**Executive Committee Meeting**

January 23, 2025

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Action Items:

* Ms. Hess will communicate to SILC Legislative Specialist Allison Viramontes-Nhan that members would like the SB84 ADA Notification Bill to be considered for the SILC Legislative Watch List
* SILC Staff will share written DOR updates with SILC members.
* DOR will work to improve communication about position changes within DOR with the Independent Living Centers.

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions

Ligia Andrade Zuniga – SILC Chair/Executive Director, Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities (CID)

Anisa Escobedo – SILC Vice-Chair/ CID Program Manager

Roque Alas Bucton – C and C Chair

Shannon Coe – Governance Vice-Chair

Tink Miller – State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) Chair

Lisa Hayes - C and C Chair/Executive Director, Rolling Start Inc.

Susan Rotchy – SILC Member/SPIL Member/Executive Director, Independent Living Center of Solano and Contra Costa County (ILCSCC)

Shapree Butler – Independent Living, Assistive Technology, and Traumatic Brain Injury Section (ILATS) Manager, Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)

Regina Cademarti – Chief, Independent Living, Assistive Technology, and Traumatic Brain Injury Section (ILATS), Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)

Carrie England – SILC Executive Director

Danielle Hess – SILC Office Manager

1. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

1. SILC Member Updates

Ms. Escobedo shared that Tri-County Independent Living, Inc. (TCIL) is looking to hire a new Systems Change Advocate. Please send anyone who may be interested to Executive Director Eddie Morgan.

Ms. Miller acknowledged Ed Roberts Day.

1. Approval of the Draft Minutes from October 24, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting

Ms. Miller motioned for approval of Draft Minutes from October 24, 2024, and Mr. Alas Bucton seconded the motion. This passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

1. SILC Operations Updates (Discussion and Possible Action)
   1. Executive Director Updates

Ms. England shared that the SILC Staff are still working toward moving out of the SILC office by disposing of outdated documents and furniture that isn’t needed.

She will be presenting to the Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP) about the roles of the SILC and the Independent Living Network and how they can work within that network, as well as four presentations at the SILC Congress in March. At the April SILC Meeting, she will give an updated version of her presentation on IL Network roles to reflect the updated Systems Change contractor.

Ms. England, Ms. Miller, and Mr. Solorzano worked to connect the Nevada Council on Developmental Disabilities with Southern California Resource Services for Independent Living (SCRS) and Disability Community Resource Center (DCRC) to donate hygiene packs to those affected by the fires in Southern California.

Ms. England will conduct an informal poll with members to determine what kinds of training they are interested in. She will also examine member affiliations and work with the Governor’s Appointments Office to ensure that all members are serving terms they are eligible for.

There has been significant turnover in the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) partner staff, so when the new staff are on board SILC will make a presentation to them about the role of the Designated State Entity (DSE) in the SPIL and the IL Network.

Ms. Escobedo asked about availability for members to attend the SILC Congress, and Ms. England shared that there is only funding available for staff to attend this year, but she does hope that the SILC will be able to provide funding to attend the National Conference on Independent Living (NCIL) in July 2025.

* 1. Monthly Budget Report

Ms. Hess reviewed the budget report and shared that the SILC plans to come in within budget, but close enough that spending should be limited to necessary items.

1. Working Committee Updates (Discussion and Possible Action)
   1. Communication and Collaboration
      1. Legislative Updates and Upcoming Legislative Visits

Ms. England shared that staff are tracking bills as they are introduced, and if they have to do with the SPIL, they may go on the Legislative Watch List. Ms. Viramontes-Nhan is planning Legislative Visits for members in person on April 3, and virtually at the end of April.

Both Ms. Hayes and Ms. Miller asked that the SB84 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Notification Bill be considered for inclusion on the watch list.

* + 1. Other Committee Updates

The January SPIL meeting was canceled to allow those affected by fires in Southern California to focus on that. There were some questions about how the variety of Presidential Executive Orders will affect Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives in California. At this time, it is extremely uncertain what the effect will be, but staff will report if there is any effect on the SPIL.

* 1. Governance
     1. Policy and Procedures Updates

The Governance Committee met in January and discussed ongoing updates to the Policies and Procedures Manual having to do with IT and Purchasing policy changes. This should be completed for the April Governance Meeting.

* + 1. Mentors' Breakfast Activity

Governance members decided to hold a Mentor’s Lunch on day one of the April SILC meeting.

* 1. SPIL
     1. 2025-2027 SPIL Updates
        1. CFILC Presentation

This has been delayed because the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) Executive Director is out on medical leave. They will be reporting on how CFILC will be supporting SPIL goals in the future.

The SPIL Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, January 27 has been canceled to allow those affected by the Southern California fires to focus on their response to those and supporting their communities. The February meeting is also canceled in favor of the President’s Day Holiday, making the next meeting on March 17.

* + 1. DOR Updates (Discussion and Possible Action)
       1. Transition and Diversion Information

Because invoiced amounts always come up short of the encumbered amount, there has been $254,895 encumbered out of the $238,943 authorized for this grant. There are 21 grants for this fund executed, with 67 standard diversions, one youth diversion, and one youth transition. Requests are now going on a waitlist if additional funds become available.

* + - 1. Systems Change Information

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) was awarded an extension through January 31, 2025, to allow for continuity of service during the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, for a total of $116,667. The remainder of the Federal Fiscal Year, through September 30, 2025, has been awarded to the Marin Center for Independent Living (MCIL) for a total of $233,333. They will also cover the two remaining years of the SPIL, with the option for two one-year extensions at DOR’s approval.

* + - 1. Tier Augmentation Information

Six grants, with amounts ranging from $43,000 to $291,000, have been awarded to Community Resources for Independent Living, Inc. (CRIL), Disabled Resource Center, Inc. (DRC), FREED Center for Independent Living, Marin Center for Independent Living (MCIL), Service Center for Independent Life (SCIL), and Tri-County Independent Living, Inc. (TCIL). First quarter reports are due February 15, 2025.

* + - 1. Other DOR IL Program Updates

It is expected that there will be a small amount of funds available from the previous year to allocate toward current SPIL projects. The final amount will be available for review upon confirmation from DOR. The deadline for the Program Performance Report (PPR) has been extended to March 31, 2025.

Susan Neely, the new IL Grant Administrator, started on January 3, 2025. Regina Cademarti, Chief of the Independent Living and Assistive Technology Sections (ILATS), has accepted a new position within the DOR Audits section, and her last day will be January 30. She will be available to assist with closing out the Community Living Fund and writing the final report. SILC members shared their appreciation for all of Regina’s hard work with the Independent Living network over the last few years. Ms. Escobedo asked about the Deputy Director of Independent Living position, and Ms. Cademarti shared that it is currently being overseen by Jake Johnson, DOR’s Chief Information Officer. Chief Deputy Director Victor Duron is acting as the Department Director, and Kim Rutledge, Deputy Director of Legislation and Communication is acting as Chief Deputy Director.

Ms. Miller and Ms. Hayes raised concerns about the lack of communication with the ILCs about staff transitions within DOR. There is discomfort about losing some champions for the Independent Living Section at DOR within such a short period. Ms. Cademarti stated that they will share these changes with the Independent Living Centers.

8. Future Council Meetings (Discussion and Possible Action)

* 1. April 1-2, 2025 (Sacramento)

After Ms. Hess presented options for the April 1 and 2 SILC meeting, Ms. Coe recommended meeting at DOR because of the additional space and the proximity to the Capitol for the Legislative Visits. There was a consensus that this was the correct choice, and Ms. Hess will move forward with planning.

* 1. August 26-27, 2025 (Anaheim)

Ms. Hess will work on planning this once all plans for the April Meeting have been completed.

* 1. December 9-10, 2025 (Virtual)

9. Summary of Activities Requiring Follow-Up at Next Meeting

1. Next Meeting February 27, 2025

10. Adjourn