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Strengthening Relationships Among CILs and the SILC: Building and Maintaining Statewide Partnership

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Presenter:

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Objectives for this webinar

- Describe statutory requirements related to developing working relationships between SILC and the CILs
- Identify avenues for teamwork with CILs for planning and developing your next SPIL
- Describe some examples of best practices for SILC-CIL partnering

Statutory Requirements

- Title VII. Sec. 701. PURPOSE.

“The purpose of this chapter is to promote a philosophy of independent living, including a philosophy of consumer control, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, and individual and system advocacy, in order to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence, and productivity of individuals with disabilities, and the integration and full inclusion of individuals with disabilities into the mainstream of American society, by” –

Statutory Requirements, cont'd.

- (1) providing financial assistance to States for providing, expanding, and improving the provision of IL services;
- (2) providing financial assistance to develop and support statewide networks of CILs; and
- (3) providing financial assistance to States for improving working relationships among State independent living rehabilitation service programs, CILs, SILCs, State VR programs, State supported employment services, other programs under the Rehab Act, under other Federal law, and programs funded by non-federal sources.

Statutory Requirements, cont'd. 2

Sec. 701A. ADMINISTRATION OF THE INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM.

- Establishment of the Independent Living Administration within the Administration for Community Living in DHHS
- ILA Director to be a person with substantial knowledge of IL services
- Establishing ILA as the “principal agency” and the ILA Director as the “principal officer” to carry out Chapter 1 of Title VII of the Rehab Act (under WIOA)

Statutory Requirements, cont'd. 3

- Inclusion of CILs in Makeup of the SILC
 - 1 Director of a CIL chosen by the CILs within the State
 - At least 1 Director of a CIL run by American Indian Tribes, if such CILs exist in the State
 - Other representatives from CILs
 - Individuals who are knowledgeable about CILs and IL services

Maintaining the Majority

- SILC a majority of individuals with disabilities not employed by a CIL or a State Agency—in both the voting membership and the total membership of the SILC
- Ways to maintain that majority:
 - Always look for people with disabilities first
 - Voting Membership
 - CIL Board members
 - CIL Consumers
 - Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Membership
 - Try to recruit agency staff with disabilities for these roles when you can

A New Partnership

- While a CIL/SILC partnership should already exist – WIOA creates a new partnership:
 - SILC & CILs are now partners in the development of the SPIL
 - SILC & CILs are now the IL Network in your state
 - New responsibilities are opportunities:
 - Bring true consumer control to the IL Program
 - Teamwork to build the IL Network
 - Strengthen the Partnership

The SILC/CILs Partnership

- Statutory Roles:
 - Joint development of the SPIL by SILC & CILs
 - Selection of Designated State Entity (DSE)
 - Signing of the SPIL
 - SILC Chairperson
 - At least 51% of the CIL directors in the State
 - Director of the DSE

The SILC/CILs Partnership, cont'd.

- Statutory Roles (continued)
 - Description of statewide network of CILs
 - Establishment and support of statewide network of CILs
 - Cooperation, Coordination, and Working Relationships
 - With DSE
 - With others that address the needs & issues of people with disabilities

The SILC/CILs Partnership, cont'd. 2

- Activities with the goal of “improving the independence of individuals with disabilities”
 - Working relationships and collaboration with other entities providing services for individuals with disabilities
 - Bringing CILs to the table
 - Bringing the SILC to the table
 - Joint strategies for the IL Network (CILs & SILC)

QUESTIONS???

How is the IL Climate in Your State?

- CILs not active on the SILC?
- SILC does not include CILs in SPIL Development?
- CILs & SILC do not respect each other?
- SILC believes they should “monitor” CILs?
- Lack of communication between CILs & SILC?
- SILC & CILs fighting over funding & control?

Develop the Partnership!

- See each other as equal partners in the IL Network
- Learn to work together
- Establish & work toward common goals
- It's the "Vision Thing"!

Establishing a Joint Vision for IL in Your State

- Take time for CILs & the SILC to work together on:
 - A facilitated visioning process
 - Development of a “vision” for IL in your state
 - Development of a vision and strategic plan for the IL Network (CILs & SILC)
- In your Vision and Strategic Plan:
 - Identify the roles of the partners
 - Establish regular communications & share information

A Facilitated Strategic Planning Process

- Achieve the Vision
 - What you want to accomplish
 - How long it will take
 - Details of how to get there
- Support growth & development of IL Network
 - Statewide Network of CILs
 - SILC
- Direct the work of the CILs & SILC
 - Developing the partnership
 - Fulfilling statutory requirements
 - Toward achieving the vision

Is a Facilitator Necessary?

- An outside facilitator really helps:
 - To provide expertise in directing the strategic planning process
 - To allow all SILC members, staff & stakeholders to participate fully
 - To provide impartial direction through the process & to mediate stressful discussions

Building Your Partnership

- The Role of the Partnership
 - Strengthen the IL Network
 - Develop the SPIL
 - Improve the lives of individuals with disabilities
- The Vision is your Guide
 - Let the Vision guide your partnership
 - Let the Vision guide your planning & decision-making
- Work on how we:
 - Interact with each other
 - Listen to each other
 - Include each other

Building Your Partnership, cont'd.

- Share opportunities
- Help & support each other
- Be seen as partners by:
 - DSE
 - Other State agencies
 - Others in the disability community
- **BE** the IL Network in your State

Your Vision is Your “Touchstone”

- Let your Vision guide:
 - Partnership & decisions
 - Design for the statewide network of CILs
 - Focus of the SPIL
 - SILC Activities
 - CIL Activities
 - Decisions & activities outside the SPIL

The Relationship

- Partnership
 - Focus on our Vision
- SILC supporting CILs & the IL Network
 - Funding for CILs
 - Bringing CILs to the table in State initiatives
 - Serving as a “link” to the CILs
 - Don’t police & monitor CILs – THAT IS NOT YOUR ROLE!
- CILs supporting SILC & the IL Network
 - Recruit good candidates for appointment to SILC
 - Serve as a compass to the SILC
 - Use the SPIL as a “road map” for a strong IL Network

Resolving Differences

- What to do when the SILC and CILs do not get along?
- What to do when the CILs do not get along?
- Develop an agreed upon process:
 - Identify areas of agreement
 - Identify common goals
 - Allow for negotiation and give & take on how to accomplish goals
 - Have a facilitator to mediate the discussion and reach resolution
- **COMMUNICATE** and keep your eye on the **VISION!**

Funding

- Funding is a common source of conflict
- We have complained that the DSU exerted too much control because they held the funds
- New SILC/CIL partnership in developing the SPIL:
 - Gives us control of the funding
 - Creates opportunities for new and creative initiatives
 - Creates potential hazards and conflict over the funding – who gets how much and for what
- Let the Vision guide funding decisions!

Funding, cont'd.

- Part B funding:
 - Uses determined by the SPIL
 - 30% max for SILC Resource Plan unless SPIL designates more
- Other funds for IL:
 - I&E funds for SILC
 - Social Security Reimbursement funds for IL Services/CILs
 - State Funds
- Resource Development
 - Requirement for CILs – Sec. 725. (b)(7)
 - New Authority for SILCs – Sec. 705. (c)(2)(B)
 - Public & Private funds for the IL Network

Maximizing funds

- For SILC Resource Plan
 - Sources AND amounts of funds
- For Network of CILs
 - To support existing CILs
 - Minimum funding level for existing CILs
 - To establish new CILs
 - Minimum funding level to start a new CIL
- For Un/Underserved areas or populations
- *Use of Part B funds must be outlined in SPIL*

Advocacy

- A requirement for CILs – Sec. 725. (b)(4), (5), & (6)
 - (5) provide the core IL services (which includes advocacy)
 - (4) work to increase the availability and quality of community options
 - (6) conduct activities to increase community capacity to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities
- A new authority for SILCs – Sec. 705 (c)(C)
 - “perform such other functions, consistent with the purpose of this chapter and comparable to other functions described in this subsection, as the Council determines to be appropriate.”

Advocacy, cont'd.

- Working as partners to achieve the Purpose:
 - Promote the IL philosophy
 - Improve the independence of individuals with disabilities
 - Maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence, and productivity of individuals with disabilities
 - Ensure full inclusion of individuals with disabilities into the mainstream of American society
 - Systems advocacy*

*Lobbying vs. Advocacy –

<http://www.irs.gov/Charities-&-Non-Profits/Lobbying>

SILC Limitation

- The SILC shall not provide IL services directly to individuals with disabilities or manage such services
 - Not a SILC role (this a CIL role)
 - Avoids conflicting interests between the SILC and CILs

QUESTIONS???

Things That Have Been Done in the Past

- SPIL public forums held at CILs
- CIL directors, staff, board, consumers serve on SILC
- Collaboration on:
 - Consumer Satisfaction Survey
 - Statewide Needs Assessment
- CIL presentations at SILC meetings
- SILC meetings held at CILs

West Virginia Examples

- Consumer Satisfaction Survey conducted by SILC in partnership with CILs and DSU
- Disability Policy Summit
- Educating Governor about need for additional CILs and funding to establish

Opportunities for the Future

- Choose a DSE that “gets” IL and will support the IL Network
- Use the SPIL development process to strengthen the partnership
 - What the SILC can do to help the CILs?
 - How can the CILs strengthen the SILC?
- Work together to coordinate services for individuals with disabilities with others
- Coordinating Resource Development to maximize efforts

Opportunities for the Future, cont'd.

- Use the partnership to strengthen the IL Network
- Coordinate all CIL & SILC activities with strategies to achieve the Vision for the IL Network in your state
- Use the Vision to guide IL into the future!

QUESTIONS???

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Evaluation

Please click the link below to complete an evaluation of this program:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2194473/SILC-NET-Webinar-Evaluation-Strengthening-Relationships-Among-CILs-and-the-SILC-July-9-2015>

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