

Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)
MINUTES
December 1, 2015
Via Conference Call

MEMBERS PRESENT: Monte Tschetter, Clarke Christianson, Isabel Trobaugh, Gillian Plenty Chief, Dave Scherer, Craig Eschenbaum, David Miller, Sarah Rush, Vicki Kerkvliet, Marla Bullbear, Steve Stewart, Chuck Quinn, Bernie Grimme, Sandy Neyhart, Vona Johnson and Tammy Kabris. **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Katie McOwen. **OTHERS PRESENT:** Rich Eschenbaum, interested observer; Chad Ratigan, WRIL Director; Matt Cain, ILC Director; Ronda Williams, DRS IL Program Specialist; Eric Weiss, DRS Division Director; Gaye Mattke, DSBVI Division Director; and Shelly Pfaff, SILC Staff.

OPENING ACTIONS: Dave (M) called the meeting to order at approximately 9:40 a.m. (CT), and he asked Shelly to take roll call to see who was present. He then asked her to go over a few 'housekeeping matters' related to holding the meeting via a conference call e.g., identifying oneself before speaking; roll call votes; muting and unmuting phones. **WELCOME** - Dave thanked everyone for their flexibility in holding the meeting in this way due to the unexpected weather and related travel conditions impacting holding a face-to-face meeting. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** - Dave asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Hearing no call for changes; **MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA - MADE(M), SECONDED(S) AND CARRIED(C).** Next Dave asked for action on the September SILC Meeting Minutes; **MOTION TO ADOPT THE SEPTEMBER SILC MEETING MINUTES AS MAILED - MSC.** Dave then asked for action on the November SILC Executive Committee Minutes; **MOTION TO ADOPT THE NOVEMBER SILC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES AS MAILED - MSC.** Following passage of the motion, Dave shared that Craig had volunteered to attend the SILC Congress as a member of the SILC Executive Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Dave asked if there were any public comments. Hearing none, he moved forward with the agenda.

WORKGROUP UPDATES: CONSUMER SERVICES – Bernie, workgroup chairperson, reported that the group had met on November 10th, and as a result they had four documents that had been mailed to the SILC for their consideration

and/ or action. Focus Area of the Consumer Services Workgroup – The SILC had asked the workgroup to go back to this document and make a few changes, which they did; Bernie reviewed the document and addressed it as a ‘living document’ that will change as the SILC makes decisions on future goals and actions. Hearing no comments on this document, he moved on with the next item. Cost of IL Services to Individuals – Bernie explained that this document, also shared at the last SILC meeting, had had some changes based upon SILC input at the last meeting. He reviewed those changes, and he shared how this language is a part of the State Plan for Independent Living. There was one question about whether federal funds are used to purchase the related equipment, and the answer was that state funds are used for this service. **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REVISED LANGUAGE AND INCORPORATE IT INTO THE DRAFTED NEW STATE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (SPIL) – MSC** by unanimous roll call vote. Scope, Extent and Arrangement of Services – Bernie explained that this also is part of the SPIL, and the workgroup had been asked to review it and see if there was any possibility of having fewer identified so the SPIL more accurately reflects what happens in South Dakota, especially since some of the services seem to show few if any units of services being provided under them. He explained the workgroup process in reviewing the listing, as well as the draft document and workgroup recommendations. **MOTIOIN TO FORMALLY ADOPT THIS DOCUMENT AS PART OF THE DRAFTED NEW SPIL – MSC** by unanimous roll call vote. IL Needs Assessment Survey – Bernie referenced the draft survey instrument. He also spoke to the workgroup’s thoughts on a dissemination plan for the survey via both email and snail mail. He asked for input on this instrument and the dissemination plan. Vona indicated that she would like to add to and/or revise the questions concerning housing needs so the results would be a deeper level of information on the respondents’ needs. It was also suggested we might want to do something similar to the transportation related questions, since housing and transportation are two systemic issues that are raised year after year at public meetings and other input venues involving people with disabilities. Consensus was that SILC members were invited to provide comments/input into the survey content and design by December 15th. At that time the workgroup and SILC staff will work to get it finalized and widely disseminated so responses can be returned and analyzed prior to the next SILC meeting. HOUSING – Vona reported for this workgroup. She reported that they November 23rd, and they reviewed goals in the current SPIL and workplan focused on housing. Vona addressed that work has been done in the area of reviewing previously completed

surveys and materials relating to housing needs. An area they wish to pursue more vigorously is meeting with people with disabilities to learn directly from them as to their housing needs and barriers they face in meeting their housing goals. Vona also addressed the HUD 811 Grant, which SD Housing Development Authority hopes will create new housing opportunities for some individuals with disabilities. She spoke about Fair Housing SD and the possibility of this program addressing the SILC and exploring how it might be more effective in reaching out to people with disabilities statewide. Vona also shared that the group had talked about what efforts might be taken to educate people to the reality that choices they make e.g., having bad credit, getting into legal problems, only wanting to live in one certain community, can have an impact on the housing opportunities available to them. Vona also shared that SDHDA will be working on its next Consolidated Housing Plan, and they will be seeking input on it. Dave M shared that he believes it would be very beneficial if “universal design” would become more of the overall dialogue on housing, as incorporating it into design of housing would go a long ways towards meeting the housing needs of all people. Vona urged the SILC to consider voicing this to various parties, as she fully agrees with the potential impact this could have on the future of meeting housing needs for all. OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS – Sandy reported for this workgroup. They met last week. Champion of IL Services Award - Sandy reported on the success of the awards presentations, and she thanked SILC members who helped make those events happen in their communities. Then she moved into the workgroups desire for input from the SILC on how to proceed in future years. They presented a suggested timeframe for future years –

- January – Workgroup will review the forms and process
- February – SILC will solicit nominations
- March – Nominations due in SILC office by last day of March
- May/June SILC Meeting – Recommendations for Award Recipients to SILC for consideration and action
- July/August – Presentation of Awards

Two questions the workgroup sought the SILC’s guidance on were: (1) from whom should nominations be solicited; and (2) should there be any parameters around potential nominees? In terms of parameters for the nominees, consensus was that nominees should be both organizations and individuals AND both public and private organizations should be considered as possible award recipients. In

terms of from whom should nominations be solicited, consensus was that they should in some way be connected to one of the CILs and come through that connection. The goal of these awards is to draw attention to the services provided through CILs and independent living programs, and this is the best way to ensure this happens. Strategic Planning Funds Applications – Sandy reported that the workgroup has completed the revisions the SILC approved at their last meeting. These documents – individual application and organizational application – are available and ready for use. IL Success Stories – The workgroup had prepared a template for a process for collecting these stories, as well as for gathering initial information on possible stories from the CILs. Those documents were sent out to the SILC, and at this time the workgroup was seeking the SILC’s approval to move forward with their plan to begin gathering, developing and disseminating IL success stories via the DHS Communications Director and other outlets. Consensus was that this is a very positive process and has the potential to educate many to independent living services and how they can impact a person’s life. The workgroup will continue work on this initiative. Other Items – Sandy drew attention to a publication put out by the Center for Disabilities, which included a success story involving an individual served by ILC. Shelly also shared that the press release on the Champion of IL Services Award Recipient nominated by ILC appeared in the Argus Leader. Dave thanked all of the workgroups for their hard work and the many things they are accomplishing in support of South Dakotans with significant disabilities having greater opportunities to live independently.

SPIL COMMITTEE REPORT: Dave (M) provided this report. Their first meeting was primarily an organizational meeting. There are two SPIL related activities that the Consumer Services workgroup has initiated, and the committee believes the workgroup should carry out – the listing of services (which was adopted earlier) and the IL Needs Survey. The Committee plans to take the lead on setting up calls with the CIL Directors, a representative of their board, possibly a staff person – using a process similar to last year – which all feel was beneficial in formulating goals and objectives for the SPIL. Dave hopes these can be completed by the end of December since they will be held via conference calls. A second activity the committee will take the lead on is hosting a couple of public forums to gather input on the draft SPIL. The final activity the committee will take the lead on is developing new SPIL goals, strategies and objectives to bring to the full SILC for their consideration and action prior to being incorporated into the draft SPIL.

DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES REPORT: DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS – Eric Weiss started by wishing all a “Happy Thanksgiving” and thanking them for their flexibility in holding the meeting via conference call due to deteriorating weather across the state. He commented that it is not too early to start working on the SPIL, and he looks forward to assisting the SILC and CILs in this effort. Eric then shared that at some time in the early part of the New Year, it will be time to solicit nominations for SILC membership. He encouraged members to be thinking of people who might be interested in serving, if appointed, and stressed that the majority must be people with disabilities. He also briefly reviewed SILC membership composition requirements. Finally, Eric thanked the SILC for the AT Report that was submitted to Governor Daugaard and Secretary Pearson. The Department of Human Services is planning on following up with recommendations contained in the report. He foresees the Divisions of Rehabilitation Services and Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired working with DakotaLink and the State Assistive Technology Plan to address the recommendations. Dave thanked Eric for attending the meeting and invited him to participate in future meetings.

ADLS WAIVER PROGRAM – Ronda provided this report. She provided an overview of the waiver program, explaining that it is a Medicaid waiver designed to serve people with physical disabilities, specifically people with quadriplegia due to a variety of causes. Over the years the number of people served by this waiver has decreased, and some of the possible reasons identified for this decrease are the presence of a cost share, not as many services available under this waiver as are available under the Adult Services and Aging Waiver, and the self-direction component restricts the way things can be done for those served. DRS has been receiving technical assistance, as well as feedback from current recipients, and recently formed a workgroup to discuss potential amendments to the waiver. The amendments are geared towards bringing the waiver into compliance, providing improved services to those served and potentially increasing the number of people served by the waiver. Some of the potential changes being considered are: instituting conflict free case management; eliminating the cost share; adding new services e.g., environmental access modifications, specific medical adaptive equipment/supplies, respite care; creating flexibility for people who do not want the current level of self-direction. Marilyn Kinsman, Department of Social Services, is assisting in drafting waiver amendments, which include 10 appendices. The process will include tribal consultations, public meetings and revising of administrative rules. The final amendments must be submitted by April 1st, and if approved would go into effect

on July 1st, 2016. A question was asked as to what are the differences between this waiver and the Adult Services and Aging Waiver. Ronda explained that this waiver allows family members, DSS does not; DHS provides more hours of service than DSS; DHS does not include a cost share, DSS does; both require a nursing facility level of care. Dave complimented the state and providers on these changes that will make more people able to live more independently. IL SERVICES REPORT – These reports were mailed out prior to the meeting. One comment on the HMAD report is that it is not possible to add averages, so this needs to be changed on the report. It was suggested that the IL Services Data Report could be worked with and used to address some of the issues workgroups have identified e.g., people across the state receiving the same menu and same intensity of IL services; how travel needs to be considered in the delivery of services. CIL REVIEWS & CONTRACTS – Bernie reported that the only review completed since the last meeting was one with WRIL due to having only a 6 month contract in place with them. The on-site review was completed on October 7 & 8, 2015 and significant improvements have been made in operations at WRIL since a new director is on board. It was also noted that some staff are doing excellent case work and case documentation. Bernie also shared that WRIL's Federal Home Loan Program is unique, and it may be something the SILC will want to have a presentation on at a future meeting. A new 6 month contract is in place with WRIL. The reviews for ILC and NAAP will be scheduled for the spring. In terms of contracts, Bernie indicated that work will begin on these in the future. The SILC is to have input into how Part B funds are spent, and he anticipates work will begin on these in March. The new authorization indicates that up to 30% of Part B funds can be used for the SILC Resource Plan. BOARD OF VR UPDATE – Bernie had invited Chuck to give this report, but since the meeting was occurring via conference call, Chuck invited Bernie to give it. Bernie reported on the September BVR meeting, highlighted agenda items, as well as noting that Brett Glirbas is the BVR chairperson. He then shared that the next meeting is December 14th and 15th in Rapid City. Included in the agenda for the December meeting is joint time with representatives of the Tribal VR Programs in the State.

DIVISION OF SERVICE TO THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

REPORT: DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS – Gaye Mattke welcomed everyone, and she concurred that it was good no one was traveling with the current and predicted weather and road conditions. She shared that the Division is working with the Bureau of Information Technology (BIT) on a standards workgroup to update

Approved
March 2, 2016

information related to accommodations for applicants and employees of State government. This has not been done for several years, so it feels timely and appropriate to be involved in such an endeavor. Gaye also spoke to upcoming training for the Bureau of Human Resources that representatives of DRS and DSBVI will be doing on reasonable accommodations for State employees. BOARD OF SBVI UPDATE – Next Gaye reported that the Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired is scheduled to meet on Friday, December 4th. The meeting will include new member orientation, year-end reports and final work related to their State Plan. Gaye’s final note was that the SILC does not presently have a member on the Board of SBVI. Sandy Neyhart acts as a liaison between the two groups; it is not the same as having a SILC member on the Board of SBVI. Dave thanked Gaye for being at the meeting. OLDER BLIND IL UPDATE – Sandy provided this report. She reported that the program served 508 people in the most recent year, as compared to 452 in 2014. The main cause of vision loss was macular degeneration, with other being the second highest cause noted by respondents. Six people served were over the age of 100, and 68% of those served were over 80 years old. Sandy reported on their consumer satisfaction survey results, no changes to the electronic magnification program (formerly CCTV program), the Assistive Technology Access Program and the TAD program, as accessed by people with vision loss.

SILC STAFF REPORT: BUDGET REPORT – The report was mailed out prior to the meeting. The one additional note made by Shelly was that she expects the “staff travel” budget item will be exceeded with staff participating in the SILC Congress in January. SILC CONGRESS – Shelly reported that all arrangements have been made for Craig and her to participate in this event. From emails received, it appears that a good portion of the Congress will be focused on pending regulations and changes resulting from them. SILC REGIONAL CALLS UPDATE – Shelly provided an overview of these calls, indicating that a lot of the time has been spent talking about the upcoming SILC Congress, as well as activities related to SPIIL development. Information has been shared with one another, including the CIL Report form from SD that the SILC developed, focus group questions, survey questions, etc. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE – The notice from the SD Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities had been mailed out prior to the meeting. Staff brought it forward only to find out if the SILC wanted to take any action on it. **MOTION TO RENEW THE SILC’S MEMBERSHIP WITH THE COALITION – MSC BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.**

OTHER BUSINESS: Dave asked if there was any other business. Hearing none, he moved to the next item.

CLOSING ACTIONS: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – At this time several items were brought forward as being noted before as possible future meeting agenda items e.g., 704 Data Report; Money Follows the Person Update; Division of Developmental Disabilities Presentation possibly focusing on community living and use of assistive technology; WRIL’s Federal Home Loan Program; Election of Officers. It was agreed that the 704 Data Report and Division of DD presentation would be beneficial topics for the next meeting. Staff will work with the Executive Committee and DRS staff to pull these components together. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING – Consensus was to hold the next SILC meeting in Pierre/Ft. Pierre in March. Staff was given the first two weeks of March to explore, and she will send out a doodle poll to get specific dates that work for the majority of members. It was further suggested that the following meeting be held in Rapid City so the SILC could be exposed to WRIL in its base community. ADJOURNMENT – Dave asked for a motion to adjourn; **MOTION TO ADJOURN – MSC.**