

**Statewide Independent Living Council
State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) 2025-2027**

Section 2: Scope, Extent and Arrangements of Services

2.1 Services

Services to be provided to persons with significant disabilities that promote full access to community life including geographic scope, determination of eligibility, and statewide reach.

Check the appropriate boxes in the SPIL Instrument table indicating the types of IL services to be provided to meet the objectives identified in section 1.3 of this SPIL, and whether the services will be provided by the CILs or by the DSE (directly and/or through contract or grant) or other entity.

To support the operation of Part B and C funded CILs through part B funding, CILs must be in compliance with the standards and assurances set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 725 or provide core services of a center for living as identified §1329.4. Part B funds may also be utilized for other IL services, research, and projects.

A map indicating service area(s) may be included as an attachment.

Independent living services	Provided using Part B (check to indicate yes)	Provided using other funds (check to indicate yes; do not list the other funds)	Entity that provides (specify CIL, DSE, or the other entity)
Core Independent Living Services, as required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Information and referral – IL skills training – Peer counseling – Individual and systems advocacy – Transition services including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transition from nursing homes & other institutions ▪ Diversion from institutions ▪ Transition of youth (who were eligible for an IEP) to post-secondary life 	Yes	Yes	CILs
	Yes	Yes	CILs
	Yes	Yes	CILs
	Yes	Yes	CILs
	Yes	Yes	CILs
	Yes	Yes	CILs
	Yes	Yes	CILs
	Yes	Yes	CILs
Counseling services, including psychological, psychotherapeutic, and related services	No	No	No
Services related to securing housing or shelter, including services related to community group living, and supportive of the purposes of this Act and of the titles of this Act, and adaptive housing services (including appropriate accommodations to and modifications of any space used to serve, or occupied by, individuals with disabilities) Note: CILs are not allowed to own or operate housing.	Yes	Yes	CILs
Rehabilitation technology	Yes	Yes	CILs
Mobility training	No	No	No
Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life skills training, and interpreter and reader services	No	No	No
Personal assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services	No	No	No

Independent living services	Provided using Part B (check to indicate yes)	Provided using other funds (check to indicate yes; do not list the other funds)	Entity that provides (specify CIL, DSE, or the other entity)
Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation opportunities, and accessible transportation, and other support services	Yes	Yes	CILs
Consumer information programs on rehabilitation and independent living services available under this Act, especially for minorities and other individuals with disabilities who have traditionally been unserved or underserved by programs under this Act	Yes	Yes	CILs
Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities	Yes	Yes	CILs
Supported living Note: CILs are not allowed to own or operate housing.	No	No	No
Transportation, including referral and assistance for such transportation and training in the use of public transportation vehicles and systems	Yes	Yes	CILs
Physical rehabilitation	No	No	No
Therapeutic treatment	No	No	No
Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices	No	No	No
Individual and group social and recreational services	Yes	Yes	CILs
Training to develop skills specifically designed for youths who are individuals with disabilities to promote self-awareness and esteem, develop advocacy and self-empowerment skills, and explore career options	Yes	Yes	CILs

Independent living services	Provided using Part B (check to indicate yes)	Provided using other funds (check to indicate yes; do not list the other funds)	Entity that provides (specify CIL, DSE, or the other entity)
Services for children	Yes	Yes	CILs
Services under other Federal, State, or local programs designed to provide resources, training, counseling, or other assistance, of substantial benefit in enhancing the independence, productivity, and quality of life of individuals with disabilities	Yes	Yes	CILs
Appropriate preventive services to decrease the need of individuals with disabilities for similar services in the future	Yes	Yes	CILs
Community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with disabilities	Yes	Yes	CILs
Such other services as may be necessary and not inconsistent with the Act	Yes	Yes	CILs

2.2 Outreach to Unserved and Underserved Populations

Definition of Unserved and Underserved;

How services will be made available to populations that are unserved/underserved by Part B and Part C to address equity (including minority groups and urban and rural populations) and how outreach will be conducted.

Describe the statewide outreach plan including: (all of the following are required)

- Definitions of “unserved” and “underserved: for outreach
- How unserved and underserved are determined
- Minority groups
- Urban and rural populations
- Targeted populations and/or geographic areas
- Outreach activities and methods to be conducted and who will conduct each

Identify steps to be taken regarding statewide outreach to populations that are unserved or underserved by programs that are funded under Title VII, including minority groups and urban and rural populations and how outreach will be conducted to address equity.

The IL Network reviewed the identified needs brought forward by the SILC's Consumer Services Committee as they considered unserved and underserved needs of the state. The reoccurring needs and identified barriers were taken into consideration with the development of the goals, objectives, and activities. Specifically, how outreach efforts would be conducted to serve all eligible individuals with disabilities across the entire state. The IL Network upholds serving all eligible individuals with disabilities as defined in the Executive Order 13985 utilizing consistent and systemic, fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals with disabilities.

The IL Network gained a broader view of the state in terms of population, disability, and other demographic needs by examining the following: The *2023 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Annual Statistics Supplement*, and the *State Reports for County Level Data on Prevalence (Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics)*. The compendium provides state specific information, i.e., the number of people with disabilities for any given state and county in the United States. This information can be found at: <https://disabilitycompendium.org/compendium/2019-state-report-for-county-level-data-prevalence/SD>. The "2019 State Report for County-Level Data: Prevalence" for South Dakota identifies:

- Total population of people in South Dakota was 838,940.
 - The county with the greatest number of total people was Minnehaha (185,832 people).
 - The county with the least number of total people was Jones (793 people).
- For the number of people with disabilities:
 - The county with the greatest number of people with disabilities was Minnehaha (19,080 people).
 - The county with the least number of people with disabilities was Jones (71 people).
- For the percentage of people with disabilities:
 - For the entire state of South Dakota, the overall percentage of people with disabilities is 11.9%.
 - The county with the highest percentage of people with disabilities was Fall River (22.0%).
 - The county with the lowest percentage of people with disabilities was Todd (5.8%).

The IL Network agrees on the following after their review of the above-mentioned information and other findings. All counties and all Tribal Nations have access to a CIL in SD, therefore there is no "unserved" area. Additionally, all categories outlined under Race and Ethnicity in the CIL's 2021 PPR reports identify consumers served in each

category. This includes American Indian or Alaskan Indian, Asian, Black, or African American, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, White, Hispanic/Latino, or two or more races. Thus, there are no unserved populations in the state.

The IL Network defines “underserved” as the entire state of South Dakota. All 66 counties and all nine Tribal Nations are served; however, services are limited due to resources. South Dakotans with significant disabilities who reside in our state and are served by a CIL are underserved because of funding. Funding impacts the ability to hire additional staff to adequately serve all those in need of services and the ability to dedicate staff time needed to provide IL services. In addition, individuals with disabilities residing in the less populated areas of the state do not have access to all CILs services at a level equal to others who reside at or in close approximation to locations where center staff are based. Examples include staff time and travel needs to meet with participants, lack of contractors, and increased material costs. Therefore, the IL Network broadens the definition of underserved populations in South Dakota to include all areas of the state due to funding.

Information in the CIL’s PPR reports was utilized to identify the total number of consumers served and to determine whether consumers were served in each category under Race and Ethnicity. The IL Network utilized this information to help determine whether IL consumers served represented the race/ethnicity demographics of the state and to help determine whether there were further defined unserved/underserved populations.

The table below outlines SD’s Population by Race/Ethnicity (2020); breakdown for the state population and the percentage of total consumers served by the CILs as reported in the FY 2021 PPR for Race/Ethnicity.

Racial/Ethnicity Demographic	Population	% of Population	% Served by CILs
White	735,228	83.6%	.81%
American Indian/Native Alaskan	74,975	8.5%	.12%
Hispanic/Latino	36,088	4.1%	.02%
African American/Black	18,836	2.1%	.03%
Asian/Asian American	12,413	1.4%	.01%
Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian	544	.1%	.001%
Other	7,320	.8%	NA
Two or more races/reported by CILs			.001%

The SPIL goals and objectives focus on efforts to better serve individuals with disabilities who are Native American, Hispanic/Latino, African American/Black, Asian/Asian American, and other minority groups that are increasing in the state. PPR reports will be utilized to help determine if the number of consumers served increases per race/ethnicity demographic category annually.

The IL Network also reviewed the total number of IL participants served by county for FFY2021. The counties that had .20% or less of persons with disabilities served of the total county population were identified as underserved areas. This included 16 counties: Moody, Stanley, Pennington, Custer, Lincoln, Meade, Hyde, Haakon, Hanson, Jones, Fall River, Lyman, Edmunds, Harding, Union, and Mellette. Information gathered from the CILs on a quarterly basis and from year-end reports will be reviewed and monitored to identify changes in the percent of individuals served in the counties identified. CILs will be asked to direct outreach activities in these areas. Activities shall include but not limited to visiting schools, assisted living/nursing home facilities; clinics, senior centers; participating in community resource fairs/job fairs; hosting booths at events, disseminating introductory letters to doctors, clinics, apartment managers and include resources. IL Network partners will also target these counties with outreach activities, i.e., attending health fairs, farmer markets, county fairs to disseminate IL information.

The Divisions of Rehabilitation Services and Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired conducted their 3-year Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment in 2021 and obtained results in 2022. The needs assessment reviewed population estimates and projected growth. The IL Network Partners will monitor changes in the demographics, as this could lead to changes in outreach efforts and the physical location of IL staff.

The Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment report outlined the following in terms of the VR program and un/underserved populations. *Cornell University Disability Statistics (drawing from Census and ACS) show prevalence from the total population of those with disability by age and race. These prevalence estimates provide data useful for purposes of identifying potentially un or underserved populations. The rate of disability within each race and/or age category provide potential indication where the disability incidence may be greater than VR services for that population. Notables are African American/Black ages 18-64, American Indian/Native Alaskan ages 18-64, and Asian American Youth ages 16-20.* The IL Network considers this potential indication to encompass individuals with disabilities and the need to increase the knowledge of IL services, i.e., include provision of information on services and how to access or connect with services.

The most prevalent minority group in South Dakota is the American Indian population. The IL Network acknowledges the benefit of targeting cultural awareness/intelligence training specific to a given population which could assist in reducing barriers in the provision of services. The IL Network will seek presenters/partners to attend SILC

meetings and/or offer CIL staff training on cultural awareness/sensitivity topics related to Native Americans and other minority groups, i.e., Hispanic or Latino; Black or African American and Asian American. The CILs will also review materials/resources and identify needs for information to be made available in alternative languages. The IL Network will identify gains made in serving individuals of minority groups by tracking data from the CIL's year's end reports.

Information about activities or events will be shared among the IL Network and CIL staff in order to encourage attendance of multicultural activities. This will help broaden understanding, develop partnerships, learn how to better communicate, and to increase understanding of how best to work with individuals of diverse backgrounds. The Multi-Cultural Center of Sioux Falls has teamed with Lutheran Social Services to serve and celebrate the diversity in our communities, especially the refugee and immigrant populations. The IL Network will direct efforts to further develop relationships to better engage and serve diverse communities across the state. SPIL activities will support outreach efforts that are statewide. The SILC and DSE recognize that each CIL has their own outreach plan which outlines how to provide outreach to underserved populations in the areas they serve. The IL Network will promote efforts to reach out to all South Dakotans with disabilities.

The SILC, CILs and DSE partner with disability, aging, behavioral health organizations, community support providers and other organizations in the state, when possible, to collaborate on activities reaching out to underserved areas/populations. During the previous SPIL cycle, the SILC Member SPIL Activities Reporting Form was created and utilized to assist with tracking outreach activities. This form collected information from each member regarding activities, meetings, health fairs, or other community events attended and whether IL was a discussion topic, IL information provided, if systemic issues were identified/discussed. The form asked about identified needs, information shared, whether comments were communicated with others, what was learned, and as a result of training/conversation, if this identified a need for change or to do something different. This has been incorporated within the SILC's quarterly meeting agendas as a discussion item falling under the SPIL update. The activities reporting form and the meeting minutes will be utilized to track information and outreach efforts.

SILC members serve on other disability related boards/councils/associations (Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Blind/Visually Impaired) and information is shared regarding emerging issues, changing demographics, inequities, and whether the SILC should incorporate changes into its plans to ensure it is meeting newly recognized or changing needs. SILC members and other IL Network partners and related staff are invited to participate in town halls, public forums, family conversations, disability awareness events sponsored by other disability entities, e.g., CDD, Disability Rights SD, Division of Developmental Disabilities, BIA SD. The SILC continues and will strive to continue to

include Native American representation on the council, whether a private citizen or staff of one of the various Native American Tribal VR programs.

Several SILC members serve in collaborative roles with disability/service specific statewide groups as part of their position on the SILC. These members work for the state's protection and advocacy agency, Center for Disabilities, SD Housing and Development Authority, Division of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired/Older Blind Program, and the State Rehabilitation Councils (representatives from both the general and blind agency councils). Again, during the SILC's regularly scheduled meetings, time is set aside to report on topics of importance impacting coordinated service delivery. This allows the opportunity for all to hear the information and to discuss potential opportunities.

CILs participate in events, including health fairs, community engagements, programs, meetings, etc. The CIL's provide quarterly reports to the DSE and SILC and this information is reviewed and discussed in order to identify gaps, barriers, or other areas needing attention. The primary source of outreach to the public is through the CILs. Statewide outreach is also accomplished by the provision of information on the DSE's website, outreach of SILC members, SILC staff, and DSE staff in communicating the availability of IL services whenever possible. The SILC also created a FaceBook page during the 2020-2024 SPIL cycle and information is added/shared at least twice a week to keep it active and engaging.

The IL Network recognizes that a variety of factors contribute to a county's number of people served, and therefore can play a role in the county's status as underserved. For this reason, the comparison of population to people served in a county is an indicator of the need for more outreach and other targeted efforts in that county, but it is not the sole measure of the impact of outreach in that county or the CILs performance in that county. A natural disaster provides an example of where specific needs arise, communities and agencies respond, and attempts are made to serve people before, during and after an emergency. Previous events have revealed that the CILs can adapt the provision of services in many situations, but not all situations. For example, during COVID there were roadblocks set up restricting travel onto several reservations, limiting CIL staff efforts to meet with participants or conduct outreach activities. In some situations, participants living on a reservation with an enforced lock down would notify CIL staff of when they were traveling off the reservation and would arrange meetings with CIL staff at agreed upon locations. Other efforts included keeping in contact with participants by phone, Face time, and Zoom. Other events in our state have included blizzards/ice storms and flooding in different regions. At times, people were trapped in their homes for weeks due to blocked/washed out roads, loss of electricity, loss of water. These types of situations severely limit the ability of CIL staff and their ability to provide needed services.

Other findings from the DSE's Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment are worthy of consideration and mention. In response to survey questions completed by DSE staff of what the Division can do better, responses included build partnerships to have a "face" in the community to serve those needing support; cultural liaison to bridge gaps of populations of different cultures; and have better connection with Department of Education and other community partners. And, the report's summary findings and guidance identify agency services awareness and access as a category i.e., lack of knowledge of availability of VR services/identify means and ways to make information on services and how to access or connect with VR services; investigate options to partner with Tribes, community providers and others to make VR and related services more available on tribal lands and to American Indian/Native Alaskan populations; provide more informational materials/other languages. The SILC and CILs look forward to providing input on the Divisions State Plan, goals and objectives, and will seek opportunities to collaborate to better address issues and meet the needs of South Dakotans with disabilities.

2.3 Coordination

Plans for coordination of services and cooperation between programs and organizations that support community life for persons with disabilities.

Describe plans for coordination and cooperation between the SILC, CILs and DSE and with other entities, programs, organizations. Include specific methods and efforts for each entity included.

The SILC, CILs and DSE have developed several objectives in this SPIL that foster cooperation, coordination and working relationships among entities including the CILs, DSE, the State Rehabilitation Councils (SRCs) and others. Coordinated activities that were started years ago will continue; including soliciting joint nominations for board/council positions and sponsoring events i.e., Governors Awards, National Disability Employment Awareness Month activities, and Disability Awareness Day.

Maximizing cooperation and coordination among the SILC, CILs and the DSE is critical to meeting the greatest amount of need for IL services with available resources. Each SILC quarterly meeting agenda includes reports from the CILs, the DSE, SBVI, and SILC staff in order to stay informed of activities. Annually, the SILC collaborates with the DSE, SBVI, Native American Tribal VR programs, CILs and other disability related organizations (CDD, Disability Rights SD, SD Parent Connection, Center for Disabilities) to host gatherings, public meetings and forums. CILs also work with local entities and staff serve on a number of committees, task forces, boards/councils to promote independent living options for persons with disabilities and promote equal access to community life.

The SILC's membership composition provides additional avenues for cooperation and coordination between the SILC, CILs, DSE, SBVI, and other public and private entities. This helps minimize unnecessary duplication of services and maximizes self-direction on the part of the individual consumer/participant. All recognize that resources are too scarce to do otherwise. Current SILC members bring linkages to groups such as the SD Housing Development Authority, the two State Rehabilitation Councils, South Dakota Association of the Deaf, SD Association of the Blind, and one of the state's Tribal VR Programs and the Center for Disabilities (part of a national network of federally designed centers known as the University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Education, Research, and Service/UCEDDS).

It is critical that all are fully aware of services available through Federal, State, and local programs which have the potential to meet some of the IL and VR needs of those served. A commitment is made to keeping the SILC, CILs and DSE and separate blind agency members up to date on available resources, to include assistive daily living services, medical assistance for workers with disabilities, benefit specialists services, developmental disability services, mental health services, housing, transportation, and social/recreational opportunities which benefit persons with disabilities.

Accomplishment of the objectives and corresponding activities are assigned to SILC committees, or to the CILs, where appropriate, with quarterly reports on progress provided by the committees and CILs during SILC meetings. Individual SILC members are encouraged to attend or belong to various governing boards, task forces, committees, board/councils in their communities and share information or other feedback during the quarterly meetings. SILC members are asked to complete the SPIL activities reporting form and submit this information to staff. This information is utilized to complete the PPR year-end report and is utilized to help monitor progress made towards accomplishing the goals of the SPIL. Invitations are also extended to various disability related organizations or agencies to attend and share information at SILC meetings.

Other coordination/cooperation efforts: including the IL Network in communication regarding IL in the state; disseminating information about IL to disability related organizations and other stakeholders across the state; including CIL representatives on SILC committees; maintaining a representative on the SRC and collaborate on activities as appropriate; seeking opportunities to partner with and attending meetings of other disability organizations, .e.g., CDD, SD Association of the Deaf, SD Association for the Blind, SD Advocates for Change, BIA of South Dakota; monitoring and sharing information on changes that impact Medicaid and other programs/services related to IL, i.e., LTSS and ensuring that IL remains viable in our state.