



Idaho State Independent Living Council

Strategic Plan

2020-2024

July 1, 2019

A blue ink signature of Mel Leviton, written in a cursive style.

Mel Leviton, Executive Director

Based in part on the 2017-19 State Plan for Independent Living, approved by the Administration on Community Living (ACL), September 1, 2016; and pending ACL approval, substantial and material changes for the extension of the 2017-19 SPIL, as amended for 2020.



Mission

The Idaho SILC's mission is to promote the independent living philosophy for all Idahoans with disabilities: choice, self-determination and access for all.

Vision

The Idaho SILC promotes a philosophy of independent living, including the following:

- consumer control
- peer-support
- self-help
- self-determination
- equal access
- individual and systemic advocacy, maximizing opportunities for full inclusion of individuals with disabilities within the broader community

Organizational Information

The Idaho SILC is actively engaged in activities that help provide Idahoans with disabilities a greater voice in obtaining services that are consumer responsive, cost effective and community based. We are solutions oriented; working with many public agencies, private non-profit and for-profit organizations to improve the quality of life and independence for Idahoan's with disabilities.

Council duties are directed in Title VII, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended:

- Develop, sign and submit the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) for people with disabilities. The SILC will monitor, review and evaluate the implementation of the SPIL.
- Support the Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and advocate for independent living (IL) services provided through state and federal programs for individuals with disabilities.
- Gather and disseminate information, conduct studies and analyses, develop model policies, conduct training on IL philosophy, outreach to unserved and underserved populations and work to expand and improve IL services.
- Develop a plan for the provision of resources to the SILC.
- Develop and pursue a public policy agenda that results in positive systemic change for people with disabilities.

The Idaho SILC is funded through a combination of federal and state funds. It operates projects, monitors, conducts activities and reports within the context of both the state and federal fiscal years.

The Idaho State Strategic Plan mirrors the Idaho State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) which is required by federal mandate and reported to the Administration on Community Living (ACL). It is based on statewide assessment, conducted every three years and monitored quarterly. The current SPIL expires September 30, 2019.

External Factors Impacting the Idaho SILC

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act of 2014 (WIOA) transfers the Independent Living Services and Centers for Independent Living programs funded under title VII, Chapter 1 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended by WIOA (P.L. 113-128) (Rehabilitation Act) from the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), U.S. Department of Education, to the Independent Living Administration (part of the Administration on Disabilities) within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The transfer of the Independent Living (IL) programs aligns with the mission of ACL to maximize the independence, well-being and health of individuals with disabilities across the lifespan, and their families and caregivers.

Ongoing structural changes within the Department of Health and Human Services continue to impact the SILCs nationally. The transformation is ongoing as the Administration seeks to consolidate the Independent Living Administration and other divisions within the Administration on Disabilities within ACL.

SILC's nationally have experienced unanticipated challenges in the last ten months related to SPIL development and submission due to technical difficulties at the Administration on Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services. The Idaho SILC is no exception and for this reason, full development of the 2020-2023 SPIL has been delayed until 2020. It will usher in a revised three-year cycle beginning with the 2021-24 SPIL. As such, SILCs may extend the current SPIL for one year through technical amendments only; OR, extend and amend it for one year with substantial and material changes. Given that the Idaho SILC had completed the 2018 statewide assessment and expended significant resources toward development prior to ACL's announcement, the Council chose to extend and amend with substantial and material changes. The amended SPIL will be submitted to ACL in July 2019 and upon approval, be implemented October 1, 2019. The resulting one-year extended/amended SPIL will serve as bridge to the new 2021-24 SPIL. Though our federal timelines have changed, the SILC's duties remain consistent under both federal and state law.

Given Idaho's recent growth, and that 13-20% of the U.S. population has a disability, the SILC continues to experience increased demand for independent living education and services which enhance community living.

The Idaho SILC provides the most qualified personnel to address our responsibilities within state and federal programs and activities. As a small state entity, with no promotional opportunities, loss of staff to greater opportunities at larger state agencies is an ongoing challenge. These challenges have coincided with changes in state administrative processes, sometimes creating conflicting priorities with minimal staff.

Cybersecurity

The Idaho SILC is a technology customer of the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) in the Department of Administration. We use the cybersecurity systems and technical expertise in OCIO to fulfill requirements related to Executive Order 2017-02. Staff from OCIO distributed the NIST Core Framework, CIS Controls 1-5, and their plan for adoption of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework. Implementation of the CIS Controls 1-5 will be the responsibility of OCIO for the systems they operate. OCIO will apply technological tools to the computer systems that are largely invisible to us as a customer.

All Idaho SILC personnel have completed the State of Idaho DHR cybersecurity training and will complete the training annually as awareness is a critical component of an effective cybersecurity program.

Strategic Goal 1:
Assess the need for services for Idahoans with disabilities and advocate with decision makers.

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmark
Develop, conduct and review a statewide needs assessment at least every three years.	Conduct community meetings every three years, to gather information relevant to the disability community from people with disabilities, their families and providers during public meetings and electronic surveys.	Hold a minimum of 10 community meetings and increase participation in both electronic surveys and community meetings by 10% ¹
Continue to review SPIL for effectiveness and emerging issues at least quarterly in SILC public meetings.	Gather data and input from Council members and agency partners regarding the success and barriers of the SPIL goals	Four or more reviews each year ²

Strategic Goal 2:
Support the Centers for Independent Living and advocate for Independent Living services provided through state and federal programs.

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmark
Coordinate with the CILs to establish and support local and statewide youth and young adult Independent Living programs and activities.	1-2 young adults as Gubernatorial appointed SILC members; support up to 12 Youth Advisory Council; support community service learning opportunities; provide youth IL workshops at a statewide youth conferences or local events; support youth attendance at National youth conference and coordinate Idaho Youth Leadership Forum	7 or more local and statewide youth activities will be supported ³

Strategic Goal 3:
 Conduct training to people with disabilities and stakeholders on Independent Living (IL) philosophy and work to expand and improve IL services.

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmark
Provide training on employment, financial literacy, emergency preparedness, healthcare, housing and transportation options; and community safety, participation and integration, including relevant laws, policies and rules that affect people with disabilities.	Potential community training opportunities are identified throughout the year, targeting populations and activities specifically identified in the SPIL and during quarterly reviews.	25 or more trainings ⁴

Strategic Goal 4:
 Collaborate with disability service agencies/organizations and other stakeholders; advocating for expanded and improved Independent Living opportunities and services for Idahoans with disabilities across.

Objective	Performance Measure	Benchmark
SILC staff participate in existing, or initiate new, workgroups, committees and councils/boards to provide reports, data and policy guidance toward improving employment, education, training, housing, health care coverage and community access and safety opportunities.	Track the number of collaborative workgroups participating in activities specifically identified and targeted in the SPIL or quarterly reviews. Actual year numbers represent participation in more than 70% of meetings, calls for response and written correspondence.	Participation in 12 or more identified activities ⁵
Provide written testimony and/or policy review to successfully aid in the implementation of policies/laws that positively impact Idahoans with disabilities at the local, state and national level.	Track the number of activities specific policy reviews, rule changes, laws or potential legislation identified by the Council as impacting Idahoans with disabilities. The provision of SILC written review, analysis or testimony is the basis of the measurement.	Written comment or review on 10 or more identified concerns ⁶

Proposed FFY Goals, 2017-19 Idaho State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) as amended and extended for 2020 (Submission by July 31, 2019. Anticipated approval by September 30, 2019)

Goal Name	Goal Description
Advocacy	Idahoans with disabilities receive necessary supports and services to become more independent in their community of choice.
Network Support, Capacity and Sustainability	The Independent Living Network operates effectively, is adequately funded and has the capacity to expand.
Community Living	Idahoans with disabilities receive the community-based supports they need to live in the community with greater independence.

Footnotes:

¹ Benchmarks are set based on internal program measure and quarterly reviews. This benchmark is established in the 2017-19 SPIL as amended for 2020 (FFY). The assessment is conducted every three-years and SPIL progress, success and barriers are reviewed quarterly as required by both state and federal law.

² Benchmarks are set based on internal program measure and quarterly reviews. This benchmark was established in the 2017-19 SPIL as amended for 2020 (FFY). The assessment is conducted every three-years and SPIL progress, success and barriers are reviewed quarterly as required by both state and federal law.

³ Benchmarks are set based on internal program measure and quarterly reviews. This benchmark was established in the 2017-19 SPIL as amended for 2020 (FFY).

⁴ Benchmarks are set based on internal program measure and quarterly reviews. This benchmark was established in the 2017-19 SPIL as amended for 2020 (FFY).

⁵ Benchmarks are set based on internal program measure and quarterly reviews. This benchmark was established in the 2017-19 SPIL as amended for 2020 (FFY).

⁶ Benchmarks are set based on internal program measure and quarterly reviews. This benchmark was established in the 2017-19 SPIL as amended for 2020 (FFY).