



**Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired (BSBVI)
Board of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR)
Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)**

221 South Central Avenue, Suite 34A
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: (605) 945-2207 ~ TTY: (605) 945-2207

DATE: March 2018
TO: All Interested Parties
SUBJECT: Seeking Board and Council Nominations
FROM: Patty Kuglitsch, BVR Chairperson
Catherine Greseth, BSBVI Chairperson
Craig Eschenbaum, SILC Chairperson

The Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired and Statewide Independent Living Council need your assistance in identifying knowledgeable individuals who are committed to improving employment and independent living services and opportunities for individuals with disabilities in South Dakota.

The BVR, BSBVI and SILC are federally mandated. Each meets a minimum of four times a year and has a minimum of fifteen members. Members represent a cross section of South Dakotans from a wide geographic area. Member expenses i.e., mileage, per diem, lodging (if necessary) resulting from participating in meetings or board/council activities are reimbursed at state rates.

We are currently seeking nominations for pending vacancies on our boards/council, as well as checking with current members who are eligible and have interest in being re-nominated. Upon receipt of all nominations, we will forward them to the Governor for his review, consideration and selection.

Individuals are selected based upon their personal qualifications, experience and specific position requirements of each board/council. Members are typically appointed to serve three-year terms, unless they are filling the remainder of a term vacated by someone leaving prior to their term ending. The attached pages outline specific needs of each board/council.

A position description and nomination form for each board/council is enclosed: BVR (Blue); BSBVI (white); SILC (Green). Nominations are due **Friday, April 13th**.

If you have any questions, we invite you to contact BVR and SILC staff at 1.800.210.0143 or BSBVI staff at 1.800.265.9684. Thank you for your consideration of this request and any subsequent nominations you submit to us.

**The Board of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR)
needs representatives from the following
categories to meet composition requirements:**

- o Disability advocacy groups representing a cross section of individuals with disabilities with physical, cognitive, sensory, and mental disabilities; or individuals with disabilities who have difficulty representing themselves;
- o At least one representative of the Statewide Independent Living Council, who must be the chairperson or other designee of the Statewide Independent Living Council.

***Prior to submitting any nomination(s),
Please ask the potential nominee
if they are willing and able to serve.***

Feel free to duplicate the Nomination form
Please Return by Friday, April 13th
Board of Vocational Rehabilitation
221 South Central Avenue, Suite 34A
Pierre, SD 57501

Board of Vocational Rehabilitation Member Position Description

BVR MEMBER'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ✓ Attend and actively participate in BVR meetings and activities.
- ✓ Actively work on at least one BVR committee.
- ✓ Serve as an advocate for all persons with disabilities needing vocational rehabilitation services.
- ✓ Advise the Department of Human Services on the employment needs of persons with disabilities.
- ✓ Provide public comment on South Dakota's State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation and Supported Employment services and rules or policies concerning the vocational rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
- ✓ Advise the Division of Rehabilitation Services on program policy and procedure for the distribution of funds for vocational rehabilitation.
- ✓ Assist the Department of Human Services in evaluating program effectiveness and provide information for state and federal policy makers.
- ✓ Facilitate the development of new vocational rehabilitation leaders within the state.
- ✓ Seek out and listen to the ideas, concerns and recommendations of other citizens concerning vocational rehabilitation services.

VALUES DESIRED:

- ✓ Commitment to consumer control, meaning that people with disabilities should have control over their lives and decision-making.
- ✓ Belief in the principle of equal access and equal opportunity.
- ✓ Commitment to the full inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of society, including employment.
- ✓ Possession of honesty, integrity and respect for the values of others.
- ✓ Possession of a strong personal code of ethics, including maintaining confidentiality and avoiding conflict of interest and self-dealing.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- ✓ Knowledge of teamwork.
- ✓ Experience with vocational rehabilitation, business or disability advocacy groups linked with vocational rehabilitation services.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

BVR staff, at 945-2207 (Pierre) or 1-800-210-0143 (statewide toll free), by writing them at Board of Vocational Rehabilitation; 221 South Central Avenue, Suite 34A; Pierre, SD 57501, or by emailing shellyp@sd-ccd.org

**BOARD OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (BVR)
NOMINATION FORM**

(If additional space is needed, attach one additional page)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Disability: _____ Yes _____ No Occupation: _____

Email: _____

Current/Former Consumer of Vocational Rehabilitation Services _____ Yes _____ No

Biographical Sketch: _____

Previous Board, Council or Community Advocacy Experience: _____

Other Information: _____

Nominated By: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

**The Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired
is seeking nominations for two positions.**

- o Nominations for an individual who is blind or visually impaired and representative of business and industry is needed.
- o Nominations for a representative of an individual who is blind and has multiple disabilities and has difficulty representing himself or herself due to disabilities.
- o A priority will be put on nominations that include representation from current or former applicants for, or recipients of, vocational rehabilitation services and/or representatives of disability advocacy groups.

***Prior to submitting any nomination(s),
Please ask the potential nominee
if they are willing and able to serve.***

Feel free to duplicate the Nomination form
Please Return by Friday, April 13th
Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired
Hillsview Plaza 3800 East Hwy 34
C/O 500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501
605-773-4644 or 1-800-265-9684

Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired Member Position Description

Essential Duties:

1. Attend and actively participate in quarterly BSBVI meetings and activities.
2. Actively work on at least one BSBVI committee.
3. Serve as an advocate for all individuals who are blind or visually impaired needing vocational rehabilitation services.
4. Advise the Department of Human Services on the employment needs of persons with disabilities.
5. Provide public comment on the Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation and Supported Employment.
6. Provide comment and input on the services, rules or policies concerning the vocational rehabilitation program for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.
7. Advise the Division of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired on program policy and procedures for the distribution of funds for vocational rehabilitation.
8. Assist the Department of Human Services in evaluating program effectiveness.

Authority:

An SBVI Board Member has the authority granted him or her by federal or state statute.

Values Desired:

1. Commitment to consumer control, self-advocacy and choice.
2. Commitment to the full inclusion of individuals who are blind or visually impaired in all aspects of society, including employment.
3. A strong personal code of ethics, including maintaining confidentiality and avoiding conflict of interest.

Qualifications:

1. Knowledge of teamwork.
2. Experience with vocational rehabilitation, business or disability advocacy groups linked with vocational rehabilitation services.

Time Commitment (excluding travel time):

32 hours - Board Meetings (8 hours a day, 4 times a year)

20 hours - Board committee meetings, conference calls, town meeting participation

16 hours - Preparation for Board meetings

68 hours annually (estimated)

**The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)
needs representatives from the following
categories to meet composition requirements:**

- provide statewide representation;
- represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities from diverse backgrounds;
- are knowledgeable about centers for independent living and independent living services;
- are individuals with significant disabilities (required majority of the Council) and are not employed by any State agency or center for independent living; and
- represent other state agencies that provide services to individuals with disabilities.

***Prior to submitting any nomination(s),
Please ask the potential nominee
if they are willing and able to serve.***

Feel free to duplicate the Nomination form
Please Return by Friday, April 13th
Statewide Independent Living Council
221 South Central Avenue, Suite 34A
Pierre, SD 57501

Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) Member Position Description

Role and Responsibilities

- Attend and actively participate in all SILC meetings/activities.
- Actively work on at least one SILC committee or work team.
- Serve as an advocate for all persons with disabilities needing independent living services.
- Advise the State of South Dakota on the independent living needs of persons with disabilities.
- Provide leadership in the development and implementation of the State Plan for Independent Living.
- Advocate for and help to create local and state systems which permit persons with disabilities to determine, achieve and maintain independence, productivity and integration in community life.
- Concentrate on independent living issues, resources and solutions that are shaped by the geography, values, politics and cultures unique to South Dakota.
- Facilitate the development of new independent living leaders in South Dakota.
- Seek out and listen to the ideas, concerns and recommendations of other citizens concerning independent living needs.

Values Desired

- Commitment to consumer control, meaning that people with significant disabilities should have control over their lives and decision-making.
- Belief in the principle of equal access and equal opportunity.
- Commitment to the full integration of people with significant disabilities in all aspects of society.
- Possession of honesty, integrity and respect for the values of others.
- Possession of a strong personal code of ethics, including maintaining confidentiality and avoiding conflict of interest and self-dealing.

Qualifications

- Commitment to teamwork.
- Experience with and knowledge of independent living philosophy and services.

For More Information Contact:

Shelly Pfaff, SILC staff, by calling 945-2207 (Pierre) or 1-800-210-0143 (statewide toll-free), by writing her at SILC; 221 South Central Avenue, Suite 34A; Pierre SD 57501, or by emailing her at shellyp@sd-ccd.org

**STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)
NOMINATION FORM**

(If additional space is needed, attach one additional page)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Disability: _____ Yes _____ No Email: _____

Biographical Sketch: _____

Previous Board, Council or Community Advocacy Experience: _____

Other Information: _____

Nominated By: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____