ACL Quarterly Connection

Presented by ACL

February 24, 2021

Good afternoon and welcome, this is Carol Eubanks at ILRU. This webinar is being recorded and the transcript will be available at air later date. Today you'll have an opportunity to ask questions during the webinar and we have a number of ways to do this. First of all in the Zoom platform, one of the menu options is Q&A. You can click there to submit questions any time during the presentation and will be addressed directly or at the end of the presentation. There is captioning available, you can view the captions-- by collecting the CC tab. You can make that box larger by click being the arrow in the top right-hand corner: if you prefer a larger tonight, I recommend you check the screen captioning in the URL on the webinar screen. If you are on the full screen captioning today, there's a CHAT option there. We will be logged into the CHAT and you can ask your questions there as well. I'd like to turn the-- ad the administration for the US department of health and US services. Welcome, Sean.

>> Thank you very much. Glad to be here.

>> Welcome to the February Quarterly Connection call. My name is Sean Barrett and I am your team lead from-- I'm stepping in for Corinna our Director who is out of the office for the week.

On the agenda -- [Off Mic] reviewing success stories, discussing vaccine issues and begin the Q&A period.

Before I do that I want to describe to everybody two things on this call. As we discussed before, we all know at some point in the future there will be a review or discussion about CIL CARES Act. We want people who read the report and know these funds were well spent. We want this because it reflected well on our program because there will be another historic event, what, when, nobody knows. And we want it to be known that we were in a good place during this.

One of the next steps is to create the next steps of FAQ which hopefully you have seen and read to date. Note that this next version of the FAQ will be an enhancement, nothing will be changed and current efforts should not be halted.

It will include a stronger focus on where we are now in terms of ways to spend CARES Act funds and information on responding to needs of consumers and efforts to be vaccinated. Lessons we learn in this call will be reviewed.

You're going to hear from me more later. For now I'm going to turn this over to-- we'll go ahead and turn this over to Alison Barkoff our Acting Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging who is joining us.

Hello, Alison.

>> Alison Barkoff: Great. The can you hear me okay? I've been something technology issues today.

>> I can hear you.

>> Okay, great. I really appreciate the opportunity to introduce myself and just share a little bit about my background. Some of the priorities as we're starting at ACL and start on administration priorities. I've had a chance to work with many folks from the Independent Living movement and many Centers for Independent Living and states centers. I wanted to share a little bit about my background. I've been a lifelong disability advocate. I-- my first connection with the disability community started over 40 years ago when a brother was born with intellectual disability at the time where people with disabilities were you put in institutional settings there was no thing as community based services, before the Americans with Disabilities Act. And I really, you know, got inculcated quite early in my life to a movement that was focused on creating and expanding opportunities for people with disabilities to be full and valued members of their community.

And really seeing disability rights through a Civil Rights lens. In my career, I have-- I really have worked in disability rights and Civil Rights and we have partnered both while I've been in the Federal Government as well as in the nonprofit world. I'm working only a whole range of community living and disability rights issues. My last stint in Federal Government I was in the Department of Justice where I was brought in to build the first practice that had they listed at DOJ around enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act integration mandate and the Supreme Court's -- and work with the Independent Living, and National Council on Independent Living last four years worked side-by-side as we worked with policies to protect and extend access to community support and health care and really look through an intersectional lens on so many issues like COVID and issues that impacted ought disability community. As I came into ACL, I have deep appreciation of ACL's programs and networks and that includes the Independent Living Administration and the networks that are funded through ILA.

And I really look forward to working with the entire team. I'm excited to be collaborating with Reyma and Jennifer and Reyma and others.

My experience being inside the government and on the outside is how crucial stakeholder engagement is. In ACL one of our most important roles in addition to administering our programs is the fact that we have the role of representing the disability community and disability policies to both the secretary and really across the entire Federal Government. The and we cannot do that if we are regularly and consistently engaging with our stakeholders like you, hearing what your priorities are and concerns are.

The second piece I think is really important, that already ACL is doing but I'm looking to build this at the leadership level is around inter-agency collaboration. As all of you know on the grounds, you know, there's no one agency, no one department that owns community living. Community living has to deal with everything from access to services, housing, to transportation, to employment, to inclusive education, and we can't do that alone. We really need to be at the table and we already are in working with our partners at the centers for Medicare and Medicaid services, housing and urban development, feel a the department of labor. And that's a commitment that we have from the top at ACL.

And then the last thing in terms of commitments that I'd like to bring and focus in ACL, I had the privilege to be part of the Obama administration when ACL was created. And the real brilliance was bringing together the aging and the disability networks and the cross disability work. I know the IL network joined two years later in 2014 with-- but ACL really is the place that looks across the lifespan on community living.

We have incredible networks and incredible programs on both the disability and aging sides. And I know, Reyma and I and the leadership of the Administration on Aging, are really committed to looking for opportunities to collaborate and have our work together identify synergies and really align our programs as much as possible.

I want to pivot really quickly to touch on a couple of administration priorities. And then I'm going to turn it over to Reyma to introduce herself and share some of her perspectives.

The first thing really from the top from the moment that I arrived here on January 20th is, you know, really moving forward the work that ACL has been leading on COVID.

We know how much work the networks are already doing and important role that we play with all of you is supporting the work that you are doing. In terms of large COVID policy, I was really pleased in some of the first days of the administration that President Biden put out a detailed national COVID strategy and a set of executive orders. And you will see the unique needs and barriers and issues that people with disabilities across our community face are really recognized in there. And HHS has been charged with really implementing some of the imperatives in that plan. Everything from ensuring that people with disabilities have access to the vaccine that we're addressing barriers, that we are thinking about everything from testing and PPE to our unique workforce which includes both formal and informal caregivers and a whole range of different workers to how are we going to think about the recovery from COVID and what we need to do to strengthen our community based system. ACL has decided that we are going to put as a top priority and put our resources into being literally at every table within HHS where these initiatives are being implemented because of the unique perspective of the disability community needs to be there.

The second place I want to highlight is that we have really, when I think of as an unprecedented opportunity to think about the homing community base systems through the priorities that President Biden has put out as part of economic recovery and particularly the caregiver infrastructure plan. That's really recognizing the fact that, if we aren't thinking about all the different ways that people with disabilities right now are not getting the supports that they need through the formal, long-term services and support system and also the ways that we have a whole set of informal supports around, if we don't strengthen the systems and don't think about that through a equity lens, we are unable to think about the workforce that provides these really critical supports, then we're not going to be able to build a just economic recovery. And I think this is going to be an important place where we're going to be wanting input from you how we can make sure the important work that you're doing is included as the administration is moving forward with that priority.

And then the last one I want to touch on, and the perfect lead into Reyma and some of her expertise, is a real centering of equity. And racial justice really as the centerpiece of that equity. But of course, people with disabilities cross every identity, every race, and ethnicity. And really what I hope ACL can do is with that intersectional lens, look not only at ourselves as an agency, but look at our programs, networks, and really how to build equity into everything we do. There are some obvious places to start which are equity work -- with our COVID priorities and our work there and making sure we bring equity into that work. But we're really trying take a step back and build this into everything we do. It's another place where we're going to want to partner with you. On the equity front, I'm pleased and thrilled that Reyma has joined as a colleague. She is a nationally known expert on the intersection of disability and racial justice and an incredible leader as we push forward on thinking about equity. With that I'm going to turn it over to Reyma to introduce herself and give background and a little bit of her priorities as she's coming into this position.

>> Thank you, Alison. This is Reyma talking. Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Reyma McCoy-McDeid. My pronounces are she and her. I'll give a description of myself. I'm a light complected black person, woman, early 40s, long, brown, curly hair. I'm wearing brown glasses and sited in a white room with a bookshelf behind me.

It's a real privilege to introduce myself to you or perhaps reintroduce my several. Today I began week five as commissioner on administration on disabilities. As someone who has never worked in government before, it's been a whirlwind of learning opportunities for me. but please don't let my new negligence as a governmental fool you because I have nearly 20 years of experience in working on the ground with regard to the disability community.

And a whole bunch of different capacities including obviously as my previous role, most previous role as Executive Director for Iowa Center for Independent Living where I was in tenure for six years and had the opportunity along with the dedicated and amazing team transform that particular CIL which was actually in danger of closing its doors into a award winning organization that has really single handedly shifted what self-and systems advocacy in the state of Iowa looks like.

You perhaps heard about our inclusive and accessible caucus that we coordinated last year which also included an additional and separate ASL caucus which was the first of its kind in the United States. And really further solidified the disability community in Iowa as far as our place in the political process.

Additionally, we did a lot of CIL currently is doing a lot of work with regard to its CARES Act funding. Since we're talking CARES Act today I want to dive into that a little bit.

We in partnership with our local food pantry created a home delivery food pantry for individuals who are not physically able to go to their food pantry cause of self quarantine concerns. Last year we also created a nonpartisan voter mobilization campaign that was targeted to people with disabilities in central Iowa. We did and will do PPE and hygiene supply drives in partnership with Lowes we conducted a window air conditioning distribution program for our consumers who are not able to access cooling centers last summer because of self-quarantine concerns. And then last but certainly not least, we've-- CIL is providing transition and diversion services specific to the pandemic, braiding in had no wrong door funding with our CARES Act funding to further create that program.

As Alison mentioned, I've done a lot of work with regards to disability diversity and intersectionality on behalf CIL where I served as a Treasurer and Co-Chair of the anti-racism and equity task force. Also in tandem with ILRU to support CILs and SILC and other organization a adjacent end to the Independent Living spaces to identify how systems can create gaps in the-- to marginalized disabled people. Prior to my role at discriminate I was administrator and saw day-to-day operations of that department that worked exclusively with job seekers who are members of the I/DD community. Some of you might know I had the first openly autistic person to run for state legislature in US history. And although my candidacy did not result in a win, it did result in spearheading lots of conversations with regards to the role of disabled, actually disabled people in the political process in our country including running for office.

That said, you know, everything that I've been able or had the privilege to achieve as far as my career's concerned has been informed by two things. My own experience as a consumer of services and supports, but also the observations of my own disabled parents, one who like me is autistic. And the other who died in a congregate setting at the age of 44. That grounding has formed a question in my mind that I pose every place I have the opportunity to do so with regards to being an employee, a board member or stakeholder.

What does a US that is so integrated and so inclusive that it no longer has need for organizations like the ones that we work in look like. What does a society that is so on top of things as far as inclusion and intersectionality to the point of where organizations like Centers for Independent Living are no longer necessary look like? I don't necessarily know the answer to that. I don't know if anybody does. But I can almost guarantee that a generation before we reach that point, all services and supports will be led by disabled people. You know, my six years in Independent Living has shown me that.

And you know, keeping in mind, however, we still have work to do. And we notes of us who guy as members disability community need to come to terms and seize the opportunity to address the fact that we have work to do to become inclusive in our spaces ourselves. That is a major reason why I was so honored to be initially recommended for this particular position-- as they pertain to disability and ratio justice and how those two things intersect.

And you know, as I began to breach these conversations and quarter connection and other similar type of events in the capacity of my role as commissioner, the opportunity presents itself to further develop on the efforts on the administration of disability to collaborate throughout its portfolio of programs so inclusive of the programs that extend beyond Independent Living including the agencies and other components that are underneath the AOD umbrella and encourage grantees throughout the US to do the same in this your respective states.

If there are silos between the CILs and the U said and the PNAs in your respective states, I'm hoping that what we do here at the federal level will inspire conversation around how can we collaborate at the state level? And as we do this, be mindful of the fact that opportunities to invest time and intention and ensuring that stakeholders really understand that the programs including Independent Living within the ARD portfolio are more often than not, lifespan programs for disabled people of all ages including older disabled people that includes people who age into disability, who encounter disability as a result of aging and disabled people who age into aging.

We've seen and heard Alison speak eloquently with the White House's efforts to be inclusive of our communities during the five past weeks. You see ASL interpretation at the televised communications, specific mentions of the disability community in relations to the administration's priority, COVID-19, racial equity, climate change, the inclusion of people known to our community on the COVID-19 response task force, and the unprecedented commitment to recruiting qualified disabled applicants to political appointments. We know this administration as well as society at large serge has a long ways to go. But let's work together as ACL and grantees to make sure this administration and our society works for us, all of us, of course. As we say in Independent Living, nothing about us without us.

And you know, I would be remiss if I didn't take an opportunity during my introduction to thank the entities that work tirelessly to support and strengthen the IL network. So April, ILRU, NA SILC and NCIL. I want to specifically offer a shout out to Kelly Buckland who recently announced his retirement from NCIL. Kelly's presence and passion and partner sift ensuring are unparalleled. And I thank everybody that's with us this afternoon. We've got an unprecedented number of folks with us this afternoon. So without further ado, I'm going to hand it over to Regina Blye who is going to speak on behalf of ILS program.

>> Thank you, commissioner. Good afternoon. And good morning to some of you.

I want to take a quick moment so the Texas IL network know ILP is here for you. The Texas CILs can reach out to Jennifer Martin, program officer and to the SILC and the DSE. You can reach out to me any time if need ed. As many of you know I'm originally from Texas so I have family and friends still there and were affected by the storm. I've been keeping a close eye on recovery efforts. So please don't hesitate to reach out if need ed.

The winter storms and COVID-19 has tested our resolve. We are a resilient group. So we will succeed in the ends.

To achieve success, CILs keep up the great work and continue following ACL guidance and FAQs. I also don't want CILs to engage the SILC in your stage. Sometimes it takes a network or a statewide effort. CILs are required to monitor, review and evaluate the implementation of this bill but they have other duties and authorities available to CILs and consumers.

Now, I'm going to refer to the previously published FAQ on disaster and preparedness. SILCs are uniquely-- SILC can use statewide role to connect to agencies and organizations, attend meeting and in return share this important information and resources with you. They can also offer suggestions and brainstorm ideas on spending CARES Act funding. I'm highlight a few SILCs in this role. Arizona SILC has a detailed plan on statewide coordination efforts in this bill. The-- Nebraska SILC Ed-- advocating for people with disabilities for receiving a vaccine and speak being out on the state's lack of response to people living in congregate settings and people with disabilities living in the community. This is great information to share with CILs and others in the state to build relationships that they're forming.

It's a start with communication and ending with a plan. kudos to those engaged in these efforts for sometime now. And not late for others to get started in this effort. If you have questions or would like to know more about coordination and statewide opportunities, please feel free to contact me.

To end I want to echo the commissioner's comments and say, congratulations to Kelly on your retirement. I've known you since I was a SILC ED and you were a SILC ED in Idaho. And I want to thank you for your guidance. And hopefully I'm a pretty decent PO. Now I'm going to turn it over to Sean just to keep in with time and he's going to continue with CARES Act and COVID information. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Regina. And you're a good PO. Before I get going, I want to echo the comments about Kelly. I've known Kelly-- I knew of him when I was in the Washington CIL and SILC world. We worked together. You are a force and a legend. And as the commissioner mentioned, we're excited and interested to see what you do next. So congratulations on your retirement.

I want to give you highlights, first of all, thank you to everybody who submitted stories and questions for us to address. The got 30 more pages of input than we ever did for any meeting before. When it comes to stories, I have to pick and choose a little bit before we get to the questions.

Also I don't know if we mentioned it before, but if you have questions that you would like us to address today, please type them into the Q&A box. You can also submit them through the OILP you submitted of about.

I am discuss stories here. If I don't mention everything, on the-- that you submitted. Just for a quick, if people-- if possible just for REs, if you can enter questions in the Q&A box, not the CHAT box, just so that we can look for the questions in one spot. I'll keep an eye on both.

So great. Let's start. Ocean state center for Independent Living. . In January, had a successful food distribution event, 120 individuals received boxers of variety of food and providing gift cards and providing consumer in accessing online shopping platforms. I heard CILs on the phone, ordering food-- using that for CARES Act funds.

Technology, a lot of people working with different forms of technology to keep people connected. Different laptops, tablets, what have you. Hiring staff to be technological trainers on that. Absolutely if that's not something you did before, that training is not a capacity you had of about. We encourage you to think creatively about that, look around for loan closets, partner with other agencies, key projects or other projects that have loan capacities, supplemental-- think creatively about that.

Health care access, one consumer from also had been unable to keep an appointment at a local hospital. They were able to work with them through a company to assist in keeping COVID protocols. Moving on -- South Carolina. Since CARES Act was provided they were able to provide services to over 1500 additional consumers. As a director of COVID-19, they delivered 779 kits, to people that are impacted-- 2,156 penal. 842 bottles of soap-- et cetera.

One of the things that the Director Kimberly so noted is significant difficulties tracking the COVID rates from people of diverse backgrounds because the data systems are not in placement excellent point.

Northern regional Center for Independent Living, and this is a key thing, I'm glad you guys brought up-- works and vaccine equity began several years ago as a regional coordinator of a core adviser group originated by FEMA. I wanted to bring that up because a lot of the groups and partnerships coming to fruition now started in the past, before COVID. So hopefully you're keeping an eye on those partnerships and identify in you ones. I want to thank ILRU-- CIL have pulled together comments, summarize the stuff they're hearing. So that was a great thing. Lots of meal delivery, facilitating meal delivery. All of these things can be paid for and should be paid for with CARES Act funds.

Lots of partnerships with local food banks and some type organizations-- she mentioned, her CIL has done something like that. That is a great example. And created one of their own, maybe not having all the expertise but partnering with somebody who does it.

Staff delivering food and PPE. Even buying a freezer for their CIL to accommodate all their stuff.

>> [NO AUDIO]

>> Also install being things this the office, hand sanitizer-- that's a disability link.

There were a lot more examples here. The next one on my sheet here, I want to bring up what I thought was great. The CIL has a COVID-19 pandemic response team. Several staff identified specific target areas and were open and ready to respond to things that existed. The fact that was very unique. An option to Independent Living consumer.

All of these work. Use of CARES Act funds.

I want to talk about vaccines quickly before we get into the questions and answers.

Did you very much to the Maryland, Katie Collins pulled together from my understanding advocates and resources from across the state to accessible resources from independence-- identified challenges with messaging about obtaining appointments for vaccine. Registering for the vaccine. Distribution of vaccines and assisted living-- transportation to the vaccine site. On a side note, I'm seeing a question in the CHAT whether or not the CART's working. Transportation to vaccine sites are an issue. One of the things I want to bring about the vaccines, it's absolutely and allowable use of CARES Act funds.--

They could be serving onboards or working with different groups to educate how far vaccines are provided in your area to make sure that people get coordinated and transportation and the local experiments, the local systems are educated on issues related to people with disabilities.

One of the things I thought was inventive is there is a number much resources where my they are lives where a facility has transportation options that are no locks are used. Uncontract with them, make sure that when consumers need a ride that there is one.

There are Uber vouchers. You could be paying for basically reach out to your accessible transportation provider and have them be on more or less a contract or-- have people doing the job under time limited contracts whether that's staff you hire or whether it's an outside service.

The options are vast. There will be a question in the FAQ about this. So please, keep a look out for vaccine. I hope you understand the great variety things CILs do with the money. As of this morning, 2-- the number is $85 million. Let's be creative and informed and accurate. The if you have questions, reference the FAQ questions 8 and 15.

On the FAQ have specific guidance that you can apply to any expense. Contact your PO. We want to help you.

I'm going to start jumping-- some of the questions were already submitted. Subtitles in Zoom are not appearing. If we can pause for a minute for the captioner to plug back into the Zoom platform. I posted the StreamText link. And it is working. We lost the captioning in Zoom.

>> Sharon, are we-- is our technological world going to shut off at 43:01:23

>> No, we started late, we'll end late. So we'll give our selves an extra five or ten minutes.

>> Okay.

>> I apologize.

>> That's fine. I'm going to take a breath and talk a little less, you know --

>> Okay.

>> Annabelle-- Annabelle, if you can connect back in to the Zoom, subtitles.

>> Annabelle: I need to be assigned CC again. Sorry. The I lost it for some reason--

>> Okay. So ready? We're not ready we're still waiting for her to plug in.

>> Captioner: I need to be assigned CC again in Zoom.

>>

>>

>> Thank you all.

>> The beauty of technology.

>> Alrighty. We're plugged back in, Sean, thank you so much. We're ready to go.

>> Okay.

>> Thank you. Thank you. Um, okay. So, the first question that we received, what is ACL OILP, the CARES Act provide funds for state and local programs-- cannot. The short answer, and the very short answer to this question is, that yes. As long as when you say, duplication, what you mean is braid being. What I mean by that, the commissioner used braiding before. $100 of charges and 50 are-- 50 of it go to the other, yes. Duplication doesn't mean the same thing. Like you're both paying $100 toward a $100 fee. You're sharing the cost, that's true for anything allowable. All right.

Reyma I saw you pop in there. You want to chime in?

>> And this is Reyma talking. I wanted to further amplify what you said. We're not talking double billing. We're--talking, you know, perhaps pulling more than one revenue stream to get the job done so to speak.

>> Okay, great. What is ACL OILP's-- (READING).

>> And Sean, I'm so sorry, we've lost captioning again. So-- uh, folks on our end, I think we're going to need to pause here for a second.

>>

>>

>> I still think we lost the CHAT. Annabelle, I apologize, but there is no CHAT coming through. I mean, there is no captioning coming through the Zoom platform. It is coming through on extreme text.

>> Alrighty. It's appearing now.

>> Captioner: Can you quit sharing your screen?

>> If you want to go ahead, Sean.

>> Okay, great.

>> What did the AC price position on the CARES Act -- [Off Mic]. If that is a service you would normally provide and getting out of the facility is related to COVID-19 issue which I can't imagine it's not. Then it is. Because it's an allowable and a type of expense you would use. There were a couple of questions about caps or limits on individual funding amounts. There was a question about caps related to direct expenses for consumers or caps related to community or community service projects. -- other than--

>> I do not know what to tell you at this time. Other than it keeps cutting in and out. So I don't know if there is an internet connectivity issue somewhere.

>> Um, if there's an issue with the captioner software.

Um, but-- the StreamText is working. That is in a separate window and browser window that you would have to open. But the captioning is not being displayed in the subtitles in Zoom any longer. And it's popped up again, and then it stops working. So, um, I believe-- we probably want to halt this presentation. With this technology issue at this time. I apologize.

>> Have would did work for people if they can type answers to questions in the question and answer box?

>> It will work, but the individuals that are joining via Zoom cannot view-- the captioning live. They can view it if they open another browser in the StreamText link that was included in the registration information. And I can post it again. In the-- but it's not fully accessible then.

>> Sharon, the captions are working now that you stopped sharing your screen. So we might be okay now.

>> Okay, I wasn't sharing my screen. I haven't done anything.

>> Oh, when the agenda was up. I think when the agenda was up, the whole time, I think it was, it was-- impeding the process.

>> Yeah, somebody suggested it I shop sharing the screen. So I did. Maybe we're back on track.

>> Yes, we are, I think.

>> Okay.

>> Why don't we give it one more shot.

>> One more go if captions get lost again, then I think we need to think about postponing.

>> Thank you everybody for your patience this afternoon.

>> [Speakers Overlapping]

>> All right. Sean, go ahead. There are no caps on any specific type of funding other than the amount of funding that was available in the CARES Act.

I assume we would like you to be-- strategic about it and not spend anything anywhere. It's not like an insurance cap where you can only spend an X amount, cap, cap related is no. The number at the bottom-- [Off Mic].

>> This is Reyma. I think it's important to keep in mind, reasonable cost that, you know, term can get very subjective when dealing with unprecedented events. I think we can all remember, you know, just under a year ago, when the price of bottled water and toilet paper skyrocketed. And many of our CILs were purchasing at higher price points. I mentioned that because that's certainly something that we are mindful of as far as spending is concerned. Under typical circumstances, a CIL is not going to be paying $400 for a box of toilet paper. But because of the pandemic, the precedent of the pandemic, creating realities where there were no other options in that instance that would be considered a reasonable cost. I want to point that out for folks.

>> That's a great point. Remember, if you're paying $400 for a bottle of water, you're going to run out of money and not be paying for grocery in two months. Keep it reasonable. And there is material in the FAQ that talks about reasonableness and planning for that.

What are ACL or OILP plan with respect to post pay reviews for CARES Act funds?

The portion of-- we received guidance early on that we got no waivers as far as administrative and other costs related to CARES Act. So if it you-- whatever portion of the audit costs that will be related that come from CARES Act can go towards paying for audits.

You know, what is our position on using CARES Act funds to cover the cost of HCVS when state and local many practices cannot. Or still spending.

Whether or not any service is available somewhere else, is in the criteria for using CARES Act. It's not-- if it's something that you can use CARES Act funds for, use it. If you can use it with another source of funding, great. You can do that. You don't have to wait and wait to see if other programs-- if there's an eligibility waiting for an HCBS program, use the CARES Act, that's what it is there. Are

What is the definition of (???). Temporary relocation expenses. We can have a whole session on transportation and history of that CARES Act fund is allowable use for relocation expenses especially related to COVID-19, absolutely.

>> Great. This is Reyma. I think it might be prudent to mention that, you know, CILs are typically not allowed to operate housing outside of transitional housing.

You know, COVID related circumstances, might necessitate the use of a CIL operated transitional house for one that is already a part of the CIL operational structure for longer than eight weeks.

So, you know, that's something that CILs, CIL grantees that operate transitional housing that's something to keep in mind.

>> That's actually a great clarification. Thank you. What I'm assuming is you're doing things with the CARES Act money that you would be doing with the part C money or the flip side you're not doing things.

>> Have right. Yeah.

>> What are the guidelines for the use of funds for community expenses versus individual or direct. This came from the same person who had the cap question. There are no caps, no expectation one is more or less important than the other. There you go.

When it comes to definitions I would look that up in the guidance, on the reports.

There you go.

The last question here is what are ACL expectations on how CARES Act funds are used. That's a big question. Hopefully the bulk much the last hour of talking has provided you responses, the new FAQ will provide some information in that area.

Lots of people like ILRU and NCIL have examples that they're sharing. They're used in a reasonable and creative way to meet the identified needs of your consumers. One of the things I want to prioritize here, one of the pieces of advice, having read 150 emails on people asking liability questions, is to think about the thing that you're trying to address.

For example, I want to increase access to food. But doesn't necessarily mean that you, you know, that there's one answer. That means there's multiple answers. It could be-- Walmart gift cards. Getting online and walking somebody through an online delivery system and writing that up, an order for it. It could be having a freezer in your CIL and having a day you handout packets. Don't get locked into oh, I heard that thing worked really well and I want to do that without thinking of your situation, what your community needs and coming up with a specific functionally response to that specific need rather than jumping at an answer. Reyma I want you to weigh in on that one having your recent experience.

>> this is Reyma. I think, you know, with regards to questions pertaining to, you know, how do use CARES Act funds, I want to mention that well first of all, I appreciate and ACL certainly appreciates that people are being very mindful about questions concerning the use of CARES Act funds. I know that, you know, folks don't want to invest draw down funds, invest in programs and services and, you know, inadvertently place themselves in a position to payback funds. There's definitely a desire to kind much get ACL to sign off on each and every concern. And we've got grantees from coast to coast with us right now from all ten different regions.

And so, you know, we could easily be here all week, addressing specific questions about can we purchase an adjustable hospital bed in region eight for an individual that's been displaced? Can we purchase Uber vouchers in Wisconsin for an individual to, in order to allow for them to have transportation to their vaccination site and so on and so forth. We're all wanting to do the right thing and wanting to get clarification before we embark on doing what it is that we're thinking that we need to do.

So with that, you know, I want to reiterate that, you know, POs are a fantastic point of contact with regards to checking in at ACL capacity with regards to specific questions for your CIL.

POs are reaching out to grantees on a monthly basis already. And distributing information that they feel might be meritorious for grantees. So that's great. What we're wanting to do moving forward because with he know September 30 is around the corner, and time is of the essence is we want to commit to being more intentional as far as that monthly check in had is concerned. I'm going to ask Sean to come back because with regard to those monthly check ins by email, we're going to make sure that there's specific subject line for those emails so that you are able to be on the lookout for them.

Sean, what is that subject header?

>> It's going to be OILP CARES Act monthly check: It means OILP --

>> Be on the lookout for those emails. And see them as an opportunity to follow-up with specific questions, comments on concerns that you have. Obviously, knowing that you don't need to limit the interface with POs to that monthly email and wait for that to arrive in your inbox. You're able to follow-up with your POs with specific questions, questions that might be perhaps too specific for this particular platform.

Additionally as Sean mentioned, we've got a bunch of questions that are in the Q&A. We've got six minutes left in our time together this afternoon, we don't have enough time to give the attention and focus that each of those questions deserve. And so as Sean mentioned, please anticipate that the next, the revised Q&A specific to CARES Act in OILP will reference the nature of the questions that have been elicited this afternoon in the Q&A and in the CHAT.

And what we're going to do is something a little bit different than what you've seen in the three previous versions of the FAQs. And that's kind of, nest specific topics or the FAQs we're going to divvy them up by specific topics. So, if you're looking for an answer to a transportation based question, a food distribution based question, you know, the provision of particular supplies, we're hoping that offering specific categories in tandem with those responses will help to facilitate you being able to interface with the FAQ in a way that yields you walking away with an answer to your question.

And so, that is something that we are prioritizing, getting distributed as soon as possible. So we want to obviously spend the time necessary to ensure that the information that's contained in it is accurate and factual before we get that to you. So don't necessarily expect it tomorrow or by the end of the week, but please know that that is a top priority for us. And we will get that out to you as soon as possible.

Sean, in the remaining time, I do want to bring attention to, we had a few folks that inquired about PPR. It's an opportunity to verbally offer an update with the status of that. We've got four minutes left. So I'll hand it back to you.

>> Let me hit a couple of high points here. Thank you for that.

We are actively working to get the new system for collecting PPRs up. What Karina said last month and the month before, it's true. We will let you know if we need you to enter. It's not hey it's up-- it's a month where there's training available. So, all the PPRs, we're working on that. Many if you haven't gotten your CIL's CARES Act PPRN, Excel chart, do that as soon as possible. We have eleven people or so that didn't do this. Reyma said, if you have questions contact your PO.

I want to address two specific quick things. No, CILs cannot operate transitional housing. Somebody said if we said that. No, you cannot. You can pay for things that involve people transitioning in their housing. If you ask specific questions on that, contact your PO, things like short-term, hotel stays, or -- no, you're not -- you cannot operate housing. It's the same rules apply as were there before.

>> And this is Reyma. I own that. I apologize. One of the things about me is I-- as far as neuro diversity is concerned, I mix up words. I apologize. Thank you, Sean for clarifying that. And we have that in the closed captioning and the CART. I appreciate that.

>> We have three definitions of transition. So-- the other thing I wanted to respond to quickly trying to scan through the CHATs here is that, somebody asked about (?) audits. The cost of audits depends and you have to work with that with your auditor. And depends on how much they're auditing. If your CARES Act funds are responsible for 20%, just to pick a number-- of your audit costs then CARES Act funds can pay 20% of audit cost. They can't pay for more of the proportional audit cost.

So we're out of time. Thank you so much for everybody. I'm going to see if there are any question answers to scan through here to type in the Q&A. I did post the link to the CARES Act FAQ. It's in the ACL's CARES Act section. Many it's not in the CIL FAQ. If it you need a copy, contact the PO via the outlook. Or email titled OILP CARES Act monthly check in.

Somebody-- PPR worksheet that's only for the CARES Act specific PPR are. The other two, the CIL and the ILS have a whole new interface. It's only for the CIL-- if you have questions about that, contact your PO. Thank you very much. Have a good day. And thank you for all your work. We understand that this is a huge challenge and you're all working every day in extraordinarily unforeseen, difficult circumstances.

Okay. Anybody else? Final words? Otherwise, have a good day.

>> This is Reyma. I'll reiterate. Thank you to Sean, Regina, the team at OILP. Thank you to our friends at ILRU who supported as far as coordinating this quarter connection and thank you to those of you who tuned in today. Please keep in contact with your PO. You asked great questions. Again as it makes sense, they will be referenced in the new FAQ. A lot of these questions feel specific to your CILs. I encourage you to follow-up with your PO with the specific question so they can support you inner doing an answer. Again, thanks, everybody. Have a great afternoon.