

**Statewide Independent Living Council**  
**Executive Committee**  
**January 28, 2026 Meeting**

SILC Executive Committee Members present: Ryan Groeneweg, Matt Cain, Brett Glirbas. Kendra Gottsleben was absent. Others present: Jennifer Lewis, Eric Weiss, Codi Erickson and Colette Wagoner.

**Overview & Purpose of Meeting**

The primary focus of the meeting was to review how Independent Living (IL) services are being delivered across South Dakota by the two Centers for Independent Living (CILs): Independent Living Choices (ILC) & Western Resources for Independent Living (WRIL).

The discussion centered on service equity, funding structures, territorial challenges, staffing, and discussion points added for future state plan development.

**Funding, Fee For Service, Part B Funds**

The committee discussed the current fee-for-service system outlined in the contracts between the Division and the CILs, alongside the distribution of Part B funds. A question was raised about whether it is time to revisit these funding structures to ensure:

- Core services are consistently provided
- Services remain equitable statewide

**Service Territories and Staffing Considerations**

The group reviewed:

- The counties and the nine Tribal Nations served by each CIL
- Staffing shortages and recruitment barriers
- Organizational capacity to expand or adjust service areas

Jennifer presented statistical information on service delivery and case management timelines. Matt and Codi shared challenges their organizations face in serving individuals outside their designated territories, particularly with home modifications and staffing constraints.

The committee emphasized:

- The importance of equitable service distribution
- The need to balance consumer choice with realistic capacity and funding limitations

## **State Plan Development**

The committee discussed expectations for future state plan development meetings, which involves: SILC Chair, both CIL Directors, DSE staff, and other interested SILC members.

## **IL Service Delivery Across South Dakota**

The team discussed the overall distribution of IL services, particularly focusing on:

- Fee-for-service billing
- How territories impact service reach
- The MOU between ILC and WRIL allowing for consumer choice
  - Matt noted this MOU is not being fully utilized
- Eric reiterated that providing services outside of one's territory is voluntary and not funded by additional resources

## **Community Transition Services (MFP/Home Again)**

Clarification was provided regarding various programs:

- Money Follows the Person (MFP) → now the Home Again Program under DSS
- ILC works directly with Home Again transitions
- WRIL collaborates with other organizations for transition support

Matt explained that ILC staff work with multiple programs (Home Again, ADLS, Dakota at Home), which increases workload and resource demands.

## **Program Differences, Eligibility, and Billing**

Discussion included:

- Differences between Home Again/MFP, LTSS, ADLS, and Home Modifications programs
- Brett asked whether MFP recipients can choose ADLS or Hope Waiver, which Jennifer confirmed in addition to the Choices Waiver and Family Support 360 waiver
- Codi raised concerns about program separation and billing practices
- Matt clarified that ILC keeps staff time separate for LTSS work and Home Again work

## **Service Capacity Trends & Case Length Data**

Jennifer reviewed billing practices and case data:

- LTSS cases operate under fee-for-service and are not billed to contracts
- Family Support 360 and ADLS Home Modifications services are billed appropriately

Matt shared declining numbers of individuals served due to:

- Increased complexity of cases
- Longer case time requirements

Jennifer shared the following average case length data:

	<b>ILC</b>	<b>WRIL</b>
<b>2023</b>	95.5 days	—
<b>2024</b>	245 days	630 days
<b>2025</b>	204 days	511 days

COVID-related issues increased persons with disabilities needs and case complexity have contributed to longer open cases.

### **Staffing Recruitment Challenges**

Codi described significant hiring challenges in Pierre due to:

- Competition with state government
- Limited budget for competitive wages
- Childcare shortages affecting applicants

Matt highlighted the importance of hiring reliable individuals even without degree qualifications and suggested budget supplementation to improve recruitment.

Jennifer presented staffing changes occurring across both CILs (information is also available on the Boards/Commissions portal).

### **Service Territory Data**

Jennifer shared data on Information & Referral (I&R) and instances of serving consumers outside designated territories.

Matt emphasized:

- ILC **cannot** currently serve outside its territory
- They are open to discussing possible adjustments in the future

### **Next Steps**

The group agreed to meet again after the SILC meeting on March 25.

### **Action Items:**

- Staff will send a Doodle poll to schedule the next meeting.
- Jennifer will present information from annual on-site reviews during the March 25 SILC meeting and provide other information to the committee.
- Jennifer & Ryan will meet separately to identify useful data elements and collection methods useful for committee consideration.
- Continued conversation will focus on:
  - Service territories
  - Data collection
  - Equitable service provision