

REPORTING INSTRUMENT

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 704
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT
For
STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES
PROGRAM
(Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)

Part I

INSTRUMENT

(To be completed by Designated State Units
and Statewide Independent Living Councils)

Reporting Fiscal Year: 2006

State: ARIZONA

SUBPART I – ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Section A – Sources and Amounts of Funds and Resources

Sections 704(c) and 704(m)(3) and (4) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.35 and 364.36

Indicate amount received by the DSU as per each funding source. Enter “0” for none.

Item 1 - All Federal Funds Received

(A) Title VII, Ch. 1, Part B	\$325,265
(B) Title VII, Ch. 1, Part C – For 723 states Only	\$0
(C) Title VII, Ch. 2	\$590,638
(D) Other Federal Funds	\$0

Item 2 - Other Government Funds

(E) State Government Funds	\$784,200
(F) Local Government Funds	\$2,157,700

Item 3 - Private Resources

(G) Fees for Service (program income, etc.)	\$0
(H) Other resources	\$0

Item 4 - Total Income

Total income = (A)+(B)+(C)+(D)+(E)+(F)+(G)+(H)	\$3,857,803
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Item 5 – Pass-Through Funds

Amount of other government funds received as pass through funds to consumers (include funds, received on behalf of consumers, that are subsequently passed on to consumers, e.g., personal assistance services, representative payee funds, Medicaid funds, etc.)	\$0
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Item 6 - Net Operating Resources

Total Income (Section 4) <minus> amount paid out to Consumers (Section 5) = Net Operating Resources	\$3,857,803
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Section B – Distribution of Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B Funds

Section 713 of the Act; 34 CFR 364.22, 365.1, 365.20, and 365.21

What Activities were Conducted with Part B Funds?	Expenditures of Part B Funds for Services by DSU Staff	Expenditures for Services Rendered By Grant or Contract
(1) Provided resources to the SILC to carry out its functions		
(2) Provided IL services to individuals with significant disabilities	\$225,265	
(3) Demonstrated ways to expand and improve IL services		\$20,000
(4) Supported the general operation of CILs that are in compliance with the standards and assurances set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 725 of the Act		
(5) Supported activities to increase capacity to develop approaches or systems for providing IL services		\$40,000
(6) Conducted studies and analyses, gathered information, developed model policies, and presented findings in order to enhance IL services		\$12,000
(7) Provided training regarding the IL philosophy		\$20,000
(8) Provided outreach to unserved or underserved populations, including minority groups and urban and rural populations		\$8,000

Section C – Grants or Contracts Used to Distribute Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B Funds

Sections 704(f) and 713 of the Act; 34 CFR 364.43, and 34 CFR 365 Subpart C

Enter the requested information for all DSU grants or contracts, funded at least in part by Part B funds, in the chart below. If a column is not applicable to a particular grant or contract, enter “N/A.” If there were no non-Part B funds provided to this grantee or contractor for the purpose listed, enter “\$0” in that column. Add more rows as necessary.

Name of Grantee or Contractor	Use of Funds (based on the activities listed in Subpart I, Section B)	Amount of Part B Funds	Amount of Non-Part B Funds	Consumer Eligibility Determined By DSU or Provider	CSRs Kept With DSU or Provider
Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)	<u>3, 5, 6, 7 AND 8</u>	\$100,000	\$197,581	N/A	N/A
Total Amount of Grants and Contracts		\$100,000	\$197,581		

Section D - Grants or Contracts for Purposes Other than Providing IL Services or for the General Operation of Centers

Section 713 of the Act; 34 CFR 365.1 and 34 CFR 365.20

Describe the objectives, activities and results for each Part B grant or contract awarded for purposes other than IL services or the general operation of centers.

Response:

With reference to SUBPART I, Section C, included among the activities that the Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council expended the Part B funds to support were the following:

- (3) Demonstrated ways to expand and improve IL services.
 - SILC continues to provide resources to DIRECT, Center for Independence in Tucson, in support of **incubating a new CIL in Cochise County**. DIRECT has used SILC support to assist Cochise Ability in acquiring office space and furnishings, putting in place the necessary infrastructure to provide services. It has hired an administrative director. DIRECT submits regular reports to SILC indicating the progress of Cochise Ability.
- (5) Supported activities to increase capacity to develop approaches or systems for providing IL services.
 - SILC continues to provide resources to AZ **CyberCIL** to expand and enhance its capacity. CyberCil the virtual Center for Independent Living (CIL), located at www.cybercil.com, was created as a consumer-controlled, community-based, cross-disability, nonprofit organization. Its mission is to offer, via the Internet, access to the four core independent living services of 1) advocacy, 2) peer support, 3) independent living skills, and 4) information and referral, to those Arizonans who cannot, or choose not to, use a traditional CIL. CyberCil works collaboratively with traditional CILs to deliver services to many Arizonans isolated in the rural counties. It has successfully demonstrated the potential to be a viable and practical connection for individuals with disabilities. CyberCIL submits reports regularly to SILC.
- (6) Conducted studies and analyses, gathered information, developed model policies, and presented findings in order to enhance IL services.
 - SILC coordinates and host a full day meeting of the **CIL Executive Directors** the day prior to each SILC quarterly meeting. The agenda in the morning segment is focused on reports from the respective centers of their current activities, and discussing statewide IL initiatives, problems and projects. If we identify an issue that requires an advocacy posture, we explore how we can collectively and mutually be strategic in addressing it. The AZRSA administrator participates in the afternoon segment of the meeting and presents a report to the Directors of current activities and any changes in policy at AZRSA. We also explore with AZRSA common issues and collaborations of the respective organizations. The scheduling of the CIL ED meeting is planned to be cost-effective and minimize the expenses and resources to support some of the Directors remaining in the area and attending the full council meeting the following day.

- SILC coordinated and convened a meeting of forty-four Executive Directors, program managers and other decision makers who represent the various stakeholders in the Arizona disability community. All the disability categories were represented: physical, sensory, cognitive, mental and multiple. The group also included representatives from all of the other Arizona Disability Councils and Commissions, as well as representatives of the organizations that provide services to the various disability specific groups. The goal of the meeting was to collectively discuss IL programs and services and identify barriers, gaps, and problems in accessing and delivering services. Additionally, the facilitator directed the discussion to exploring best practices and models for program and service delivery. The notes from the meeting were transposed into a report which was distributed to all the attendees. The meeting occurred on February 24, 2006, at the Phoenix Library, Nina Pulliam auditorium, in central Phoenix. Dr. Frank Turk, a nationally prominent speaker with an expertise on coordinating a disability related task force was the keynote speaker. After the keynote address, a consultant facilitated the discussion. Subsequent to the initial meeting, SILC has received information and materials from some participants that will influence the next SPIL.
- (7) Provided training regarding the IL philosophy
 - In January of 2005, SILC, ABIL, and the Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities were the lead organizations in coordinating the logistics of the **Consumer State Legislative Advocacy Training/Workshop**. We provided support to facilitate bringing 108 consumers from across the state into the state capitol area. Our efforts were targeted on populations representing unserved and underserved consumers. The criteria for selecting the participants included ethnic, geographic, and disability diversity. The participants were from twenty-six of the thirty legislative districts in Arizona.

The participants included:

 - ✓ 16 individuals from the Hopi Reservation;
 - ✓ 18 individuals from the Navajo reservation;
 - ✓ 4 individuals who are deaf/blind;
 - ✓ Approximately 50 with cognitive and/or developmental disabilities; and
 - ✓ 60 residents from rural areas.

The agenda included among other things:

 - ✓ a mock legislative training;
 - ✓ presentations on specific pieces of current legislative initiatives; and
 - ✓ preparing consumers for visits to their respective legislators’ offices at the Capitol scheduled for the following day.
 - SILC coordinated and convened a grassroots meeting of consumers, who live in Kingman, Arizona. Various individuals in Kingman expressed an interest in becoming an active player in the statewide IL network. They requested a presentation/training specifically focused on IL. Mohave County is a rural area. The SILC Executive Director invited the Executive Directors and board chairs from two of the CILs located in other rural areas in Arizona to participate in the training, as well. New Horizons and SMILE also participated. There were thirty

consumers from the local area who attended. The presentation occurred on July 20, 2006, and was three hours in length, about half of which was a question and answer session. The SILC Executive Director arrived the day before the meeting to allow time to meet individually, with three different leaders from three different disability related organizations active in the area.

- (8) Provided outreach to unserved or underserved populations, including minority groups and urban and rural populations.
 - SILC selected three specific populations that were identified as unserved and/or underserved for outreach presentations and inclusion on SILC. The outreach committee facilitated and supported three (3) presentations/ workshops. These workshops were put together by committee members, with the help of staff, and were tailored to local community and population interests and requests. Presenters at the workshops were a mix of local service providers, state agencies, public officials, CIL staff and those who traveled from outside areas to present on statewide programs. The dates and locations were: September 23, 2005 – Cottonwood, May 5, 2006 – Bisbee, and June 29, 2006 - Kykotsmovi (Hopi Reservation).
 - All attendees represented rural populations and specific disability demographics, including:
 - ✓ The Aging Population – Cottonwood;
 - ✓ People with Cognitive & Mental Disabilities – Bisbee; and
 - ✓ Native Americans, cross disability.
 - The Cottonwood workshop was three and a half hours and included:
 - ✓ Forty consumers in attendance;
 - ✓ Seven presentations: SILC, CILs, AZRSA, Emergency Preparedness, AZ Center for Disability Law, Service Animals, and Assistive Technology; and
 - ✓ A brief town hall meeting.
 - The Bisbee workshop was five hours and included:
 - ✓ Fifty-five consumers in attendance;
 - ✓ Seven presentations: I L Philosophy, SILC, CIL (DIRECT & Cochise Ability), Center for Disability Law, National Association of Mental Illness (NAMI), Comfort Zone (Service Provider for SMI), and Division of Developmental Disabilities; and
 - ✓ A Town Hall Meeting (one and half hours), and the panelists included: two local district state representatives, two county supervisors, the Mayor of Bisbee, the county emergency services coordinator, and SILC.
 - The Kykotsomovi workshop was five and a half hours and included:
 - ✓ Entertainment (Hopi dance, gratis);
 - ✓ Luncheon (donated and catered by the Hopi Elderly Committee),
 - ✓ Eight presentations: SILC, CIL(Assist), Native American Advocacy Group(NAAG), Hopi VR/OSN, Hopi Early Intervention, Hopi Resource Enforcement Program, SSA Benefits Planning, DDD; and

- ✓ A Town Hall Meeting (one hour) - among the panelists: Rick Renzi staff representative, two members of the Hopi Board of Supervisors, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Hopi Council, SILC, and Assist.
- With reference to including the demographics cited previously, the current composition of SILC has two Native Americans and a recent appointment (July 5, 2006) of a person (senior – aging population) from Prescott Valley (near Cottonwood). SILC is currently searching for two candidates to recommend to the Governor’s Office for appointment. We would like to identify an individual who can present and address cognitive disability related issues and an individual who can present and address mental illness related issues.

Section E – Monitoring Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B Funds

34 CFR 80.40(a)

Provide a summary of the program or fiscal review, evaluation and monitoring conducted by the state of any of the grantees/contractors receiving Part B funds during the reporting year.

SILC Quarterly Reports

The Arizona Rehabilitation Services Administration (AZRSA) receives quarterly reports from the Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) regarding council activities which are both Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B funded and funded by other resources. The activities correlate directly to both SPIL Goals/Objectives and contractual obligations/expectations. A review of the quarterly report is conducted upon receipt of the report.

SILC Financial Review

AZRSA conducted a financial review of SILC on April 5, 2006.

SILC is responsible for the proper expenditure of funds and the use of resources received under the SILC budget, pursuant to the Scope of Work Coordination item 6 Funding (pg. 2) in the current contract with the Rehabilitation Services Administration. The record keeping for SILC appeared to be in order and well organized, however, the funding sources were not identified on invoices or in the SILC’s financial system. It is important that separate funding streams be accounted for in the SILC general ledger in order to account for disbursement of Federal and State funds.

The SILC’s accounting system should provide audit trail reports to track the flow of data to the general ledger. In addition, there should be consistency in the way that costs are classified and accounted for in the general ledger. Funds must be used specifically for the award as stated in the ACT Sec. 713 Authorized Uses of Funds, and funds may not be shifted to other Federal awards. Internal controls are a very important process within any organization and can ensure the reliability of financial reporting and compliance with laws and regulations.

SILC responded to the observations in the review with a Corrective Action Plan.

Agencies, Councils, Departments, and Contractors should make all possible efforts to keep costs to a minimum and continue to do what is best for the clients, the State, and the Federal government.

Section F – Administrative Support Services and Staffing

Section 704(c)(2) and 704 (m)(2) and (4) of the Act; CFR 364.22(a)(2) and 34 CFR 364.31

Item 1 – Administrative Support Services

Describe any administrative support services, including staffing, provided by the DSU to the Part B Program.

Administrative support is provided by AZRSA staff for Independent Living services to individuals with significant disabilities AZRSA administers with Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B Funds. SILC staff provides administrative support for the activities administered by SILC with Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B Funds.

Item 2 – Staffing

Enter requested staff information for the DSU and service providers listed in Section C, above (excluding Part C funded CILs):

Type of Staff	Total Number of FTEs	FTEs filled by Individuals with Disabilities
Decision-Making Staff	9	3
Other Staff	1	

Section G – For Section 723 States ONLY

Section 723 of the Act, 34 CFR Part 366, Subpart D

Item 1 – Distribution of Part C Funds to Centers

In the chart below, please provide the following information:

- A) name of each center within your state that received Part C funding during the reporting year;
- B) amount of Part C funding each center received;
- C) whether the Part C funding included a cost-of-living increase;
- D) whether the Part C funding included any excess funds remaining after cost-of-living increases were provided;
- E) whether any of the centers received its Part C funding pursuant to a competition for a new center in the state; and,
- F) whether the center was the subject of an onsite compliance review conducted by the DSU during the reporting year.

Name of CIL	Amount of	Cost of	Excess	New	Onsite
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	Part C Funding Received	Living Increase? (Yes/No)	Funds After Cost of Living Increase? (Yes/No)	Center? (Yes/No)	Compliance Review of Center? (Yes/No)

Add additional rows as necessary.

Item 2 – Administrative Support Services

Section 704(c)(2) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.22(a)(2)

Describe the administrative support services used by the DSU to administer the Part C program.

Item 3 – Monitoring and Onsite Compliance Reviews

Section 723(g), (h), and (i); 34 CFR 366.38, 366.40 – 46

Provide a summary of the monitoring activities involving Part C centers conducted by the state during the current reporting year, including the onsite reviews of at least 15% of centers receiving Part C funds under section 723. The summary should include, at least, the following:

- A) centers’ level of compliance with the standards and assurances in Section 725 of the Act;
- B) any adverse actions taken against centers;
- C) any corrective action plans entered into with centers; and,
- D) exemplary, replicable or model practices for centers.

Item 4 – Updates or Issues

Provide any updates to the administration of the Part C program by the DSU, if any, including any significant changes in the amount of earmarked funds or any changes in the order of priorities in the distribution of Part C funds. Provide a description of any issues of concern addressed by the DSU in its administration of the Part C program.

SUBPART II – NUMBER AND TYPES OF INDIVIDUALS WITH SIGNIFICANT DISABILITIES RECEIVING SERVICES

Section 704(m)(4) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.53

In this section, provide data from all service providers (DSU, grantees, contractors) who received Part B funds and who were listed in Subpart I, Section C of this report, except for the centers that receive Part C funds. Part C centers will provide this data themselves on their annual 704 Reports, Part II.

Section A – Number of Consumers Served During the Reporting Year

Include Consumer Service Records (CSRs) for all consumers served during the year.

	# of CSRs
(1) Enter the number of active CSRs carried over from September 30 of the preceding reporting year	220
(2) Enter the number of CSRs started since October 1 of the reporting year	116
(3) Add lines (1) and (2) to get the <i>total number of consumers served</i>	336

Section B – Number of CSRs Closed by September 30 of the Reporting Year

Include the number of consumer records closed out of the active CSR files during the reporting year because the individual has:

	# of CSRs
(1) Moved	2
(2) Withdrawn	3
(3) Died	2
(4) Completed all goals set	238
(5) Other	8
(6) Add lines (1) + (2) + (3) + (4) +(5) to get <i>total CSRs closed</i>	253

Section C – Number of CSRs Active on September 30 of the Reporting Year

Indicate the number of CSRs active on September 30 of the reporting year.

	# of CSRs
Section A(3) <minus> Section (B)(6) = Section C	83

Section D – IL Plans and Waivers

Indicate the number of consumers in each category below.

	# of Consumers
(1) Number of consumers who signed a waiver	0
(2) Number of consumers with whom an ILP was developed	119
(3) <i>Total number of consumers</i> served during the reporting year	119

Section E – Age

Indicate the number of consumers in each category below.

	# of Consumers
(1) Under 5 years old	0
(2) Ages 5 – 19	1
(3) Ages 20 – 24	3
(4) Ages 25 – 59	121
(5) Age 60 and Older	211
(6) Age unavailable	0

Section F – Sex

Indicate the number of consumers in each category below.

	# of Consumers
(1) Number of Females served	223
(2) Number of Males served	113

Section G – Ethnicity

Indicate the number of consumers served in each category below. *Individuals MUST select only one category.*

	# of Consumers
(1) Hispanic or Latino	70
(2) Not Hispanic or Latino	266

Section H - Race

Indicate the number of consumers served in each category below. *Individuals may select more than one category.*

	# of Consumers
(1) American Indian or Alaska Native	7
(2) Asian	4
(3) Black or African American	15
(4) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
(5) White	310

Section I – Disability

Indicate the number of consumers in each category below.

	# of Consumers
(1) Cognitive	0
(2) Mental/Emotional	0
(3) Physical	8
(4) Hearing	0
(5) Vision	1
(6) Multiple Disabilities	327
(7) Other	0

Subpart II Footnote:

Numbers of individuals reflected in this section were greater in prior years due to the reporting of multiple funding sources. The numbers of individuals reflected in this report are solely those served by Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B dollars.

SUBPART III – INDIVIDUAL SERVICES AND ACHIEVEMENTS FUNDED THROUGH TITLE VII, CHAPTER 1, PART B FUNDS

Sections 13 and 704(m)(4); 34 CFR 364.53; Government Performance Results Act (GPRA)
Performance Measures

Subpart III contains new data requests. Please refer to the Instructions before completing.

Section A – Individual Services and Achievements

For the reporting year, indicate in the chart below how many consumers requested and received each of the following IL services. Include all consumers who were provided services during the reporting year through Part B funds, either directly by DSU staff or via grants or contracts with other providers. Do not include consumers who were served by any centers that received Part C funds during the reporting year.

Services	Consumers Requesting Services	Consumers Receiving Services
(A) Advocacy/Legal Services	125	125
(B) Assistive Technology	211	211
(C) Children’s Services	0	0
(D) Communication Services	0	0
(E) Counseling and Related Services	6	6
(F) Family Services	1	1
(G) Housing, Home Modifications, and Shelter Services	60	60
(H) IL Skills Training and Life Skills Training	12	12
(I) Information and Referral Services	129	129
(J) Mental Restoration Services	3	3
(K) Mobility Training	1	1
(L) Peer Counseling Services	3	3
(M) Personal Assistance Services	0	0
(N) Physical Restoration Services	40	40
(O) Preventive Services	0	0

Services	Consumers Requesting Services	Consumers Receiving Services
(P) Prostheses, Orthotics, and Other Appliances	9	9
(Q) Recreational Services	0	0
(R) Rehabilitation Technology Services	39	39
(S) Therapeutic Treatment	3	3
(T) Transportation Services	9	9
(U) Youth/Transition Services	0	0
(V) Vocational Services	0	0
(W) Other Services	3	3

Subpart III, Section A Footnote:

Numbers in this section represent individual, unduplicated consumers receiving services by each service category.

Section B – Increased Independence and Community Integration

Item 1 – Goals Related to Increased Independence in a Significant Life Area

Indicate the number of consumers who set goals related to the following significant life areas, the number whose goals are still in progress, and the number who achieved their goals as a result of the provision of IL services.

Significant Life Area	Goals Set	Goals Achieved	In Progress
(A) Self-Advocacy/Self-Empowerment	36	10	26
(B) Communication	10	4	6
(C) Mobility/Transportation	48	20	28
(D) Community-Based Living	26	12	14
(E) Educational	0	0	0
(F) Vocational	1	1	0
(G) Self-care	112	58	54
(H) Information Access/Technology	17	6	11

Significant Life Area	Goals Set	Goals Achieved	In Progress
(I) Personal Resource Management	9	2	7
(J) Relocation from a Nursing Home or Institution to Community-Based Living	0	0	0
(K) Community/Social Participation	0	0	0
(L) Other	0	0	0

Item 2 – Improved Access To Transportation, Health Care and Assistive Technology

(A) Table

In column one, indicate the number of consumers who required access to previously unavailable transportation, health care services, or assistive technology during the reporting year. Of the consumers listed in column one, indicate in column two, the number of consumers who, as a result of the provision of IL services (including the four core services), achieved access to previously unavailable transportation, health care services, or assistive technology during the reporting year. In column three, list the number of consumers whose access to transportation, health care services or assistive technology is still in progress at the end of the reporting year.

Areas	# of Consumers Requiring Access	# of Consumers Achieving Access	# of Consumers Whose Access is in Progress
(A) Transportation	50	28	22
(B) Health Care Services	61	32	29
(C) Assistive Technology	279	162	117

Subpart III, Section B, Item 2, (A) Table Footnote:

Number of Consumers Achieving Access is based on provision of service that AZRSA expended Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B dollars.

Note: For most IL services, a consumer’s access to previously unavailable transportation, health care and assistive technology is documented through his or her CSR. In some instances, consumers may achieve an outcome solely through information and referral (I&R) services. To document these instances as successful outcomes, providers are not required to create CSRs for these consumers but must be able to document that follow-up contacts with these consumers showed access to previously unavailable transportation, health care and assistive technology.

(B) I&R Information

To inform RSA how many service providers engage in I&R follow-up contacts regarding access to transportation, health care services or assistive technology, please indicate the following:

The service provider did ___ / did not X engage in follow-up contacts with I & R recipients to document access gained to previously unavailable transportation, health care or assistive technology.

Section C – Additional Information Concerning Individual Services or Achievements

Please provide any additional description or explanation concerning individual services or achievements reported in subpart III, including outstanding success stories and/or major obstacles encountered.

Outstanding Success Stories

A gentleman living in a mobile home in rural Arizona had bathroom safety issues and difficulty entering/exiting his home due to his disability. No community resources were available or he did not qualify for any. Independent Living services were provided to render the bathroom safe for him to use and a ramp to enter/exit his home to access the community. The additional benefit in this success story is that the gentleman's wife also had issues entering/exiting the home and was able to use the ramp for her own independent living needs.

Similarly, a Native American gentleman from a very rural part of Arizona also had bathroom safety issues and difficulty entering/exiting his home due to his disability. Independent Living services were provided using a vendor who was culturally sensitive to respond to the consumer's cultural needs.

A young man from Tucson Arizona was in a serious motorcycle accident, resulting in a severe Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). After recovery in a hospital, the young man had to move back in with his mother to meet his daily living needs. Independent Living services were provided to assist with cognitive retraining and rehabilitation counseling support and the man is now able to return to driving, is looking forward to work in the future and will be moving out on his own in the very near future.

A middle-age man became visually impaired who had severe light sensitivity with limited mobility as a result. Independent Living services were provided which adjusted the light in his home so he could remain independent there.

A middle-age woman had relied on her family for her mobility needs and access to the community for a number of years. The time had come when her husband worked outside the home and her adult children now had families they were responsible for, thus all having less time to assist her. Independent Living services were provided for adapted drivers training and vehicle modifications so she could drive herself and access the community on her own to attend doctor's appointments and volunteer at her church again.

A gentleman with a progressive disability resulting in significant physical limitations had difficulty using his computer effectively, entering/exiting his home and the ability to identify and allow access to his home to visitors. Independent Living services were provided for assistive computer programming which allowed the man to use his computer to electronically control the entrance and exit of his home by visitors and himself.

SUBPART IV – COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND COORDINATION

Section 704(i), (l), and (m)(4) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.26, 364.27, and 364.32

Section A – Community Activities

Item 1 – Community Activities Table In the table below, summarize the community activities involving the DSU, SILC and CILs in the Statewide Network of Centers (excluding Part C fund recipients) during the reporting year. For each activity, identify the primary disability issue(s) addressed as well as the type of activity conducted. Indicate the entity(ies) primarily involved and the time spent. Describe the primary objective(s) and outcome(s) for each activity. Add more rows as necessary.

Subpart IV contains new data requests. Please refer to the instructions before completing.

Issue Area	Activity Type	Primary Entity	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcomes(s)
Independent Living Community Priorities	Collaboration/ Networking	SILC	3	Identify Independent Living Community Priorities	SILC Report
Health Care	Advocacy	AZ Department of Health, SILC	30	To participate in a Statewide Influenza Pandemic Exercise in order to evaluate and revise accordingly the Arizona Department of Health Policies and Procedures related to the needs of people with disabilities.	Arizona Health Department policies and procedures related to appropriate communication materials and systems for people with cognitive disabilities, people who are deaf and hard of hearing, and people who are blind were revised.

Issue Area	Activity Type	Primary Entity	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcomes(s)
Health Care	Advocacy	Pinal County Department of Health, SILC	20	To participate in a county wide Influenza Pandemic Exercise in order to evaluate and revise accordingly the Pinal Department of Health Policies and Procedures related to the needs of people with disabilities.	The Pinal county Department of Health policies and procedures related to administering influenza vaccinations appropriate for people with disabilities were revised.
Health Care	Technical Assistance	SILC	40	To assist Banner Health systems (in particular Good Samaritan Hospital) increase their disability awareness training to staff and accessibility to their health care delivery.	Banner Health reconstructed their website to be cross disability accessible, they procured various pieces of A.T. (as suggested by SILC) and implemented accommodations for all disabilities, and hired a staff person specifically to address accessibility.

Issue Area	Activity Type	Primary Entity	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcomes(s)
Transportation	Advocacy	U.S. Airways, SILC	80	To develop cross disabilities training materials for the employees of American West and U.S. Airways.	A fourteen minute video was produced featuring individual segments related specifically to the protocols for providing airline customer services to people who are hard of hearing, blind, wheelchair users, and/or have non visible disabilities. The 17,000 employees of the airline are required to view the video and it has been incorporated into the orientation for new employees.
Assistive Technology	Collaboration	Arizona Technical Access Project, SILC	80	To administer a consumer loan program that will provide consumers with additional options to acquire assistive technologies, as well as a means to establish a positive credit history.	Reviewed and evaluated thirty loan applications and approved sixteen of those applications.

Issue Area	Activity Type	Primary Entity	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcomes(s)
Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities	Technical Assistance	SILC, Arizona Division of Emergency Management	120	To introduce and train first responders and other emergency services personnel on issues related to disability awareness.	SILC staff and/or council members participated in twenty activities that included workshops, exercises, or conferences for emergency personnel, an estimate for the total number of first responders and other emergency personnel who attended all the activities is approximately six hundred.
Voting	Collaboration	SILC Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL), and the Arizona Center for Disability Law	60	To create a coalition of disability related organizations that will support a statewide Get Out the Vote Project, our goal is to promote voter registration and voter participation in the disability community of Arizona.	Twenty organizations are members of a coalition titled – JUST VOTE ARIZONA, the organizations include advocacy, service providers, and other disability related stakeholders, we are meeting quarterly and are currently interviewing for a full time coordinator dedicated specifically for the project.

Issue Area	Activity Type	Primary Entity	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcomes(s)
VR State Appropriation	Advocacy	SILC, ABIL, Governor's Council on DD, and the Arizona Center for Disability Law	120	To advocate for an appropriation in the state budget sufficient to draw down all of the matching federal VR dollars that available to Arizona.	The State Legislature appropriated sufficient dollars in the current state budget for Arizona to receive the full federal VR match.

Item 2 – Description of Community Activities

For the community activities mentioned above, provide any additional details such as the role of the DSU, SILC, CIL, and/or consumers, names of any partner organizations and further descriptions of the specific activities, services and benefits.

Response:

Emergency Preparedness

- The executive director of SILC continues to serve on AZ Division of Emergency Management and the Pinal County Emergency Preparedness Task Force Committees that designs and evaluates emergency exercises and drills. His function is to represent the disability community and address concerns and issues that are disability related. Additionally, he provides advice on the development, implementation, and, evaluation of Emergency Preparedness policy and procedures from a disability perspective. Council members of SILC and/or the SILC executive director regularly participated in various local table top exercises related to emergency preparedness. To date the local jurisdictions have included:
 - Arizona State University;
 - Guadalupe;
 - Mesa;
 - Tempe;
 - Salt River-Pima Reservation;
 - Scottsdale;
 - Paradise Valley;
 - Fort McDowell;
 - Carefree;
 - Cave Creek;
 - Fountain Hills;
 - Peoria;
 - Surprise;
 - El Mirage;
 - Wickenburg; and
 - Youngtown.

Get Out the Vote (GOTV):

- SILC in concert with ABIL and the Arizona Center for Disability Law has established a coalition of disability related organizations to “Get Out The Vote” (GOTV) in the disability community. The coalition meets regularly. The first meeting was facilitated by a national expert (Kelly Anthony) on **GOTV** in the disability community. She presented relevant data and demographics from various studies and surveys as well as what has been established and is ongoing in other states. The coalition discussed and evaluated options for which organization in Arizona might be the most appropriate place to administer the **GOTV** project. They concluded that SILC would give the project the greatest credibility because SILC: 1) has council members that represent the diversity of the state; 2) presents a cross disability awareness and perspective; 3) has a statewide focus and network; 4) is a nexus for the various stakeholders in the disability community; and 5) is politically neutral, among other considerations. They asked if SILC would please provide the office space, logistical support, and supervision for the coordinator. The coalition also asked if SILC would be the fiscal agent for the project. SILC would receive, disburse, and administer the project funds. The coalition members would collectively provide the principal funding for the compensation and related expenses of the position by individually providing funds to SILC. The goal of the coalition is to encourage people with disabilities to more actively participate in the electoral process. Survey data indicates that about thirty percent of people with disabilities are registered to vote and of those registered about thirty-five percent regularly vote. The principal strategy of the project will be to increase voter registration and voting participation statewide in the disability community. The initial goal will be to register statewide 50,000 new voters the first year and doubling that figure in the succeeding year. The coalition will hire a FTE (full time employee) coordinator dedicated to coordinating and facilitating a statewide **GOTV** campaign. SILC staff will oversee and supervise that position. The executive committee unanimously approved a motion for SILC to be the GOTV fiscal agent and hire a FTE Coordinator. The full council approved the same at its quarterly September meeting.

VR Match

- SILC was the lead organization in coordinating the logistics for a **Consumer State Legislative Advocacy Training/Workshop**. One hundred and eight (108) consumers from across the state participated. The agenda included among other things: a mock legislative training, presentations on specific pieces of legislations currently being considered that impact IL, and preparing consumers for visits to legislators at their offices in the Capitol. An important focus on the agenda was helping consumers talk to their legislators about appropriating sufficient state dollars to draw down the full federal VR match for Arizona. All of the participants of the training visited their respective legislators’ offices the following day.

Section B – Working Relationships Among Various Entities

Describe DSU and SILC activities to maximize the cooperation, coordination, and working relationships among the independent living program, the SILC, and CILs; 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. Describe the expected or actual outcomes of these activities.

- **AZRSA continues to partner with the Governor’s Council on Spinal and Head Injuries (GCSHI) in activities related to the target populations that the GCSHI represents.** During FY 2006, AZRSA independent living staff participated in trainings sponsored by GCSHI and AZRSA geared to the independent living and vocational needs of persons with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and spinal cord injury (SCI). These trainings are open to AZRSA staff statewide, and assist in increasing the knowledge base and expertise of field staff working with persons with SCI and TBI. Other trainings provided by the GCSHI were targeted to vocational rehabilitation school to work transition and juvenile corrections counselors in FY 2005. AZRSA staff also participated in an evaluation of ILRS and VR services provided to persons with TBI and SCI, conducted by GCSHI. Staff were interviewed in a group forum and provided feedback related to the program and specific questions.
- **AZRSA staff met with the Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) Executive Director.** SILC attended a one day meeting with AZRSA Independent Living staff statewide to brainstorm ways to better collaborate and work in partnership to provide overall high quality independent living services throughout Arizona.
- **AZRSA Administrator participates in quarterly Executive Director meetings with CILs and SILC.** Meetings are held the day before the SILC Quarterly Meetings to discuss issues and concerns in Independent Living across the state.
- **The Brain Injury Association of Arizona (BIAAZ), funded through a contract with the GCSHI, provided I&R.** The BIAAZ provided information and referral related to brain injury to the public, as well as other types of community based information and services. The BIAAZ website includes a searchable database for individuals with TBI seeking resources in the community.
- **The Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association (AzSCIA), funded through a contract with the GCSHI, provided numerous services.** The AzSCIA provided community support groups, social recreational activities and information and referral services to individuals with spinal cord injury in the community. The AzSCIA website has been upgraded and includes an events calendar for community activities.
- **The State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) has Independent Living Representation.** A representative from SILC sits on the SRC and provides regular Independent Living and SILC updates.
- **AZRSA staff were involved with the Arizona Disabilities Expo.** AZRSA staff were a part of the planning and participation at the Arizona Disabilities Expo, with approximately 100 exhibitors and 1000 attendees.
- **AZRSA staff is on the board of DIRECT, CIL in Tucson, Arizona.**
- **AZRSA staff is a vice-president of the Brain Injury Association of Arizona.**
- **SILC serves as the host and is a member of the executive committee of Arizona Disability Advocacy Coalition (AZDAC).** The coalition has thirteen members. In addition to SILC they include:
 1. Arizona Bridge to Independent Living;
 2. DIRECT Center for Independent Living;
 3. The Institute for Human Development;

4. Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing;
5. The Arizona Center for Disability Law;
6. Arizona Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities;
7. Arc of Arizona;
8. The Mental health Association of Arizona;
9. People First, Self Advocacy Group;
10. Paralyzed Veterans of Arizona;
11. SMILE Independent Living Center; and
12. State Rehabilitation Council.

The mission of AZDAC is to focus on legislative issues that impact the global disability community in Arizona. Before the beginning of each state legislation session the coalition reviews an agenda of issues to prioritize at least four issues that the group in total will support. Additionally, the various coalition members will individually present their specific issues. If there are any divergent perspectives on specific the group will attempt to resolve their differences.

- One of AZDAC's annual events is a **Consumer State Legislative Advocacy Training/Workshop**. In January of 2005 SILC, ABIL, and the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, were the lead organizations in coordinating the logistics of the **Consumer State Legislative Advocacy Training/Workshop**. We facilitated bringing 108 consumers from across the state into the state capitol area. Our efforts were targeted on populations representing unserved and underserved consumers. The criteria for selecting the participants included ethnic, geographic, and disability diversity. The participants were from twenty-six of the thirty legislative districts in Arizona. The participants included:
 - 16 individuals from the Hopi Reservation;
 - 18 individuals from the Navajo reservation;
 - 4 individuals who are deaf/blind;
 - Approximately 50 with cognitive and/or developmental disabilities; and
 - 60 residents from rural areas.
 The agenda included among other things:
 - a mock legislative training;
 - presentations on specific pieces of current legislative initiatives; and
 - preparing consumers for visits to their respective legislators' offices at the Capitol scheduled for the following day.
- Participants in the **Consumer State Legislative Advocacy Training/Workshop** who live in Mohave County, subsequent to the workshop, contacted the SILC and requested a presentation specifically focused on IL. Mohave County is a rural area. The SILC Executive Director invited the executive directors and board chairs from two of the CILs located in rural areas in Arizona to participate with him at the presentation. Various local grassroots disability groups in Kingman want to become an active player in the statewide IL network. SILC coordinated the presentation. New Horizons and SMILE also participated. There were thirty consumers from the area who attended. The presentation occurred on July 20, 2006, and was three hours in length about half of which was a question and answer session. The SILC Executive Director arrived the day before the presentation and met individually with three different leaders from three different disability related organizations active in the area.

- SILC coordinates and host a full day meeting of the **CIL Executive Directors** the day prior to each SILC quarterly meeting. The agenda in the morning segment is focused on reports from the respective centers of their current activities, and discussing statewide IL initiatives, problems and projects. If we identify an issue that requires an advocacy posture, we explore how we can collectively and mutually be strategic in addressing it. The RSA administrator participates in the afternoon segment of the meeting and presents a report to the Directors of current activities and any changes in policy at RSA. We also explore with RSA common issues and collaborations of the respective organizations. The scheduling of the CIL ED meeting is planned to be cost effective and minimize the expenses and resources to support some of Directors remaining in the area and attending the full council meeting the following day.
- As a representative of SILC, the Executive Director of SILC serves on the Board of Directors of the:
 - **Arizona Loans for Assistive Technology (AZLAT)**;
 - **ArtAbility** – Accessing Arizona Arts;
 - **Arizona Disability Advocacy Coalition (AZDAC)**; and
 - **Arizona Assistive Technology Project (AZTAP)**.

His function is to address cross disability issues and explore how the respective agendas and missions of these organizations might be connected to or integrated into the agenda/mission of other stakeholders in the disability community. The Executive Director of SILC serves on the executive committee of ArtAbility and AZDAC and their monthly meetings are held at the SILC office. ArtAbility is a consortium of Arts and Disability Organizations with a mission to enhance and expand the accessibility of the Arts in Arizona. There are forty-five member organizations in the consortium. We focus on audience development and participation, as well as programmatic inclusion for people with disabilities who want to pursue opportunities in the Arts. Reference cited previous for AZLAT & AZDAC. AZTAP is the Tech Act project for Arizona.
- The Executive Director of SILC serves on the steering committees of two new Governor’s initiatives/projects. His function is to address disability issues as the projects are being designed, developed and implemented. The projects include:
 - The **Arizona National & Community Service Inclusion Work Team**. Its mission is to promote and support full participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of national and community service through collaboration between individuals with disabilities; disability advocacy and service organizations; and the programs of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) in Arizona.
 - The **Arizona Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)**. This project is being designed to serve older adults and persons with disabilities. The project’s goal is to create a single, coordinated system of information, assistance and access for all persons seeking long term care services. The steering committee meets every other month for three hours and subcommittees meet in the intervening months. The SILC ED serves on the Uniform Assessment Instrument committee. Included among the organizations on the steering committee are:
 - ✓ Arizona Long Term Care System;
 - ✓ Governor’s Council on Aging;
 - ✓ Area Agency on Aging;
 - ✓ AZ Department of Economic Security;

- ✓ DES Division of Developmental Disabilities;
 - ✓ Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities;
 - ✓ Arizona Bridge to Independent Living;
 - ✓ DES Division of Employment and Rehabilitation Services;
 - ✓ Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona;
 - ✓ DES Division of Aging and Adult Services;
 - ✓ Governor’s Office for Children, Youth, and Families;
 - ✓ AZ Association of Community Health Centers;
 - ✓ AZ Office for Americans with Disabilities; and
 - ✓ AZ Alzheimer’s Association.
- As cited in the previous section of this report, the Executive Director of SILC represents SILC as a coalition member of the “Get Out The Vote” – GOTV. During this reporting year he has met four times for half day sessions with other coalition members. Those members include representatives from:
 - AZ Spinal Cord Injury Association;
 - AZ Center for Disability Law;
 - United Cerebral Palsy of AZ;
 - People First of AZ;
 - Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities;
 - AZ Technical Access Program;
 - SMILE Center for Independent Living;
 - DIRECT Center for Independent Living;
 - Joni and Friends;
 - AZ Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society;
 - Sun Sounds;
 - AZ Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing;
 - Creative Networks;
 - The Center for Habilitation;
 - AIRES;
 - Goodwill of AZ;
 - Epilepsy Foundation;
 - Mentally Ill Kids in Distress;
 - ABIL; and
 - SILC.

SUBPART V – STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)

Section 705 of the Act; 34 CFR 364.21

Section A - Composition and Appointment

Item 1 – Current SILC Composition

In the chart below, provide the requested information for each SILC member. The category in which the member was appointed can be described, for example, as ex-officio state agency representative, other state agency representative, center representative, person with a disability not employed by a center or state agency, section 121 funded project director, parent of person with a disability, community advocate, other service provider, etc. Include current vacancies, along with the corresponding appointment category for each. Add more rows as necessary.

Name of SILC Member	Employed by CIL, State Agency or Neither	Appointment Category	Voting or Non-Voting	Term Start Date	Term End Date
1. Marquita Beene	Neither	Community Advocate	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007
2. Sherri Collins	State Agency	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007
3. Randy Collins	Neither	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2006	6/30/2009
4. Fernando Cruz	CIL	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007
5. Ken Edwards	Neither	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2006	6/30/2009
6. Ted Garland	Neither	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007
7. Gene Heppard	Neither	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007
8. John Hunter	Neither	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007
9. Ken Jacuzzi	State Agency	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007

Name of SILC Member	Employed by CIL, State Agency or Neither	Appointment Category	Voting or Non-Voting	Term Start Date	Term End Date
10. Lavern Lizer	Neither	121 project Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2006	6/30/2009
11. Darryl Long	CIL	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2005	6/30/2008
12. Kim March-Force	Neither	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007
13. Ed Myers	Neither	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007
14. Naomi Ortiz	Neither	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2006	6/30/2009
15. Donna Powers	Neither	Person w/ a disability	Voting	7/1/2004	6/30/2007
16. Kathryn Robins	CIL	CIL ED Rep	Voting	7/1/2006	6/30/2009
17. Kathy Levandowsky (ex-officio)	State Agency (RSA)	DSU Administrator	Non-Voting	N/A	N/A
18. Vacant					
19. Vacant					
20. Vacant					
21. Vacant					

Item 2 – SILC Composition Requirements

Please provide the information requested in the chart below. Include any current vacancies in a particular appointment category.

SILC Composition	# of SILC members
(A) How many members are on the SILC?	17
(B) How many members of the SILC are individuals with disabilities not employed by a state agency or a center for independent living?	10

(C) How many members of the SILC are voting members?	16
(D) How many of the voting members of the SILC are individuals with disabilities not employed by a state agency or a center for independent living?	10

Section B – SILC Membership Qualifications

Section 705(b)(4) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.21(c)

Item 1 – Statewide Representation

Describe how the SILC is composed of members who provide statewide representation.

Response:

To recruit appropriate candidates to recommend to the Governor for appointment to the council, AZ SILC staff constructed a matrix with fields to identify particular profiles that the council may need on its roster to ensure that our composition represents the diversity of the state. One of those fields refers to geographic location. For statewide representation our criteria for appointment recommendations include among other considerations:

- a. The Council will be composed of representatives from five basic geographic regions of the state. Those regions respectively are the North, East, Central, West, and South. Our current roster of members includes:
 - 3 members from the North;
 - 2 members from the South;
 - 1 member from the East;
 - 2 from the West; and
 - 9 members from the Central region.
- b. The Council has representation that reflects the density of the disability population in the state. According to recent census data:
 - 58% of people with disabilities in Arizona live in the Central region (i.e., Phoenix Metropolitan area);
 - 25% percent live in the Southern region (i.e., Tucson Metropolitan area);
 - 10% in the Northern region (Flagstaff/Prescott); and
 - 7% in the other areas (East & West).

Our current roster partially reflects that density profile:

- 53% of the members live in the Central region;
- 12% in the Southern region;
- 18% in the Northern region;
- 12% in the West; and
- 6% in the East.

We are currently seeking two new candidates for council membership who live in the Southern region. With a successful recruitment in the Southern region the council will have 24% of the membership from that region.

- c. The five regions that our council has identified correlates to the service area of the state’s five respective Centers for Independent Living. Our current roster has members from the

Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Central regions who are not employed at the regional Center for Independent Living.

- d. Our current roster includes a representative from one of the state’s 121 projects.
- e. There are 15 counties in Arizona. SILC members reside in seven of those counties.

Arizona Counties	SILC Members Residence
Apache (Northern)	1
Coconino (Northern)	1
Cochise (Southern)	1
Gila (Eastern)	0
Greenlee (Eastern)	0
La Paz (Western)	0
Maricopa (Central)	10
Mohave (Northern)	0
Navajo (Northern)	0
Pima (Southern)	1
Pinal (Southern)	0
Santa Cruz (Southern)	0
Yavapai (Northern)	1
Yuma (Western)	2

As previously referenced above, AZ SILC staff constructed a matrix with fields to identify the various profile characteristics of council members. Those fields include: age, disability, employment status, ethnicity, gender, and geography (county of residence). The council’s Membership and Nominating Committee periodically reviews the matrix to assess how the composition of the council reflects the diversity of the disability population in Arizona. Their review is subsequently presented as a report with recommendations to the full council for their consideration. After the full council evaluates the recommendations of the Membership and Nominating Committee, the committee is delegated the responsibility to identify and recruit appropriate candidates to ensure that the composition of the council reflects the diversity of the community. Those candidates are then recommended to the Governor’s Office for appointment.

Item 2 – Broad Range of Individuals with Disabilities from Diverse Backgrounds

Describe how the SILC members represent a board range of individuals with disabilities from diverse backgrounds.

Response:

Characteristics that are indicative of the diverse backgrounds of the people with disabilities that serve on the AZ SILC include: age, disability, employment, ethnicity, gender, and geography.

The following characteristics reflect the composition of the council for the period relevant to this report:

Age:

- 2 members under the age of thirty;
- 12 members between the ages of 30 – 64; and
- 3 members 65 or older.

Disabilities:

- 8 members who have a physical disability;
 - 5 – wheelchair users;
 - 2 – crutch/cane users; and
 - 1 – no A.T.
- 3 members who have a sensory disability;
 - 1 – person who is blind;
 - 1 – person with has low vision; and
 - 1 – person who is deaf.
- 2 members who have a cognitive disability;
- 1 member who has multiple disabilities (hard of hearing & cognition);
- 1 member who is the adult child of person with a disability; and
- 2 members with no disability.

Employment:

- 11 members who are employed full time;
- 2 members who are employed part time; and
- 4 members who are not employed.

Ethnicity:

- 12 members who are Caucasian;
- 3 members who are Native American;
- 1 member who is Hispanic;
- 1 member who is African American; and
- AZ SILC is currently seeking to include additional African-American, Asian, and Hispanic representatives on the council.

Gender:

- 9 members are male; and
- 8 members are female.

Geography:

- Urban - approximately 60% of the council reside in an urban area;
- Rural - approximately 40% of the council members reside in the rural areas of the state;
- Approximately 80% of the population in Arizona is urban (they live in the metropolitan areas of Phoenix & Tucson, Maricopa and Pima Counties, respectively) and approximately 20% of the population in Arizona is rural; and
- AZ SILC is currently seeking to include additional urban representatives on the council.

Item 3 – Knowledgeable about Independent Living

Describe how SILC members are knowledgeable about centers for independent living and independent living services.

Response:

SILC members become/are knowledgeable about CILs and IL services in a combination of ways:

- New Member Orientation and Training – each council member must participate in an Orientation and Training workshop about SILC. The curriculum for the workshop includes segments dedicated to the history of IL, the philosophy of IL, an overview of the national and statewide IL: network, a description of each of the CILs in the state, the SILC policies, procedures, and by-laws, and the Rehabilitation Act (in particular title VII).
- Previous Experience – included in the composition of the council there are:
 - 8 members who received services from a CIL;
 - 3 members who served as CIL board members;
 - 1 member who is a retired CIL executive;
 - 1 member who is a CIL executive director; and
 - 2 members employed by a CIL.
- CIL Networking Committee – one of the ad hoc SILC committees is the CIL Networking committee. They are comprised of the CIL Executive Directors who meet quarterly. The primary focus of their agenda at the meetings include: 1) update reports from each of the respective CILs about their individual center’s activities, accomplishments, and issues; 2) exploring potential collaborative resource development and sharing; 3) statewide capacity building, 4) enhancing and expanding their communication network; and 5) discussion about IL related legislative issues. They elect a representative of their committee to be a member of the council and provide the council with a report that reflects the discussions from their meetings.
- The DSU quarterly report – at each council meeting of all the members, the Administrator of the DSU’s SILS presents a report about the activities, accomplishments, and issues of that program.
- Presentations at the full council meetings – various guests are invited to conduct a presentation on a program, service, or initiative relative to some aspect of IL. Presentations this reporting year have included: the AZ Benefits Check-Up website and program; the new 211 systems; the development and construction of a multi organizational disability related campus; and, CyberCIL (a web based CIL).
- IL NET – SILC staff will alert members about various IL NET trainings and, within budgetary parameters, SILC will support members in registering for those trainings. Recently, four members and one staff participated in the “Smooth as SILC” training.

Section C – SILC Staffing and Support

Item 1 – SILC Staff

Please provide the name and contact information for the SILC Executive Director. Indicate the number and titles of any other SILC staff, if applicable. Also indicate whether any SILC staff is also a state agency employee.

Response:

- Tony DiRienzi, Executive Director
AZ SILC
2400 North Central Ave. Suite 105
Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-262-2900
silctonyd@qwest.net
- Sharon Engelhardt
Executive Assistant
silcsharon@qwest.net
- No SILC staff are employed by a state agency

Item 2 – SILC Support

Describe the administrative support services provided by the DSU, if any.

Response:

None. However, we meet frequently, either teleconference or in person.

Section D – SILC Duties

Section 705(c); 34 CFR 364.21(g)

Item 1 – SILC Duties

Provide a summary of SILC activities conducted during the reporting year related to the SILC's duties listed below:

(A) State Plan Development

Describe any activities related to the joint development of the state plan. Include any activities in preparation for developing the state plan, such as needs assessments, evaluations of consumer satisfaction, hearings and forums.

Response:

The activities for the development of the state plan have included:

- **A Consumer Needs Assessment;**
 - **A Personal Assistance Services Survey;**
 - **A Consumer Independent Living Summit;**
 - **Outreach Presentations;**
 - **Consumer Legislative Advocacy Training/Workshop;**
 - **An Independent Living Tasks Force;**
 - **CIL Executive Directors Quarterly Meetings;**
 - **Arizona Rehabilitation Services Administration ILRS; and**
 - **Disability Resource Center of the University of Arizona.**
-
- **Consumer Needs Assessment.** We conducted a statewide survey to assess how consumers perceived their level of living independently and their level of community participation. The activities included:
 - Focus Groups:
 - ✓ 78 persons (72% consumers, 28% family members of consumers) participated in a total of 8 focus groups in April 2005 in Yuma, Somerton, Tucson (DIRECT Independent Living Center, University of Arizona, Hard of Hearing), Sierra Vista, Prescott Valley, and Phoenix;
 - ✓ Range of disabilities represented (out of 45 written responses): physical (39%), mental (13%), hearing (12%), visual (9%), and cognitive (3%), and multiple disabilities (24%);
 - ✓ 89% felt independent, with an average level of independence of 7.3 on a scale of 1 to 10. Only 6.7% do not consider themselves a part of a community; and
 - ✓ **Main services/supports needed to improve independence in order of priority:** transportation, financial assistance, accessibility/home modifications, medical services and insurance, employment, housing, training/education, disability awareness, access to disability related programs.
 - Mail Surveys:
 - ✓ 216 completed mail surveys (188 from consumers) representing 26 cities in 8 counties statewide;
 - ✓ Range of disabilities represented: physical (45%), mental (13%), cognitive (4%), hearing (3%), visual (1%), and (35%) multiple disabilities;
 - ✓ 82% feel independent, with an average level of independence of 6.5 on a scale of 1 to 10. Almost a quarter, 24.3% do not consider themselves a part of a community;
 - ✓ **Main services/supports needed to improve independence:** transportation, personal care attendants, housing, accessibility, financial resources, self-transport, among many others; and
 - ✓ **Conclusions:** Consumers and their families do not feel they are a part of their community. Many feel isolated, disenfranchised, and want various supports, including financial, to be able to attain a higher level of independence and quality of life.

- **A Personal Assistance Services Survey.** SILC contracted with Abilities Unlimited to conduct a statewide a Personal Assistance Services study. The data from the study has included:
 - A demographic profile, for each of the 15 counties in Arizona, of residents that may need and/or use Personal Care Attendants (PCA);
 - A compilation of a comprehensive list of the name, addresses and contact information for various services providers, organizations and other entities located in each of the 15 counties of Arizona that can be used to employ, engage, and/or obtain Personal Care Attendants;
 - A report on the fee structure, schedule, and billing procedures associated with those respective PCA service providers, organizations and other entities;
 - Identifying funding resources, including private and public that can be used to pay for and/or support employing, engaging, and/or obtaining those PCA services;
 - Identifying existing systems, networks and other means of connecting PCAs to persons with disabilities (PWD) who may need or use those services;
 - A document that provided a written analysis, summary, graphs, and other materials related to the need for PCA services in Arizona and the potential capacity in Arizona to meet those needs; and
 - SILC has used the data for the study as the basis for the development of a P.A.S. toolkit that is being distributed statewide to unserved and underserved PWD who need P.A.S.
- **A Consumer Independent Living Summit.** SILC, in concert with all of the Arizona Centers for Independent Living and the Arizona Rehabilitation Services Administration, coordinated a two-day IL Summit meeting in Phoenix. Two hundred and eleven consumers and forty service providers met to explore various IL topics. Those topics included Youth Leadership, Voting Patterns in the Disability Community, Assistive Technologies, and Bio-Ethics (stem cell research and assisted suicide). The agenda included three plenary sessions and eighteen breakout sessions (many occurring concurrently). The closing plenary session included a question and answer session. During that time, consumers indicated various IL issues that they wanted addressed. Service Access and Delivery, Healthcare, and Community Inclusion were the primary topics identified.
- **Outreach Presentations.** SILC annually targets three specific unserved or underserved populations for outreach presentations and inclusion on SILC. The committee facilitated three (3) training and education presentations/ workshops. These workshops were put together by committee members, with the help of staff, and were tailored to local community and population interests and requests. Presenters at the workshops were a mix of local service providers, state agencies, public officials, and those who traveled from outside areas to present on statewide programs. The dates and locations were: September 23, 2005 – Cottonwood; May 5, 2006 – Bisbee; and, June 29, 2006 - Kykotsmovi (Hopi Reservation).
 - All attendees represented rural populations and specific disability demographics included:
 - ✓ The Aging Population – Cottonwood;
 - ✓ People with Cognitive & Mental Disabilities – Bisbee; and
 - ✓ Native Americans, cross disability.

- The Cottonwood workshop was three and a half hours and included:
 - ✓ Forty consumers in attendance;
 - ✓ Seven presentations: SILC, CILs, RSA, Emergency Preparedness, AZ Center for Disability Law, Service Animals, and A.T.; and
 - ✓ A brief town hall meeting.
- The Bisbee workshop was five hours and included:
 - ✓ Fifty-five consumers in attendance;
 - ✓ Seven presentations: I L Philosophy, SILC, CIL (DIRECT & Cochise Ability), Center for Disability Law, National Association of Mental Illness (NAMI), Comfort Zone (Service Provider for SMI), and Division of Developmental Disabilities; and
 - ✓ A Town Hall Meeting (one and half hours) - the panelists included: two local district state representatives, two county supervisors, the mayor of Bisbee, the county emergency services coordinator, and SILC.
- The Kykotsomovi workshop was five and a half hours and included:
 - ✓ Entertainment (Hopi dance, gratis);
 - ✓ Luncheon (donated and catered by the Hopi Elderly Committee);
 - ✓ Eight presentations: SILC, CIL(Assist), Native American Advocacy Group(NAAG), Hopi VR/OSN, Hopi Early Intervention, Hopi Resource Enforcement Program, SSA Benefits Planning, DDD; and
 - ✓ A Town Hall Meeting (one hour), among the panelists, Rick Renzi staff representative, two members of Hopi Board of Supervisors, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Hopi Council, SILC, and Assist.
- Various disabilities related issues were identified from the consumers' questions at all of the town hall meetings. The primary issues included transportation, accessing services, and community inclusion.
- **Consumer State Legislative Advocacy Training/Workshop.** SILC helped facilitate a town hall meeting with participants as part of the agenda at the **Consumer State Legislative Advocacy Training/Workshop** that was previously cited in this report. The facilitators asked the participants to identify various issues that they thought that policy makers should address. The primary issue identified was unreliable and inaccessible public transportation. Among other concerns expressed were complicated systems for accessing services, as well as the non integration of services, and not being treated with dignity and the lack of dental coverage as part of medical benefits.
- **An Independent Living Task Force.** SILC convened a meeting of forty-four Executive Directors, program managers and other decision makers who represent the various stakeholders in the Arizona disability community participated. All categories of disability were represented. Additionally, the group included representatives from all of the other Arizona Disability Councils and Commissions, as well as representatives of the organizations that provide services to the various disability specific groups. The meeting occurred on February 24, 2006, at the Phoenix Library, Nina Pulliam auditorium. Dr. Frank Turk, a nationally prominent speaker with expertise in coordinating a disability related task force, was the keynote speaker. After the keynote address, a consultant facilitated the discussion. Subsequent to the initial meeting, SILC has received information and materials from some participants that will influence the next SPIL.

- **CIL Executive Directors Quarterly Meetings.** As cited previously in Subpart IV Section B of this report SILC coordinates and host a full day meeting of the **CIL Executive Directors.**
- **Arizona Rehabilitation Services Administration ILRS.** The SILC ED and the chair of the SILC meet periodically with the Administrator of Arizona Rehabilitation Services Administration (AZRSA). Additionally, the SILC ED confers weekly with the various managerial levels of AZRSA.
- **Disability Resource Center of the University of Arizona.** The SILC ED meets biannually with the Executive Director of the Disability Resource Center at the University of Arizona. The focus of the meetings is to discuss youth oriented IL issues and explore collaborative endeavors to address those issues.

(B) Monitor, Review and Evaluate the Implementation of the State Plan

Describe any activities related to the monitoring, review and evaluation of the implementation of the state plan.

Response:

Various activities that SILC engages in to monitor, review and evaluate the SPIL include:

- **SILC Committees.** SILC staff developed a matrix of the goals and objectives as outlined in the SPIL. To achieve accomplishing the goals four ad hoc SILC committees were established directly related to the goals. They are 1) the CIL Networking Committee; 2) the Community Collaboration Committee; 3) the Outreach Committee; and 4) the Public Policy Committee. The committees meet in the intervals between the full council meetings. They are comprised of council members and public members. At the beginning of each meeting the goal matrix is reviewed to ensure we are on target as to timeframe and budget in realizing the goals. If we are not in accord with the specified timeframe or budget parameters the committee discusses alternative strategies to comply with the SPIL and makes adjustments accordingly.
- **Quarterly Full Council Meetings.** Each of the ad hoc committees presents a report to the full council relative to their progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the SPIL.
- **CIL ED Meetings.** At each of the quarterly CIL ED meetings a portion of the agenda is related to the SPIL. Refer to Subpart IV Section B.
- **Quarterly Reports to AZRSA.** SILC staff draft and deliver a quarterly document to the administrator of ARSA reporting on the status of the goals and objectives in the SPIL.
- **Meeting with AZRSA.** As referenced previously, SILC staff and/or council members meet periodically with the administrator and/or managers at AZRSA. Frequently the agenda of the meetings focus on the status of the SPIL.

(C) Coordination With Other Disability Councils

Describe the SILC’s coordination of activities with the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) established under section 105, if the state has such a Council, or the commission described in section 101(a)(21)(A), if the state has such a commission, and councils that address the needs of

specific disability populations and issues under other Federal law. Please state whether the SILC has at least one representative serving as a member of the SRC and whether the SILC has any members serving on other councils, boards or commissions in the state.

Response:

- One of the SILC members has been appointed to the SRC by the Governor. That council member is the SILC liaison to SRC and attends all of their meetings. At each of the SRC and SILC meetings he presents a report of the respective councils about the activities of each group. Additionally, he explores collaborations as appropriate and identifies for both groups issues of common interest and concerns.
- Various staff of the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Arizona Technical Access Project, Arizona Office for Americans with Disabilities, and the Arizona Center for Disability Law, are members of SILC.
- The SILC ED serves on two committees of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities.

(D) Public Meeting Requirements

Describe how the SILC has ensured that all regularly scheduled meetings and other public hearings and forums hosted by the SILC are open to the public and sufficient advance notice is provided.

Response:

As required by the Open Meeting Law of Arizona, SILC sends an agenda of each meeting to the Arizona Department of Administration Management Services Division for public posting. A copy of each posting meeting fax confirmation is kept on file in the SILC office. SILC also electronically distributes the agenda for each meeting to various stakeholders in the community. There is a calendar of all meetings listed on our Website. Additionally, the meeting minutes from our Executive Committee and full council meetings are posted on our website.

Item 2 – Other Activities

Describe any other SILC activities funded by non-Part B funds.

Response:

- SILC has served as the fiscal agent for other disability related organization in an effort to help coordinate and support their events, projects, training and workshops. Those activities have included:
 - The Get Out The Vote Coalition;
 - The annual ADA celebration coordinated by the Arizona Office for Americans with Disabilities;
 - The annual National SILC Congress; and
 - A Region IX PART Training coordinated by NCIL.
- SILC received a grant from the Arizona Community Foundation to procure several pieces of assistive technologies related to emergency preparedness for people with disabilities. We intend to demonstrate the use of this equipment to first responders and other emergency services personnel.

Section E – Training and Technical Assistance Needs

Section 721(b)(3) of the Act

Please identify the SILC's training and technical assistance needs. The needs identified in this chart will guide the priorities set by RSA for the training and technical assistance provided to CILs and SILCs.

Training and Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs — Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
Advocacy/Leadership Development	
General Overview	
Community/Grassroots Organizing	
Individual Empowerment	
Systems Advocacy	1
Legislative Process	6
Applicable Laws	
General overview and promulgation of various disability laws	
Americans with Disabilities Act	
Air-Carrier's Access Act	
Fair Housing Act	
Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act	
Medicaid/Medicare/PAS/waivers/long-term care	4
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended	
Social Security Act	
Workforce Investment Act of 1998	
Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999	
Government Performance Results Act of 1993	
Assistive Technologies	
General Overview	
Data Collecting and Reporting	
General Overview	
704 Reports	
Performance Measures contained in 704 Report	8
Dual Reporting Requirements	
Case Service Record Documentation	
Disability Awareness and Information	
Specific Issues	

Training and Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs — Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
Evaluation	
General Overview	
CIL Standards and Indicators	
Community Needs Assessment	2
Consumer Satisfaction Surveys	
Focus Groups	
Outcome Measures	
Financial: Grant Management	
General Overview	9
Federal Regulations	5
Budgeting	
Fund Accounting	
Financial: Resource Development	
General Overview	
Diversification of Funding Base	
Fee-for-Service Approaches	
For Profit Subsidiaries	
Fund-Raising Events of Statewide Campaigns	
Grant Writing	
Independent Living Philosophy	
General Overview	
Innovative Programs	
Best Practices	
Specific Examples	
Management Information Systems	
Computer Skills	
Software	
Marketing and Public Relations	
General Overview	
Presentation/Workshop Skills	
Community Awareness	3

Training and Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs — Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
Networking Strategies	
General Overview	
Electronic	
Among CILs & SILCs	
Community Partners	7
Program Planning	
General Overview of Program Management and Staff Development	
CIL Executive Directorship Skills Building	
Conflict Management and Alternative Dispute Resolution	
First-Line CIL Supervisor Skills Building	
IL Skills Modules	
Peer Mentoring	
Program Design	
Time Management	
Team Building	
Outreach to Unserved/Underserved Populations	
General Overview	
Disability	
Minority	
Institutionalized Potential Consumers	
Rural	
Urban	
SILC Roles/Relationship to CILs	
General Overview	
Development of State Plan for Independent Living	10
Implementation (monitor & review) of SPIL	
Public Meetings	
Role and Responsibilities of Executive Board	
Role and Responsibilities of General Members	
Collaborations with In-State Stakeholders	

Training and Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs — Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
CIL Board of Directors	
General Overview	
Roles and Responsibilities	
Policy Development	
Recruiting/Increasing Involvement	
Volunteer Programs	
General Overview	
Optional Areas and/or Comments (write-in)	

SUBPART VI – SPIL COMPARISON AND UPDATES, OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Section 704(m)(4) of the Act; 34 CFR 76.140

Section A – Comparison of Reporting Year Activities with the SPIL

Item 1 – Progress in Achieving Objectives and Goals

Describe progress made in achieving the objectives and goals outlined in the most recently approved SPIL. Discuss goals achieved and/or in progress as well as barriers encountered.

Response:

- **Goal A: To support and promote an advocacy system that addresses IL issues**
 - Objective A1 - To develop a comprehensive statewide advocacy training program. Successfully achieved. In collaboration with the various members of the Arizona Advocacy Coalition, we coordinate a Statewide Consumer Legislative Training annually. Cited previously in SUBPART IV, Section A, Item 2.
 - Objective A2 - To identify and prioritize key issues affecting IL. Successfully achieved. Cited previously in SUBPART IV, Section A, Item 2, as well as citations in SUBPART V, Section D, Item 1.
 - Objective A3 - To develop and implement statewide communication systems. Successfully achieved:
 - ✓ We have identified editors of thirty-six disability related newsletters for the purposes of disseminating information;
 - ✓ We help support a statewide advocacy listserv with our participation in Arizona disability Advocacy Coalition (AZDAC);
 - ✓ Through our coordination of the Consumer Advocacy Legislative training, we support and promote communication training for county IL district leaders within their county/districts; and
 - ✓ Support and promote communication training for county IL district leaders within their county/districts. Our participation with the GET OUT THE VOTE project is partially designed to address this objective.
 - Objective A4 - To identify and recruit individuals and organizations to become part of the advocacy network. Successfully achieved:
 - ✓ We host quarterly meeting of the CIL ED's;
 - ✓ Various SILC directors are members of AZDAC and the SILC Public Policy Committee; and
 - ✓ We are promoting and supporting IL grassroots activity in some of the rural counties of Arizona.
- **Goal B: Advance collaborative efforts among disability organizations to address the training and education needs of all Arizonans regarding disability issues.**
 - Objective B1 - Develop and distribute a Personal Care Attendant (PCA) tool kit to empower people with disabilities to direct their own attendant care. Successfully achieved:

- ✓ We have published five hundred hard copies of a web based Personal Assistant Services (P.A.S.) manual and currently distributed them statewide to populations that we assume do not have internet access and are unserved and underserved; and
- ✓ The SILC ED and a council member were recently appointed to the steering committee of the Arizona Long Term Care Consumer Directed Care pilot project.
- Objective B2 - Assure that leaders representing all major disability populations are advising the SILC. In part, successfully achieved and ongoing. Cited previously in SUBPART V, Section B.
- Objective B3 - Promote a multi-organizational event calendar. Ongoing. We have created a calendar on our website. However, in trial application of other disability organizations access the web page to have their activities and events posted they have not been able to do it without problems. We are currently working with our web master to resolve the technical problems and hope to be fully functional by January of 2007.
- Objective B4 - Explore instituting disability awareness training in health care workers' education. Ongoing 2 SILC activities related to this outcome include:
 - ✓ The inclusion of Disability Culture and IL Philosophy as segment in the Occupational Therapy curriculum at Midwestern University; and
 - ✓ A list of pertinent venues where health care workers' are employed or congregate:
 1. The SILC Executive Director has met with Nanci Weschler, Associate Professor in Occupational Therapy, at Midwestern University. Professor Weschler has invited the SILC ED be a guest lecturer in her courses at Midwestern to teach a segment focused on Disability Awareness/Etiquette, Disability Culture, and Independent Living History/Philosophy. The SILC ED is scheduled to begin lecturing in June. Additionally, Professor Weschler has offered to facilitate introductions for the SILC ED to meet individuals in other educational programs (e.g., ASU, Maricopa Community Colleges), who are responsible for the curricula of various therapy modalities (Neuro-Psychology, Physical, Speech, Recreational, etc.), Nursing and Medical Social Work, among other disciplines; and
 2. The SILC Community Collaboration Committee has identified the following areas as possible venues to influence the disability awareness training of health care workers:
 - Educational Institutions (e.g., universities, colleges, post secondary schools);
 - Hospital staff in-services presentations;
 - Rehabilitation facilities;
 - Durable medical equipment (DME) providers;
 - Professional Association meetings and conferences (e.g., the Arizona Occupational Therapy Association – AZOTA; and
 - Professional Group Practices (e.g., Arizona Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Associates).

- **Goal C: Enhance and expand outreach to underserved and unserved populations**
 - Objective C1 - Encourage and mentor young people under the age of 30 to become leaders. One of our council members has taken the lead on this goal and has been visiting other states' Youth Leadership Forum to collect best practices to adapt to Arizona. Additionally, the SILC ED has been meeting with the Director of the Disability Resource Center at the University of Arizona to explore a collaborative effort.
 - Objective C2 - Identify populations for outreach efforts including rural areas, reservations, nursing homes, and minorities. Successfully achieved. Cited previously in SUBPART V, Section D, Outreach Presentations.
- **Goal D: Continue expansion of CIL network and resources**
 - Objective D1: Support innovative development of new CILs. Successfully achieved:
 - ✓ SILC continues to provide resources to AZ **CyberCIL** to expand and enhance its capacity. CyberCil, the virtual Center for Independent Living (CIL), located at www.cybercil.com, was created as a consumer-controlled, community-based, cross-disability, nonprofit organization. Its mission is to offer, via the Internet, access to the four core independent living services of 1) advocacy, 2) peer support, 3) independent living skills, and 4) information and referral, to those Arizonans who cannot, or choose not to, use a traditional CIL. CyberCil works collaboratively with traditional CILs to deliver services to many Arizonans isolated in the rural counties. It has successfully demonstrated the potential to be a viable and practical connection for individuals with disabilities. CyberCIL submits reports regularly to SILC. Those reports indicate that CyberCIL is on target with the deliverables as outlined in our contract. The site has recently been redesigned. To date, CyberCIL has received over thirty nine thousand hits to their website; and
 - ✓ SILC continues to provide resources to DIRECT, Center for Independence in Tucson, in support of *incubating a new CIL in Cochise County*. DIRECT has used SILC support to assist Cochise Ability in acquiring office space and furnishings, putting in place the necessary infrastructure to provide services. It has hired an Administrative Director. DIRECT submits regular reports to SILC indicating the progress of Cochise Ability.
 - Objective D2: Revise service areas to reflect service capacity of each CIL to ensure statewide coverage. Successfully achieved. We have used demographic data from the Arizona Department of Economic Security, the United States Census Bureau, and the Rural Institute at the University of Montana to review the changes in the disability population. We have identified several areas that are currently unserved and/or underserved. The CIL ED quarterly meeting in September was focused on how to address and resolve the need. Our current strategy is to secure funding to open three CIL branch offices and expand the support of an existing CIL satellite office.
 - Objective D4: Evaluate current SILC resources which support enhancement and expansion of IL programs. SILC currently does not have the resources to enhance and expand IL programs. Much of the SILC efforts this past year has been

focused on obtaining the full federal VR match and addressing emergency preparedness for people with disabilities. We will focus on exploring different development strategies in the new year.

Item 2 – SPIL Information Updates

If applicable, describe any changes to the information contained in the SPIL that occurred during the reporting year, including the placement, legal status, membership or autonomy of the SILC; the SILC resource plan, the design of the statewide network of centers; and the DSU administration of the SILS program.

N/A

Section B – Significant Activities and Accomplishments

If applicable, describe any significant activities and accomplishments achieved by the DSU and SILC not included elsewhere in the report, e.g. brief summaries of innovative practices, improved service delivery to consumers, etc.

For approximately a decade, AZRSA staff continue to support, and in several instances lead, consumer support groups in Phoenix and Flagstaff. There are three (3) groups in Phoenix, including VOICE in the West Valley (AZRSA staff led), Compass and the East Valley Brain Injury Support Group (AZRSA staff co-facilitate) in the East Valley. VOICE has monthly meetings and a newsletter, as well as special activities and a user friendly and helpful website at www.voice-az.com. Flagstaff has a Spinal Cord Injury Support Group (AZRSA staff led), which is fairly active.

Section C – Substantial Challenges

If applicable, describe any substantial problems encountered by the DSU and SILC, not included elsewhere in this report, and discuss resolutions/attempted resolutions, e.g., difficulty in outreach efforts; disagreements between the SILC and the DSU; complications recruiting SILC members; complications working with other state agencies or organizations within the state.

N/A

Section D – Additional Information

Include any additional information, suggestions, comments or explanations not included elsewhere in the report.

N/A

SUBPART VII - SIGNATURES

Please sign and print the names, titles and telephone numbers of the DSU directors(s) and SILC chairperson.

Tracy L. Wareing, DES Director

NAME AND TITLE OF DSU DIRECTOR

DATE

SIGNATURE OF DSU DIRECTOR

DATE

Donna Powers, SILC Chair

NAME AND TITLE OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

DATE

SIGNATURE OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

DATE

NAME AND TITLE OF DSU DIRECTOR (BLIND PROGRAM)

DATE

SIGNATURE OF DSU DIRECTOR (BLIND PROGRAM)

DATE