with the two Centers for Independent Living for IL services include the provision of eligibility being determined by the Centers, with a sample of case records monitored by ORS.

Section 3: Design for the Statewide Network of Centers

The Statewide Independent Living Council, the Office of Rehabilitation Services (the DSU), and the Centers for Independent Living share a vision in which all people with significant disabilities in need of independent living services can obtain timely and effective assistance from a Center for Independent Living to enable individuals with significant disabilities to function in their homes and communities.

3.1 Existing Network – 34 CFR 364.25

Provide an overview of the existing network of centers, including non-Part C-funded centers that comply with the standards and assurances in section 725 (b) and (c) of the Act, and the geographic areas and populations currently served by the centers.

Rhode Island has a network of two Centers for Independent Living. The Centers meet the federal standards, including cross-disability, consumer-majority boards, and a qualified staff consisting of a majority with disabilities. Staff are qualified and committed, and are valued for their skills and need to be paid fairly. Both Centers are located in heavily populated areas of the state. Rhode Island is a small state comprised of five counties.

Due to the state's small size and unique geography, both Centers are able to offer services on a statewide basis, which permits full consumer choice. Rhode Island may be unique in providing the majority of direct services in the homes of consumers rather than in the Centers. Both Centers provide the following mandated core services:

- Information and referral
- Advocacy (System and Individual)
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Peer Counseling
- Nursing Home Transition

PARI Independent Living Center is located in the city of Pawtucket in Providence County and provides, in addition to the core services, programs for Personal Care Assistance, home modification and adaptive equipment, Nursing Home Transition and equipment reuse. Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL) is located in the city of Warwick in Kent County, and provides, in addition to the core services, home access coordination including a home modification and adaptive equipment program, Nursing Home Transition, citizenship training, and driver education. The Center also provides assistance with home ownership through the Rhode Island Home Choice program.

Data collected from the two Centers indicate all cities and towns throughout the state are being served – 80% of the individuals receiving direct service reside in two of the five counties (Providence and Kent), which have 80% of the state's disabled population. The bulk of the state's subsidized accessible housing is located in these areas, as is most of the public transit service.

3.2 Expansion of Network – 34 CFR 364.25

Describe the design for the further expansion of the network, including identification of the unserved and underserved areas in the State and the order of priority for serving these areas as additional funding becomes available (beyond the required cost-of-living increase).

People with significant disabilities from Hispanic non-English cultures

People with significant disabilities with inadequate housing, under restrictive living arrangements, or in facilities such as nursing homes, the state veterans' home, and state chronic care hospitals. (cite goals and objectives?)

Increased funding is crucial for both Centers for general operation, for recruitment and retention of quality staff to address the 11% increases in service provision, for the provision of independent living services and new federal reporting requirements. In addition centers have realized cost increases associated with basic operations such as staff health care insurance, energy, and telephone.

Both Centers for Independent Living respond to a significant number of information and referral requests, including monitoring those requests made in the areas of healthcare, assistive technology and transportation. There is a need for expanded Information and Referral services.

It is estimated that Centers need an additional \$740,000 per year to expand to address the unmet needs and maintain qualified staff. The priority for any additional Part C funding, if available, is for general operation of existing centers, including recruitment and retention of qualified staff. Any such additional Part C funds will be equally divided among Centers. Other funding is needed.

Priorities for expansion of programs are as follows:

To support the Olmstead ruling:

- 1.Support and expand nursing home transition services.
- 2.Expansion of personal assistance services
- 3.Expansion of accessible housing options, to address increased requests for home modifications and adaptive equipment.

To support outreach to underserved:

4. Expand capacity to serve non-English speaking consumers through addition of non-English Center personnel.

(Note: tie in with rest of objectives)

3.3 Section 723 States Only – 34 CFR 364.39

3.3A If the State follows an order of priorities for allocating funds among centers within a State that is different from what is outlined in 34 CFR 366.22, describe the alternate order of priority that the DSU director and the SILC chair have agreed upon. Indicate N/A if not applicable.

3.3B Describe how the State policies, practices and procedures governing the awarding of grants

to centers and the oversight of these centers are consistent with 34 CFR 366.37 and 366.38.

Section 4: Designated State Unit (DSU)

4.1 Administrative Support Services – 34 CFR 364.4; 34 CFR 364.22(b)

4.1A Describe the administrative support services to be provided by the DSU for the SILS (Part B) program and, if the State is a Section 723 State, for the CIL (Part C) program.

- Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about administrative support services.

The administrative support services provided by the Office of Rehabilitation Services/DHS for the State Independent Living Services (Part B SILS) program include administering and monitoring contracts with the two Centers for Independent Living which are funded by Part B and state funds and administers the contract with the SILC for the Part B resource plan funds. Audits of all funds are provided to ORS. ORS jointly develops and monitors the State Plan and ORS has a representative on the SILC. ORS state participates in periodic federal RSA monitoring of the Centers.

4.1B Describe other DSU arrangements for the administration of the IL program, if any.

Not Applicable

Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

5.1 Resource plan – 34 CFR 364.21(i)

5.1A Describe the resource plan prepared by the SILC in conjunction with the DSU for the provision of resources, including staff and personnel, made available under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII, section 101(a)(18) of the Act, and from other public and private sources that may be necessary to carry out the functions of the SILC identified in section 705(c). The description must address the three years of this SPIL.

- Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

5.1B Describe how the following SILC resource plan requirements will be addressed:

- The SILC’s responsibility for the proper expenditure of funds and use of resources that it receives under the resource plan.
- Non-inclusion of conditions or requirements in the SILC resource plan that may compromise the independence of the SILC.
- Reliance, to the maximum extent possible, on the use of resources in existence during the

period of implementation of the State plan.

RISILC resource plan requirements are met by the following relevant written procedures and policies:

- Financial procedures
- Business procedures
- Bylaws
- Policy for public hearings
- Policy for amending the SPIL
- Personnel manual
- Internal procedures

5.2 Establishment and Placement – 34 CFR 364.21(a)

Describe how the establishment and placement of the SILC ensures its independence with respect to the DSU and all other State agencies.

– Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

The RISILC is not an entity within any State agency, including ORS (the Designated State Unit (DSU)), and is independent of ORS and all other State agencies. The RISILC was established by Rhode Island Executive Order No. 92-93 in compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1992 and was incorporated as a Rhode Island non-profit corporation in FY 1998. It was granted 501(c)3 status from the Internal Revenue Service in FY 2001.

5.3 Appointment and Composition – 34 CFR 364.21(b) – (f)

Describe the process used by the State to appoint members to the SILC who meet the composition requirements in section 705(b).

– Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

The RISILC's membership consists of statewide representation of between thirteen (13) and twenty-five (25) individuals, the majority of whom are consumers, nominated by the RISILC and appointed by the Governor of Rhode Island. A representative of the DSU, which in Rhode Island is the Office of Rehabilitation Services, is an ex-officio, non-voting member. A CIL director, chosen by CIL directors within the State, is a voting member but not part of the consumer majority. The RISILC members serve a maximum of two full three-year terms. The RISILC's Membership Committee maintains a nominating status file listing partial and full appointments and term expiration dates. The RISILC elects a Chair (preferably consumer), one or more Vice Chairs, a Secretary and a Treasurer from among the voting members of the Council and consistent with its Bylaws. Volunteer recruitment efforts are conducted on a statewide basis. Prospective volunteers are interviewed and if appropriate assigned to a committee. Following a period of active participation and completion of an orientation program, a volunteer who is knowledgeable about CILs and IL services may be recommended by RISILC's Membership

Committee to fill Council membership vacancies. The full Council votes on the RISILC's Membership Committee's recommendations, and if passed, their names are then recommended to the Governor for appointment. The Governor and his appointment staff meet periodically to review composition and qualification requirements before appointing any RISILC nominee.

5.4 Staffing – 34 CFR 364.21(j)

Describe how the following SILC staffing requirements will be met:

- SILC supervision and evaluation, consistent with State law, of its staff and other personnel as may be necessary to carry out its functions.
- Non-assignment of duties to SILC staff and other personnel made available by the DSU, or any other State agency or office, that would create a conflict of interest while assisting the SILC in carrying out its duties.

RISILC's staffing requirements are met by adherence to the following written policies and procedures:

- Bylaws
- Personnel manual
- Business procedures
- Internal procedures
- Annual written personnel evaluations
- Written job descriptions

Section 6: Service Provider Requirements

Describe how the following service provider requirements will be met:

6.1 Staffing – 34 CFR 364.23; 34 CFR 364.24; 34 CFR 364.31

- Inclusion of personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of centers.
 - Availability, to the maximum extent feasible, of personnel able to communicate (1) with individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication devices, Braille, or audio tapes and (2) in the native languages of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act.
 - Establishment and maintenance of a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services and, where appropriate, in administering the CIL program, improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of IL services, including knowledge of and practice in the IL philosophy.
 - Affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act.
-
- The Centers for Independent Living include personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of CILs.
 - The Centers personnel include individuals able to communicate (1) with individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as sign language, manual communication, nonverbal communication devices, Braille, or audio tapes and (2) to a limited extent in the native language of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act. Use of the Language Line for language translation is expected to be added for this purpose.
 - The State assures that CILS will establish and maintain a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing and administering IL services, including knowledge of and practice of the IL philosophy.
 - The CILs practice Affirmative Action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act.

6.2 Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting – 34 CFR 364.34

- Adoption of those fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to

ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for funds made available through parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act, in addition to complying with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements.

All recipients of financial assistance under Chapter 1 will:

- Adopt and maintain those fiscal controls and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure that proper disbursement of and accounting for funds made available through parts B and C of Chapter 1 of Title VII of the Act, in addition to complying with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements.

6.3 Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting – 34 CFR 364.35; 34 CFR 364.36; 34 CFR 364.37

- Maintenance of records that fully disclose and document the information listed in 34 CFR 364.35.
- Submission of annual performance and financial reports, and any other reports that the Secretary determines to be appropriate
- Access to the Commissioner and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, for the purpose of conducting audits, examinations, and compliance reviews, to the information listed in 34 CFR 364.37.

All recipients of financial assistance under Chapter 1 will:

(a) maintain records that fully disclose

Note: copy 1 through 4 (Pat's what does this refer to?)

(b) Maintain such other records as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to facilitate an effective audit.

6.4 Eligibility – 34 CFR 364.40; 34 CFR 364.41

- Eligibility of any individual with a significant disability, as defined in 34 CFR 364.4(b), for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs.
- Ability of any individual to seek information about IL services under these programs and to request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities.
- Determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs in a manner that meets the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51.
- Application of eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion, or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services.
- Non-exclusion from receiving IL services of any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services, based on the imposition of any State or local residence requirement.

6.4 Eligibility

All individuals provided IL services under the SILS (Part B) and CIL (Part C) shall be individuals with significant disabilities, as defined in 34 CFR364.4(b) However, any individual may seek information about IL services under these programs and request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities

Determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS (B) and CIL ©) programs will occur in a manner that meets the requirements of 34CFR364.51.

Application of eligibility requirements will occur without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion, or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services.

No individual will be excluded from receiving IL services of any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services, based on the imposition of any State or local residence requirement.

6.5 Independent Living Plans – 34 CFR 364.43(c)

- Provision of IL services in accordance with an IL plan complying with Sec. 364.52 and mutually agreed upon by the individuals with significant disabilities and the appropriate service provider staff unless the individual signs a waiver stating that an IL plan is unnecessary.

Provision of IL services will occur in accordance with an IL plan complying with Sec. 364.52 and mutually agreed upon by the individuals with significant disabilities and the appropriate service provider staff unless the individual signs a waiver stating that an IL plan is unnecessary.

6.6 Client Assistance Program (CAP) Information – 34 CFR 364.30

- Use of accessible formats to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about the availability of the CAP program, the purposes of the services provided under the CAP, and how to contact the CAP.

Individuals seeking or receiving IL services under Chapter I of title VII will be notified in accessible formats about the availability of the CAP program, the purposes of the services provided under the CAP, and how to contact the Client Assistance Program.

6.7 Protection, Use and Release of Personal Information – 34 CFR 364.56(a)

- Adoption and implementation of policies and procedures meeting the requirements of 34

CFR 364.56(a), to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names.

Policies and procedures will be adopted and implemented meeting the requirements of 34 CFR 364.38 to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photos and lists of names.

Section 7: Evaluation

Describe the method that will be used to periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the plan in meeting the objectives established in Section 1. The description must include the State's evaluation of satisfaction by individuals with significant disabilities who have participated in the program. 34 CFR 364.38

Evaluation measures are listed under each objective. Monitoring of the state plan will be interactive, with presentations of progress at quarterly SILC meetings, based on the measures specified in activities, questions and answers and with written outline/talking points presented in writing to be mailed to SILC members prior to the meeting. This methodology is meant to keep a constant focus on the state plan outputs and outcomes and increase the knowledge and support of the State Plan 08-10 goals and objectives by all SILC members and committee members.

In turn, this methodology will provide an ongoing needs assessment for a more time saving development of the next three year state plan. The annual Governor's commission on Disabilities public meetings will continue to be used for needs assessment, as will consumer satisfaction, measures of increased independence and access to health care, transportation and assistive technology. In addition, other state plans, such as Long Term Care, Olmstead, Developmental Disabilities, and Office of Rehabilitation Services will be considered.

The evaluation methodology is meant also to be as time efficient as possible, in order to maximize time providing independent living services, advocacy, IL skills training and Information and Referral. This is especially important given limitations from all sources of funding in the present economic climate and the need for CILS to report to a variety of funding sources for grants.

(Pat will add avoid duplicating services.)

Section 8: State-Imposed Requirements

Identify any State-imposed requirements contained in the provisions of this SPIL. Indicate N/A if not applicable. 34 CFR 364.20(h)

State purchasing requirements require competitive bidding by agencies or organizations with contracts. Therefore, Part B funded contracts with the two CILS and the SILC require them to follow competitive bidding in purchases. Home modifications and adaptive equipment have an economic need requirement which is periodically updated