



**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  
FAX: (605) 945-2422 TTY: (605) 945-2207

**DATE:** March 4, 2016  
**TO:** All Interested Parties  
**SUBJECT:** Seeking Board and Council Nominations  
**FROM:** Brett Glirbas, BVR Chairperson  
Eric Rippentrop, BSBVI Chairperson  
David Miller, SILC Chairperson

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

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 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 who left prior to their term ending. The attached page outlines specific needs of each board/council.

A position description and nomination form for each board/council is enclosed: BVR (Blue); BSBVI (Yellow); SILC (Green). Nominations are due **Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**.

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

## **Composition Requirements Needed to be Filled**

### **Board of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR)**

As of June 30, 2016 the Board will need representatives from the following categories:

- 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 Director or representative of an American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation grant program;
- o Business, industry and labor.

### **Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired (BSBVI)**

As of June 30, 2016 the Board will need representatives from the following categories:

- o Business, industry and labor;
- o Individuals who are blind or visually impaired; a majority of members must be individuals who are blind and not employed by the designated State Unit.

### **Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)**

As of June 30, 2016 the SILC will need representatives who:

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

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

**2016 BOARD OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (BVR)  
NOMINATION FORM**

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Disability: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Current/Former Consumer of Vocational Rehabilitation Services \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Biographical Sketch: \_\_\_\_\_

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Previous Board, Council or Community Advocacy Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

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Nominated By: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to duplicate this form  
**Please Return by Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**  
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 [colettew@sd-ccd.org](mailto:colettew@sd-ccd.org).

**BOARD OF  
SERVICE TO THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED (SBVI)  
2016 NOMINATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Disability (Blind or Visually Impaired): \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Current/Former Consumer of SBVI Services: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Is the nominee aware their name is being submitted? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Biographical Sketch: \_\_\_\_\_

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Board, Council or Advocacy Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

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Nominated By: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach nominee's resume' if available.

Feel free to duplicate this form

**Please Return by Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**

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:**

A SBVI 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)**

**2016 STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)  
NOMINATION FORM**

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Disability: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Biographical Sketch: \_\_\_\_\_

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Previous Board, Council or Community Advocacy Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

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Nominated By: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to duplicate this form  
**Please Return by Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**  
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 and 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 support systems which permit persons with disabilities to determine, achieve and maintain independence, productivity and integration into 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 within the state.
- 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 independent living.

### 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](mailto:shellyp@sd-ccd.org)