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**Draft Minutes**

Name of Organization: Nevada Statewide Independent Living Council (NV SILC) State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) Workgroup (WG)

Date and Time of Meeting: Thursday, April 29, 2021

1:30 p.m.

This meeting will be held via video-conference only:

In accordance with Governor Sisolak’s Declaration of Emergency Directive 006; Subsection 1; The requirement

contained in NRS 241.023 (1) (b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate is suspended.

The public may observe this meeting and provide public comment on Zoom.

**To Join the Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9299041434?pwd=NmM5Tk1Od3ltRzg1enhRYTU3WDdUZz09>

Meeting ID: 929 904 1434

Password: NVSILC (case sensitive)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

The number provided may incur long-distance telephone carrier charges, and is offered as a regional call-in number, only.

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Password: 707401 (if exclusively calling in; if accessing the meeting via *both* the audio and video feed, please use the *above* password *instead*)

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Meeting Materials Available at: <https://www.nvsilc.com/meetings/>

1. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions

Patricia (Ace Patrick) Unruh, SILC Chair

Members Present: Mary Evilsizer, Patricia Unruh (Ace Patrick), Julie Steinbaugh, John Rosenlund, Dee Dee Foremaster

Guests: Sabra McWhirter

CART Provider: Becky Van Auken

Staff: Dawn Lyons and Wendy Thornley

1. Public Comment

Members of the public will be invited to speak; however, no action may be taken on a matter during public comment until the matter itself has been included on an agenda as an item for possible action. Please clearly state and spell your first and last name, if unique or otherwise unfamiliar to the Subcommittee. Public comment may be limited to 3 minutes per person, at the discretion of the chair. Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined or consideration by the public body, and/or pulled or removed from the agenda at any time. Pursuant to NRS 241.020, no action may be taken upon a matter during a period devoted to comments by the general public until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.

Mary Evilsizer: SNCIL got a notice from HUD housing. In Clark County, Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living (SNCIL), utilized all of the mainstream vouchers that were available to them.  
SNCIL processes about 300 and they are in the process now of helping individuals identify housing, finding it and getting them off the streets.  
They had a grant meeting with HUD who is saying that SNCIL probably won't get any more mainstream vouchers until 2030.  
It's the COVID response and rescue and they're primarily homeless but SNCIL is going to partner with them to see if individuals with significant disabilities are affected by COVID as well be a good match for those particular vouchers.

1. Nominations and Appointment of Workgroup Chair **(For Possible Action).**

Patricia (Ace Patrick) Unruh, SILC Chair

Ace Patrick will be the Chair of this workgroup.

1. Discussion and Make Recommendations Regarding SPIL Objectives and Timeline **(For Possible Action).**

Patricia (Ace Patrick) Unruh, SILC Chair

Dawn Lyons: She gave an update on what is in the current SPIL and how the group is meeting their objectives. The group has until September 30th of this year to complete these items.

Objective 2A1: The SILC will create a presentation that encompasses a unified IL message by September 30, 2021.

Dawn created a SILC presentation with an overview of what the State Independent Living Council (SILC), the Centers for Independent Living, the IL Network, and how that works and what they are about and the Independent Living Philosophy.   
  
The position statements were created as an addendum or appendixes to that and those go into more detail about where the SILC stands on specific issues.

Mary Evilsizer: Asked Dawn to resend the document. Would recommend brief citation after CILs: web page address and phone number and counties served. For Example: Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living (SNCIL), serves all of Clark County, www.sncil.org, 702-889-4216.

Dawn shared the document and reviewed it. The document included the SILC’s mission and vision statement. The incomes page goes over the SILC’s federal mandate and where that stems from, she read it.  
“The SILC's purpose is to promote the philosophy of Independent Living, including a philosophy of consumer control, peer support, self‑help, self‑determination, equal access and individual and system advocacy in order to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence and productivity of individuals with disabilities and the integration and full inclusion of individuals with disabilities into the mainstream of society.”

The council is funded through the Title VII Part B of the Rehab Act as amended after the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act as implemented in 2014.

For membership, the majority will be individuals with disabilities.  
Federal rules state the SILC membership must be compromised of a majority of individuals with disabilities.  
This requirement ensures that the trajectory of the independent living movement in each state is geared by the population most affected, a key factor in self‑determination.  
And then in quotes, “Nothing about us without us.”

Nevada SILC goals are the three goals that are in the most current SPIL, which is “Improve access to independent living supports and services, improve awareness of independent living and philosophy, and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Independent Living Network.”

The Independent Living philosophy states that “Every person regardless of disability, has the potential and the right to exercise to individual self‑determination.”  
Self‑determination refers to a characteristic of a person that leads them to make choices and decisions based on their own preferences and interests, to monitor and regulate their own actions and to be goal oriented and self‑directing.

Independent Living services and the IL network.  
Every Independent Living service provider should begin with establishing an individual's independent living goals. These providers include IL centers, state AT/IL programs and network partners. The IL Network is the SILC and state Centers for Independent Living as defined by the Administration for Community Living, or ACL.

Centers for independent living provide five core services.

* Information and referral
* IL skills training
* Peer counseling
* Individual and systems advocacy
* Services that facilitate transition from nursing homes and other institutions to the community and provide assistance to those at risks of entering institutions and facilitate transition of youth to postsecondary life.

The state AT/IL program is a statewide program that supports an individual's choice to live in their community by removing barriers to their essential daily living activities.  
The program can help individuals identify their independent living goals and the appropriate assistive technology that is necessary for the individual to care for themselves or receive care in their homes and their community.  
The program also has resources to provide a variety of AT when no other resources are possible.

Community partners provide case coordination, information, assistance, and follow‑along support directly with the AT/IL consumers.  
Eligibility determinations are made by the community partner agencies that work with the individual.  
Aging and Disability Services provides oversight and direction to its community partners.  
John Rosenlund is the program director.

The designated state entity (DSE), is the agency that the state plan designates to receive, account for and disburse federal SILC funding. As of 2016, the SILC's DSE is Aging and Disability Services Division or ADSD.  
The DSE signs and approves the annual progress reports and each three‑year state plan in partnership with the IL Network.  
The DSE responsibilities include to receive, account for and disburse funds received for SILC operations as defined in the state plan, provide administrative support services for the SILC, keep records on behalf of the SILC and ensure compliance with federal funding rules, support separation of the SILC from any state agency, and retain not more than five percent of SILC funds for administrative expenses related to the above responsibilities.

Regarding collaboration and involvement, the SILC's intentions are to become involved in advocating for legislature that supports independent living efforts across the state.  
Working together with the community to address the needs of individuals with disabilities is best practice.  
  
Membership information lists what type of membership they have, the Chair, voting member, CIL represent, VR representative, Department of Education, Treasury representative and DSE representative.

Dawn has presented this informational presentation to the Nye County Coalition and the Aging and Disability Services Division.

Dawn Lyons: We worked with the Nevada Office of Minority Health, the Deaf Commission and the CSPD.

The next indicator for the SILC to accomplish in 2021 is Goal 2B, Objective B2, the SILC will collaborate with community partners statewide beginning October 1, 2020, regarding legislative issues for disability and IL philosophy advocacy, education, and outreach.  
That is an ongoing goal or objective or indicator.  
Much progress has been made since October 2020.  
  
Ace presented to the Senate the prior day, and to the Assembly awhile back, on AB 430. She believes it passed in the Assembly and is waiting to hear if it passes the Senate.

AB 430 came about because of Assemblywoman Tracy Brown-May and it was the SILC that brought it to her attention that there are still some Nevada Revised Statutes with outdated disability language.  
She created a BDR with Aging and Disability Services Deputy Administrator, Jessica Adams, and they worked together to go through which statutes needed revisions and that's what was presented, according to what the SILC recommended about disability language and being respectful.  
  
The SILC is following several other bills.   
  
The SILC’s Executive Committee wrote a letter on AJR1 and that was from the Nevada constitution. Assemblywoman Titus brought that forward.  
The SILC provided some public education and information.  
  
Dora Martinez brought forward NVEASE information to Senator Cohen from the SILC’s Legislative Subcommittee.  
  
Ace Patrick: The SILC also collaborated with some of the other partners regarding the very beginning of the vaccine push‑out to make sure that the disability community was not left out.

They worked with the Nevada Office of Minority Health and the DD Council, the Deaf Commission, and the CSPD.

Mary Evilsizer: On behalf of the Title VII, Part C funded centers, thanked the SILC staff, members, and volunteers for the legislative efforts.

Dawn Lyons: Regarding Goal 2, Objective B3, the SILC will establish formal collaborations with the Commission on Services For Persons With Disabilities (CSPD), and the Governor's Council on Due Diligence to address education and outreach regarding disability legislative issues including but not limited to competitive integrated employment in Nevada, by September 30, 2021.  
The SILC had just had a subcommittee meeting on workforce development and is working with “Vote Nevada” on that and Nevada PEP. Members of the DD Council were invited as well as CSPD.   
This subcommittee will meet again on May 20th and Dr. Cosgrove the Chair of that subcommittee is going to be holding another meeting in between.  
  
The Summer Civics Festival will give people an opportunity to host mock meetings and legislative hearings on bills that they want to pass, that did not get passed. It will open the conversation on how to move forward with getting new legislation out for the next Legislative session.  
That is related to competitive, integrated employment.  
  
Dawn Lyons: Goal 2, Objective C1 states that the SILC will define youth membership in SILC policies by September 30, 2021. She announced that the SILC has hired a Youth Leader for their Youth Action Council. She will be starting in a couple weeks. Dawn will be working with her on developing policies that match and align with what the Youth Action Council is going to become because the SILC wanted to let them be more autonomous and not dictate what their policies are specifically, ensuring they align with the federal guidelines and the SILC.  
This will be done before September 30th.

Goal 2, Objective C2: The SILC will sponsor at least one youth to attend the APRIL Conference, from the travel budget, by September 30, 2021. Currently, the APRIL Conference has not announced dates, locations or whether the Conference will take place this year physically or virtually. It usually occurs in October.

Goal 2, Objective D1: The SILC website will have at least ten partners listed by October 31st, 2020 and will add at least two educational or resource links to the news feed each quarter.

We have accomplished two links for each quarter. Dawn is currently the only contributor to the website. The new Youth Leader will be assigned to post a newsletter. Dawn has added several partners to the Partner list with ten partners listed by October 31st of last year. She has also added many links, including ones relating to voting and the Rural Center for Independent Living (RCIL) interview. Dawn has accomplished two links each quarter.

Ace Patrick: Commended Dawn for all the time and work she has put in with KPS3 to work on the website as well as making it accessible. She also thanked Wendy for her work on the website.

Dawn Lyons: Some partners have had difficulties with the data hub. Dawn is working with them so they can provide their data, as well as with KPS3.

Ace Patrick: Thanked Dawn for her work on making the website accessible.

Dawn Lyons: Thinks there should be another email blast, encouraging partners to submit any news to be posted on the SILC’s website newsfeed.

Ongoing indicators:

Goal 1 A1: To provide $70,000 in support Federal Fiscal Year 21 and $30,000 in Federal Fiscal Years 22 and 23 for new community services and services with the highest need throughout the state using current data.

Goal 1 A2: The SILC will fund at least on Part B competitive subgrant for services needed each year, grantees will provide the SILC with a quarterly report.

Goal 1 A3: The SILC will provide ongoing support for state funded independent Living programs in all Nevada counties, IL program progress reports shared quarterly or more often and services and/or services providers change.

That relates to the SILC’s subawards and the money that they support Independent Living programs with and other Independent Living services. The SILC sub-awarded for fiscal year 21, to N4 for the transportation data program.  
The remaining balance of the money that the SILC had for that went to Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation for their program and the SILC has it in their budget to provide the $140,000 they feel is important to continue doing for the state's IL program.  
Also in the SILC’s budget, and Dawn just created the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), which the ADSD Grants department is reviewing at this time.  
That should be coming out soon.  
That's strictly for Center for Independent Living which is also in the SILC’s SPIL defined that way.  
The SILC is in alignment with those goals that were laid out.

Goal 1 B3: The CILs will provide current, quarterly reports to the SILC for all supported activities and for all other notable CIL activities throughout the year, which they have been doing. Every SILC meeting, they have been on the agenda to give updates and if able to come to the meeting, they have been doing that.  
Once the SILC subawards them, they must apply, but once they are sub awarded, the money for Fiscal Years 22 and 23, they will be reporting back to the SILC about that, but that has not happened yet.

Dawn asked Mary Evilsizer to talk with Lisa Bonie about the content of the reporting from the CILs regarding reports on requests for services from consumers.

Mary Evilsizer: Agreed that more detail is available and will talk with Lisa Bonie about both centers providing the more detailed information.

Goal 3 A1: All conference attendees will relay training to the Council by July 31, 2021, 22, and 23 at each annual meeting. Dawn and Ace will put together their recap of the ASA Conference workshops that they attended. Sabra McWhirter attended other workshops.

Ongoing goals that have been accomplished, include Goal 3, C1 and 3 C2. These pertain to Dawn becoming full-time SILC. She suggested the SILC look at expanding Wendy’s time for the SILC, up from 25%, because there is much to be done that Dawn covers for Wendy. This could be included in the next SPIL.

For this fiscal year, the SILC is on track with its budget.

Ace Patrick: Commended Dawn and Wendy for the work they have done. Currently, the SILC has four subcommittees: the Transition Workgroup, the Legislative Subcommittee, the Integrated Workforce Development Subcommittee, and the SPIL Workgroup.

1. Approve Next Meeting Date **(For Possible Action)**

Patricia (Ace Patrick) Unruh, SILC Chair

Dawn will send out an email in February of 2022, for a short meeting, outlining what the status is for the goals and then a meeting next May to make sure they are on track.

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Mary Evilsizer: SNCIL is still accepting applications for housing vouchers. She thanked the SILC staff and appreciated the work everyone has put in and the progress that has been made during the Pandemic and that it has been a banner year.

Dee Dee Foremaster: Appreciates the hard work everyone has been doing adapting during the prior, hard year.

Dawn Lyons: Thanked everyone for coming and participating in the meeting.

Sabra McWhirter: Thanked Dawn, Ace, and the SILC for the work they have done to make things easier for the members.

Dee Dee Foremaster: It is vitally important for the SILC to become an independent entity and is proud that it is working towards that goal.

1. Adjournment

Patricia (Ace Patrick) Unruh, SILC Chair

**NOTE:** We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have disabilities and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Wendy Thornley at (775) 687-0551 as soon as possible and at least five days in advance of the meeting. If you wish, you may email her at [wthornley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:wthornley@adsd.nv.gov) According to NRS 241.020, supporting materials for this meeting is available at: 3416 Goni Road, #D-132, Carson City, NV 89706 or by contacting Wendy Thornley at (775) 687-0551 or by email at [wthornley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:wthornley@adsd.nv.gov).

***Agenda Posted at the Following Locations:***

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet: <https://www.nvsilc.com/meetings/> and <https://notice.nv.gov>

**In accordance with Nevada Governor Sisolak’s Declaration of Emergency Directive 006 there will not be a physical location for the** **Nevada Statewide Independent Living Council (NV SILC) Legislative Subcommittee.**

· As per Nevada Governor Sisolak’s Declaration of Emergency Directive 006; Subsection 3: The requirements contained in NRS 241.020 (4) (a) that public notice agendas be posted at physical locations within the State of Nevada are suspended.

· As per Nevada Governor Sisolak’s Declaration of Emergency Directive 006; Subsection 4: Public bodies must still comply with requirements in NRS 241.020 (4)(b) and NRS 241.020 (4)(c) that public notice agendas be posted to Nevada’s notice website and the public body’s website, if it maintains one along with providing a copy to any person who has requested one via U.S. mail or electronic mail.

· As per Nevada Governor Sisolak’s Declaration of Emergency Directive 006; Subsection 5: The requirement contained in NRS 241.020 (3)(c) that physical locations be available for the public to receive supporting material for public meetings is suspended.

· As per Nevada Governor Sisolak’s Declaration of Emergency Directive 006; Subsection 6: If a public body holds a meeting and does not provide a physical location where supporting material is available to the public, the public body must provide on its public notice agenda the name and contact information for the person designated by the public body from whom a member of the public may request supporting material electronically and must post supporting material to the public body’s website, if it maintains one.