



SILC CONGRESS 2009 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

January 4 - 6, 2009 in Summerlin (Las Vegas), Nevada

THE STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC) CONGRESS Executive Committee announces its 2009 Call for Proposals.

SILC Congress is the premier conference for SILC council members, staff and partners. Conference attendees also come from other public and private organizations, including CIL staff and council members, DSUs, independent living administrators, business and industry personnel.

Individuals have the opportunity to participate as presenters as well as attendees. Presenting at the conference provides the opportunity to dispense and reinvest valuable knowledge and experiences.

The quality of these presentations and the professionalism of the presenters are two of the main reasons that the SILC Congress has become the unparalleled event of its type; where participants are provided varied and valuable opportunities to network collaborate and support their missions.

2009 Conference Theme: CONNECTIONS

Presentations should be consistent with the interests of the national network of Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs) and will provide participants with effective techniques to develop the skills necessary to compete successfully and survive in the current environment. Ideally, program proposals should incorporate practical and useful answers to questions like: "How can I (Fill in the blank)?"

We particularly seek presentations that focus on innovations/expansion/implementation of:

SILC to SILC mentorship
Developing positive working relationships
Aging Issues
Disability Policy Changes

Business Practices
Ethics
Consumer Control
Consumer Satisfaction

Multicultural Diversity
Measurement Tools/Data
Media Relationships
SILCs Untapped Resource--Volunteers

SILC to SRC relationships
Funding

All sessions must directly relate to SILC operations and provide action steps that participants can readily incorporate into their state's IL plans.

The goals of the 2009 SILC Congress are:

1. Orientation for new SILC participants in pre-conference sessions
2. Developing Measurement Tools for SILC Outcomes
3. Fundamentals of IL Collaboration & Mentoring

Selecting the Presentation Title – Each breakout session will provide up to four concurrently scheduled presentations, which will compete against each other for attendees.

When crafting the title and narrative description we recommend use of appropriate marketing tools to attract attendees. A description of the presentation must be accurately stated in order to facilitate an informed choice by the attendees.

When completing the Description of Presentation and Presentation Objective, carefully choose words to accurately reflect the actual planned content, activities, and objectives. These sections should be worded clearly so that the program committee can understand the content to be presented, the audience to whom the content is directed, as well as the knowledge and skills being presented.

Deadlines:

- + Proposals must be submitted by **August 15, 2008**. The executive committee of SILC Congress will carefully review all proposals. Please complete the attached presentation outline and forward to the email address below. If you have questions, please contact the Conference Coordinator, Andrea Higgins, via email at higginsal@yahoo.com.
- + Preliminary program selection will be completed by **August 31, 2008**. Presentation confirmations will be e-mailed to selected presenters. The conference will also notify individuals whose presentations were not selected. Proposals will not be returned.
- + Presenters receiving preliminary confirmation must submit the text of handouts and overheads in a Microsoft Word file to Andrea Higgins at higginsal@yahoo.com by **November 01, 2008**. Failure to comply with this deadline will result in withdrawal of acceptance to present. Presenters will receive their final confirmation upon receipt of hand-out materials.

- + Deadline for additional audio-visual requests is **December 19, 2008**. See additional information below.

Due to the growing number of participants at the SILC Congress, we can no longer offer a maximum attendee cut-off at individual presentations. In addition room can only arranged theatre style. We ask that you keep this information in mind when submitting your proposal.

Audio-Visual Aids and Room Setup:

Presenters intending to use PowerPoint should provide their own projection equipment and laptops.

- + SILC Congress will provide two microphones for each workshop.
- + Screens and flip charts will be provided only upon request.
- + Other audio visual equipment is available **at the presenter's expense**.
- + Prospective presenters will be contacted to verify equipment needs, date, time of availability, and other details
- + Upon written request a price list of audio visual equipment will be sent to presenters whose submissions are accepted.

Duration: Workshop sessions run for one hour and fifteen minutes. If your presentation is longer, you must apply for a series of workshops.

Important Information for Presenters:

1. PRESENTERS AND FACILITATORS ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION FEES. PRESENTERS MUST REGISTER AND PAY FOR ALL DAYS THEY PLAN TO ATTEND.

AN EXCEPTION IS MADE FOR PRESENTERS THAT ONLY ATTEND THEIR PRESENTATION AND NO OTHER EVENTS. THESE INDIVIDUALS DO NOT NEED TO PAY THE \$125 SINGLE-DAY FEE.

2. SILC CONGRESS IS UNABLE TO PAY TRAVEL EXPENSES OR HONORARIA TO ANY PRESENTER.
3. EVALUATIONS FROM PREVIOUS CONGRESSES HAVE INDICATED THAT MANY OF THE ATTENDEES WERE DISAPPOINTED AT THE LACK OF HANDOUTS IN MANY OF THE WORKSHOP SESSIONS.

THEREFORE WE NOW REQUIRE THAT PRESENTER(S) PROVIDE AT LEASE ONE HANDOUT. ALL HANDOUTS MUST BE AVAILABLE IN ACCESSIBLE FORMATS. ACCESSIBLE FORMATS INCLUDE: BRAILLE, LARGE PRINT (18 pt bold), AUDIO TAPE AND ELECTRONIC (CD, Thumb Drive).

Your signature below indicates your understanding of all that has been presented above and certifies that you are the contact person for the session title you have proposed.

Signature

Date

**2009
CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS
THEME: CONNECTIONS**

Please Type or Print

Name	Work Phone: Cell Phone:
Company	E-mail:
Title:	Fax:
Address:	City State Zip:
Co-Presenter's Name: (if more than one speaker, complete a form for each one)	Work Phone: Cell Phone:
Company	E-mail:
Title:	Fax:
Address:	City: State Zip:

Title of Presentation:

Description of Presentation: Limit to 50 words. (Title and text may be edited to accommodate the program)

Presentation Objectives (required):

1. **Audio-visual equipment requested:** no _____ yes _____

Specify: VCR & Monitor _____ Flipchart _____

Overhead Projector _____ Other (specify): _____

LCD Projectors/Laptops need to be provided by the presenter.

2. Have you previously presented at the SILC Congress or another major conference? Yes ___ No ___

3. If yes, please indicate when, which event and title of presentation: _____

4. Meeting handouts will be distributed: Yes ___ No ___

I understand as a condition of receiving my final confirmation as a presenter that I must submit of all handout materials by November 1, 2008 to Higginsal@yahoo.com.

Signature and Date