

**STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION
FACT SHEET**

STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL

PURPOSE

The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) is a federally established council that researches, advocates for, and supports organizations that provide disability services to empower individuals to live independently in their community. Their 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; to promote the development and expansion of independent living programs and concepts on a statewide basis; to provide guidance to State agencies and local planning and administrative entities assisted pursuant to Title VII of the Act; to provide guidance to State agencies and local planning and administrative entities that are providing independent living services; and to improve working relationships among councils, centers for independent living, State, federal and non-federal programs..

AUTHORITY

As written within Title VII, Section 705 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended by the 1998 amendments (Public law 105-220) and the Workforce Innovation Opportunity and Expansion Act (WIOA) in 2014, (the Act) provides for the establishment of a Statewide Independent Living Council (the Council) consistent with the requirements of the Act. The Council coordinates with the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division, Planning, Advocacy and Community Services Unit, as the designated state entity (DSE) for independent living services, to promote a philosophy of independent living and empower individuals with disabilities to maximize leadership, economic self-sufficiency, independence, inclusion, and integration into society; and the Council and the DSE coordinate with Aging and Disability Services Division, Planning, Advocacy and Community Services Unit, for the provision of independent living services.

TARGET POPULATION

Individuals with disabilities of all types are supported by the Nevada SILC's Mission and Vision: The mission of the Council is to advocate for the development of a network of programs, services and options designed to empower Nevadans with disabilities to live independently in the community. The Nevada SILC's vision is to collaborate to create a community that values respect, equality and self-direction throughout the State.

SERVICES

In accordance with the purpose described in Article III, the following shall constitute the responsibilities of the Council:

1. to develop and submit, in conjunction with the Designated State Entity, the State Plan for Independent Living ("SPIL") addressing the need for independent living services and programs within the State and resource allocation;
2. to monitor, review, and evaluate the implementation of the SPIL;
3. to coordinate activities with councils and commissions that address needs of specific disability populations and issues;

4. to ensure that all regularly scheduled meetings of the Council are open to the public and sufficient advance notice is provided; and
5. to maintain records and submit periodic reports to the Administrator of the Administration for Community Living of the Department of Health and Human Services.

FUNDING SOURCE

The IL Program is funded primarily through the Administration for Community Living (ACL) Independent Living, Part-B federal dollars and a portion of matched State general funds.

PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Nevada SILC maintains a policy and procedure manual that compliments Council bylaws and Federal and State guidelines. All of these documents can be found on the NV SILC website: <http://nvsilc.com> .

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The Governor of the State shall appoint the members to the Council after soliciting recommendations from organizations representing a broad range of individuals with disabilities and organizations interested in individuals with disabilities. All appointees to the SILC will provide statewide representation, represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities, and be knowledgeable about centers for independent living, and a majority of appointees to the SILC will be persons with disabilities described in Section 7(8)(B) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and subsequent amendments.

HISTORY

The 1992 amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 called for the establishment of State Independent Living Councils (SILCs). The Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act of 2014 (WIOA), signed into law by President Obama on July 22, 2014, transferred 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 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. Nevada's SILC was established by an Executive Order by the Governor of the State of Nevada in 2005, and again in 2017.

STATE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (SPIL)

The approved SPIL for 2017-2019 can be located at: <http://nvsilc.com>

FOR INFORMATION

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