

**Statewide Independent Living Council
(SILC) MINUTES
February 19th, 2014
Governor's Inn, Pierre**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Margot Burton, Dave Miller, Patrick Czerny, Steve Stewart, Sarah Rush, Bernie Grimme, Sandy Neyhart, Tammy Kabris, Matt Cain, Lyle Cook, Vona Johnson, Kathleen McOwen and Clarke Christianson. **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Annette Gamber, Monte Tschetter, Shelly Shock and Isabel Trobaugh. **OTHERS PRESENT:** Gaye Mattke, DSBVI; Ronda Williams, DRS; Francine McOwen; Marla Bullbear, NAAP; Ann Schwartz, DSS; Shelly Pfaff, SILC Staff; Julie Paluch and Rachel Hatle, Interpreters.

OPENING ACTIONS: WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS – Margot, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:35, welcomed everyone and invited members and guests to introduce themselves. **Meeting Protocol** – Margot referred to the meeting protocol and reminded all to follow it throughout the meeting. **Approval of Agenda** – Margot confirmed members had copies and called for changes or additions. Bernie Grimme asked to add two items – Revised CIL Director's Quarterly Report and SPIL Amendment; Shelly Pfaff asked to add YLF Strategic Plan Fund Request. **MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED – MADE (M), SECONDED (S) AND CARRIED (C).**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – After confirming everyone received and reviewed a copy of the October minutes; Margot called for changes/additions; hearing none, Margot sought a motion to approve. **MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 2013 MEETING MINUTES – MSC.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: Margot called for any public comments. Hearing none, she moved forward with the approved agenda.

AT WORKGROUP PRESENTATIONS: Per the invitation of the Assistive Technology (AT) Workgroup, two presentations were provided at this time.

AT AND PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED: Sandy Neyhart, IL Program Specialist for the Division of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI), provided this presentation. Key areas of her presentation were: definitions of assistive technology and assistive technology services; AT devices

purchased through the SBVI VR and IL programs along with the differences between the types of technology used by people served in the two programs. The presentation included a demonstration of low-tech and high-tech devices and a discuss on the types of technology today that show the most potential. The presentation included the availability of various types of mainstream technology but two main barriers for people with vision loss is the ongoing need to update the software of the technology or access to training in order to maximize the use of the technology. In response to one of the presentation objectives of explaining the state government's role in the development of technology resources, Sandy reported on SBVI's development of two programs including the CCTV program, which continues to serve individuals through the delivery and training on the use of CCTVs and the Computer Information Access program, which was a pilot project providing individualized training on personal computers for people through training and setting the accessibility options on their desk or laptop computers. The Board of SBVI has an Assistive Technology Advisory Committee (ATAC) who contributed to the information provided by Sandy. She finished her presentation by providing a link from the agency's website on a variety of resources for information on assistive technology devices, which was developed and updated by the ATAC (For more details see attached).

AT AND TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH: Patrick Czerny, Coordinator of Technical Services for DakotaLink, provided this presentation. Key areas of his presentation were: accessibility and universal design; examples of technology in universal design; universal design for learning; assistive technologies and universal design learning; AT for reading that shows the most potential; AT for writing that shows the most potential; AT for math that shows the most potential; AT for speech that shows the most potential; AT for memory and organization that shows the most potential; AT for orientation, mobility or ambulation that shows potential; barriers to accessing AT and moving to mainstream; and what can government do in the development of these resources (for details, see attached). A lack of adequate funding was identified as a barrier to people accessing needed AT.

DIVISION OF SERVICE TO THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED (SBVI) REPORT: SBVI IL Program Specialist, Sandy Neyhart, provided this report. BOARD OF SBVI: ANNUAL REPORT – The annual report had been sent out to SILC members prior to the meeting. Sandy reviewed how the report includes demographics, statistics and stories of individuals served through the program. She specifically referenced "Jerome's" story as an example of how services from SBVI and referrals to the Veterans Administration have benefitted people served.

PUBLIC MEETINGS & DISABILITY SUMMIT – Sandy shared that SBVI has planned a video-conference public meeting for April 10th with various sites at SBVI offices in Pierre, Aberdeen and Sioux Falls at the SD Rehabilitation Center for the Blind. In addition, they are planning a face-to-face public meeting on April 25th in Rapid City. Both of these events will take place from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. – and they offer an opportunity for the public to provide input into the delivery of services to people with blindness and visual impairments throughout the state. SBVI is also working with Marla Bull Bear to host a Disability Summit on the Rosebud Nation at Sinte Gileska College in Mission on April 29th. It will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. In the past, the BSBVI, BVR and SILC have collaborated on the Disability Summits held on various Native Nation lands. Margot asked if the SILC wished to again participate in this event. Consensus was that the SILC will collaborate on the Disability Summit at Sinte Geliska on April 29th. CHAPTER 2 IL OLDER BLIND: RSA 70B REPORT – Sandy shared some data from this report, and she indicated that it is available, if SILC members would like to receive it. She shared that in FY12 the program served a total of 503 people and in FY13 it served 458 individuals. In FY12 281 cases were closed successfully, and in FY13 258 were closed successfully. She reported that the #1 source of referrals was family/friends and the #2 source was medical professionals. She also reported that macular degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in South Dakota, and most of the individuals they serve through this program are living in their own homes. CONSUMER SATISFACTION SURVEY: Sandy handed out a summary of the results of their completed 2013 consumer satisfaction survey (see attached). The survey includes six questions and a place for comments, and she spoke to how this information is compiled and used in evaluation of provided services and future development of services.

Margot called for a break at this time. The meeting reconvened at approximately 10:30 a.m.

MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON PRESENTATION: Ann Schwartz with Medical Services with the Department of Social Services joined the meeting to provide this presentation. The presentation focused on: what is Money Follows the Person (MFP); SD MFP benchmarks; SD MFP Eligibility; SD MFP Services; SD MFP Demonstration Services; SD MFP Collaboration; Transition Coordinators; Transition Stages of SD MFP; Assessment Stage; Planning Stage; Moving Stage; At Home Stage; and Next Steps (For details, see attached.) MFP seeks to assist states to balance long-term care systems and help Medicaid enrollees transition from institutions to community. One eligibility criteria is that a person has been

residing in a nursing facility, ICF/ID or other qualifying institution for more than 90 consecutive days. Conversation included topics such as who might benefit from this project; how services will be rolled out; how many people are estimated to benefit from the project. Ann indicated that the project director, Sara Spisak, or she would be able to come back and share more once the project has been implemented. One SILC member's family member explained how they were grateful for the implementation of this project in SD, having seen how similar projects benefitted individuals in other states.

At this time, the meeting broke for lunch. The meeting reconvened at approximately 12:30 p.m.

SILC STAFF REPORT: FY14 YTD BUDGET REPORT – The budget report had been sent out prior to the meeting. Staff reported that there had been a few additional expenditures in SILC member travel and meeting expenses categories totaling between \$200 and \$300 since the time of the report being compiled. No questions were asked about the report. STRATEGIC PLANNING REQUESTS: The first two requests were sent out prior to the meeting. The third arrived late last week, so was handed out today. 2014 DARE TO DREAM CONFERENCE – The planning committee for this event submitted a request for \$2,000 in support of their event. Staff shared that the SILC has supported this conference in the past. **MOTION TO APPROVE \$2,000 IN SUPPORT OF THE 2014 DARE TO DREAM CONFERENCE – MSC.** ILC TRANSITION PROGRAM – ILC provides summer transition programming in various locations within their service territory. They submitted a request for \$1,000 in support of this programming. Staff shared that the SILC has not supported this in the past. **MOTION TO APPROVE \$1,000 IN SUPPORT OF ILC'S TRANSITION PROGRAMMING – MSC.** 2014 YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM – A request was received for financial support of \$2,000 for this year's Youth Leadership Forum scheduled for Aberdeen in June. Staff shared that the SILC has provided financial support of this event in the past. **MOTION TO APPROVE \$2,000 IN SUPPORT OF THE 2014 YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM – MSC.** 2014 CIL STAFF TRAINING – Staff shared that logistical arrangements have been made for the annual CIL staff training event. It is scheduled for April 1 – 3 at the AmericInn of Ft. Pierre. Staff indicated that they are struggling with what topics to focus on for the training, as they have received limited input from the CILS. A couple of topics that have been raised are hoarding and SHIINE. Other topics raised at this time were: interviewing skills, confidentiality and ethics, background on independent living, mandatory

reporting, sensitivity training and ILS core competencies. Staff will be working with SILC members and CILs to develop an agenda based on this input.

DIVISION OF REHABILITATION (DRS) REPORT: EDP/TAD PROGRAM FOLLOW-UP – Bernie Grimme handed out a sheet providing information on both of these programs. This additional information was provided as a follow-up to conversation at the last SILC meeting. Some additional questions were raised at this time i.e., why program revenue was down approximately \$500,000 from FY12 to FY13; what types of devices are being purchased; what are the cost of the devices; what is the number of people being served in SBVI (through TAD) in IL and VR; are these funds used to pay for broadband service. Bernie stated that if the SILC wanted additional information on the Link SD program, the Division could provide information and have the necessary staff present to discuss the program with adequate notice. RAMP REPORT – This report had been sent out prior to the meeting. Ronda spoke to an arrangement worked out with the National Guard to assist in transporting ramp components from the prison in Springfield to key locations served by the Native American Advocacy Project. The first delivery is scheduled for early March, and once the components are delivered, local volunteers will assemble the ramps where needed. These volunteers receive direction and oversight from trained carpenters and/or NAAP staff to ensure they are installed appropriately. 704 REPORT AND ANALYSIS – Ronda had provided this report for mailing prior to the meeting. She explained how the 704 report contains a multitude of information, and she tried to capture key components for the SILC to review. She also included some information on a five-year basis, in order to assist the SILC in identifying if any trends in services were appearing. No questions were raised at this time. 6-MONTH IL SERVICE AND CONSUMER SATISFACTION REPORTS – Bernie provided this report. He handed out a revised report from the one which had been mailed out. It reflects the four questions the SILC requested be added to CIL consumer satisfaction surveys, as well as comments received on the completed surveys (see attached). CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING QUARTERLY REPORT – Bernie reported that the workgroup has revised this report format based upon the new State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL). The workgroup is proposing that it would become the reporting document for directors in the new contract period, which begins in June. One CIL director suggested that items “1” and “2” on page 4 could be combined into one. (See attached for details.) No comments were received at this time. CIL REVIEWS – Bernie reported that he and Ronda have completed reviews at two CILs. They completed the review at ILC on December 16th and 17th, and they completed the review at WRDI on February 8th and 9th. They are

working on scheduling the review of NAAP. The focus of the reviews are: review for compliance with Sections 725 (a) and (c) of the Rehabilitation Act to assure the appropriate use of Part B funds; review of IL case files to assure quality of IL services being provided and individuals are eligible for IL services; review of IL services; reconcile consumer satisfaction survey information; and review and reconcile billings for equipment/other services paid last May. This activity falls under Objective 1.1 in the SPIL which addresses the DSU is to provide monitoring of CILs. BOARD OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION – Bernie reported that they last met on December 6th. The last meeting included a portion that was a joint meeting with the Board of SBVI and some joint board training. Their next meeting is set for March 31st and April 1st in Huron.

CIL REPORTS: NATIVE AMERICAN ADVOCACY PROJECT – Marla joined the meeting earlier. At this time she provided a document sharing some history of the project's efforts in meeting the IL needs of American Indians on the nine nations in South Dakota. She shared that they sold their old office location, and they are preparing to close on a new location. She spoke of the ongoing struggles they have faced at finding a way to effectively deliver IL services to the nine Nations. She also spoke of a recent decision by her board to approach the SPIL signatories with a revised plan for providing IL services. The new proposal would focus primary services on the Pine Ridge, Rosebud, Crow Creek, Lower Brule and Yankton Sioux Tribal Reservations; major service focus would be prioritize services for youth with disabilities; continue installing ramps; and intertwine some group activities. Prior to taking any definite action, NAAP will be speaking with tribal leaders of all the nations to seek their support to be able to continue serving all nine nations. At this time, they are seeking conversation with the SPIL signatories as to how they might proceed if support is not forthcoming from the Nations. DRS staff – Bernie – has been seeking guidance from RSA on this matter on questions such as: by what date would the revised SPIL need to be submitted to RSA; will this change require public meetings; what are the steps and timelines that NAAP need to implement with RSA to reduce or discontinue Part C funds; what are the steps and timelines that other CILS need to implement with RSA to request these Part C funds; can NAAP reduce their Part C funds and other CILs access the remaining Part C funds; can RSA assure SD will keep all of these Part C funds if NAAP reduced or eliminates their Part C funds. Responses from RSA have been slow and varied up to this point. Marla showed a recent video produced on NAAP, and she stressed how NAAP does not want to see funds lost to SD as a result of any action NAAP would take. Consensus was that DRS staff seek further technical assistance from RSA and

then the SPIL signatories need to consult on next steps they need to take in order to ensure IL services remain secure and effective statewide and to all people. Bernie recommended that whatever decision NAAP makes, it would be best to amend the SPIL to include language on how the Part C funds would be distributed in the event a Part C CIL discontinued services. Margot asked that Bernie contact her once he has had further contact with RSA. INDEPENDENT LIVING CHOICES – Matt had provided his report earlier, and it was sent out prior to the meeting. He hit a few highlights. No questions were asked at this time. Marla provided a copy of NAAP's report at the conclusion of the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: DISABILITY ADVOCACY NETWORK – Margot reported that the Network continues to meet via DDN bi-weekly. Its next meeting is this Thursday at 3 p.m. with sites in Sioux Falls, Watertown, Rapid City and Pierre.

CLOSING ACTIONS: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – No specific items were raised at this time. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING – After much back and forth, it was suggested that the SILC's next meeting be held on May 15th in Pierre/Ft. Pierre. Lodging arrangements will be made for members the night of the 14th. As soon as arrangements have been made, a note will go out to SILC members and CIL directors. ADJOURNMENT – Hearing no other business, **MOTION TO ADJOURN – MS.** Meeting adjourned at approximately 3 p.m.