

# State Plan For Independent Living (SPIL)

Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as Amended, Chapter 1,  
Title VII

Part B - INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

Part C - Centers for Independent Living

State: Alaska

FISCAL YEARS: 2025-2027

Effective Date: 10/01/2024

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number (ON 0985-0044). Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 240 hours per response, including time for gathering and maintaining the data needed and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to receive financial assistance (Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended).

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The Statewide Independent Living Council and the Alaska IL Network made substantial changes to the 2024 SPIL from the 2021-2023 SPIL and have made only minor changes to SPIL objectives in this current submission. This will allow us to further evaluate progress on SPIL objectives over the next three-year cycle. The most notable change in this submission relates to the funding formula used to distribute IL funding among Alaska's Centers for Independent Living. Most other changes were to better word existing objectives, create better performance measures and remove a small number of objectives that were either difficult to make progress on or seemed to be outside the scope of the Alaska IL Network. A decision was also made to remove a sustainability objective for the SILC's Youth Leadership Forum, since the SILC has succeeded in meeting this objective. Similar to the 2024 SPIL, we have sought to simplify reporting on SPIL objectives in this latest submission.

## Section 1: Mission, Goals, Objectives, and Activities

### 1.1 - MISSION

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Mission of the Independent Living Network and the SPIL

Alaskans with disabilities live independently and are fully integrated into the mainstream of society.

### 1.2 - GOALS

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Goals of the SPIL

Goal #1: GOAL 1: TRANSPORTATION Alaska will have a community transit system that uses a variety of modes and programs to help people with disabilities be able to live more independently in

the community of their choice.

Goal #2: GOAL 2: HOUSING Alaska will have accessible, affordable, and available housing to help Alaskans with disabilities be able to live more independently in their community of choice.

Goal #3: GOAL 3 : EMPLOYMENT Alaskans with disabilities will have the services and supports they need to secure competitive integrated employment.

Goal #4: GOAL 4: HEALTH & WELLNESS Alaskans with disabilities will have access to health information and services needed for health and wellness throughout their lifespan.

Goal #5: GOAL 5: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY Alaskans with disabilities will have access to assistive technology devices/tools, durable medical equipment and non-durable medical supplies to support independence.

Goal #6: GOAL 6: DIVERSITY Alaska CILs and CIL Programs will be representative of the populations in their regions.

Goal #7: GOAL 7: YOUTH TRANSITION Alaska's youth with disabilities will have leadership training opportunities to facilitate their transition into adulthood.

Goal #8: GOAL 8: IL NETWORK The Independent Living Network in Alaska promotes independent living ideals through education, outreach and partnerships.

Goal #9: GOAL 9: SUSTAINABILITY The SILC will be a sustainable nonprofit council.

## 1.3 - OBJECTIVES

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Objectives for the three-year period of the plan - including geographic scope, desired outcomes, target dates, and indicators. Including compatibility with the purpose of Title VII, Chapter 1.

Goal #1: GOAL 1: TRANSPORTATION Alaska will have a community transit system that uses a variety of modes and programs to help people with disabilities be able to live more independently in the community of their choice.

Objective #1.1: Increase the accessibility, affordability, availability and safety of no less than 3 modes of transportation (e.g. accessible taxis, taxi vouchers, etc.).

### **Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #1.1.1: Significant changes will be reported by CILs to the SILC, including a description of the change and an explanation of how or why it took place, the community or communities affected, and the number of people with disabilities impacted where known.

### **Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #1.1.1: Desired Outcomes: More transportation options for people with disabilities.  
Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #2: GOAL 2: HOUSING Alaska will have accessible, affordable, and available housing to help Alaskans with disabilities be able to live more independently in their community of choice.

Objective #2.1: Increase awareness of housing options for participants and community members.

### **Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #2.1.1: Number of I & Rs on housing options.

Indicator #2.1.2: Percentage increase for the above data point over 2023 baseline.

### **Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #2.1.1: Desired Outcomes: More people pursuing accessible housing options. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #2.2: Increase or maintain the number of Alaskans with disabilities who receive home modifications through programs offered by both the state and the Alaska IL Network, especially in rural and remote communities.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #2.2.1: Number of modifications provided.

Indicator #2.2.2: Comparison to previous years.

Indicator #2.2.3: Urban/rural/remote breakdown for each program.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #2.2.1: Desired Outcomes: More participants taking advantage of home modification opportunities. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #2.3: Increase efforts to promote the use of universal design or visitability.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #2.3.1: Number of visits to SILC webpage with online resources.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #2.3.1: Desired Outcomes: More housing units built that incorporate principles of universal design and visitability. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #3: GOAL 3 : EMPLOYMENT Alaskans with disabilities will have the services and supports they need to secure competitive integrated employment.

Objective #3.1: Increase or maintain the percentage of CIL staff who experience a disability.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #3.1.1: Compare current and previous year's numbers and percentage of CIL employees who experience a disability.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #3.1.1: Desired Outcomes: People with disabilities are contributing members of society and the economy. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #3.2: Increase the number of participants selecting employment goals.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #3.2.1: Compare current and previous year numbers and percentage of participants selecting employment goals.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #3.2.1: Desired Outcomes: More participants seeking a path to employment through Independent Living services. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #4: GOAL 4: HEALTH & WELLNESS Alaskans with disabilities will have access to health information and services needed for health and wellness throughout their lifespan.

Objective #4.1: Improve participants' and public access to information on emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #4.1.1: Number of public meetings and events the SILC participates in to gather and disseminate information.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #4.1.1: Desired Outcomes: Participants are prepared for emergencies and knowledgeable of the resources that are available to them when an emergency occurs. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #4.2: Increase advocacy to promote participant-directed options for people with disabilities receiving Medicaid Waiver and Veteran Directed Care Services.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #4.2.1: Stakeholder groups partnered within joint advocacy efforts.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #4.2.1: Desired Outcomes: The number of participant-directed options are increased. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #5: GOAL 5: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY Alaskans with disabilities will have access to assistive technology devices/tools, durable medical equipment and non-durable medical supplies to support independence.

Objective #5.1: Improve participants' and public access to information and resources related to assistive technology, durable medical equipment, and non-durable medical supplies.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #5.1.1: Number of visits to SILC webpage with online resources.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #5.1.1: Desired Outcomes: Participants are knowledgeable of the resources available to them. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #6: GOAL 6: DIVERSITY Alaska CILs and CIL Programs will be representative of the populations in their regions.

Objective #6.1: CILs will strive to have a participant base representing the diversity of the

communities they serve.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #6.1.1: Participants' demographics to be compared to census data for each region.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #6.1.1: Desired Outcomes: IL services are delivered in a manner that is more equitable across diverse populations. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #7: GOAL 7: YOUTH TRANSITION Alaska's youth with disabilities will have leadership training opportunities to facilitate their transition into adulthood.

Objective #7.1: Youth delegates will participate in the Alaska Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) each year it is held with a 90% graduation rate.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #7.1.1: Graduation rates for the Alaska YLF.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #7.1.1: Desired Outcomes: More youth leaders to spread the Independent Living philosophy Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #7.2: 100% of Alaska YLF graduates will demonstrate increased IL competency.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #7.2.1: Scores from pre- and post-YLF surveys.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #7.2.1: Desired Outcomes: Graduates leave the YLF program with a deeper understanding of Independent Living and its role in helping them to realize their full potential. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #7.3: Alaska YLF graduates will have improved employment outcomes.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #7.3.1: Percentage of graduates that become employed by the summer following graduation.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #7.3.1: Desired Outcomes: YLF graduates are contributing members of society and the economy. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #8: GOAL 8: IL NETWORK The Independent Living Network in Alaska promotes independent living ideals through education, outreach and partnerships.

Objective #8.1: CILs will strive to maintain a return rate for the quarterly CIL Participant Satisfaction Surveys of 20% or greater.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #8.1.1: Return rates for CIL Participant Satisfaction Surveys.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #8.1.1: Desired Outcomes: A better understanding of the needs of participants. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #8.2: IL Network will participate in awareness activities with policymakers and legislators to maintain funds for rural service delivery and outreach.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #8.2.1: Policymakers, and legislators who participate in awareness activities to maintain funds for rural service delivery and outreach.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #8.2.1: Desired Outcomes: Broadened public knowledge of Independent Living services. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #9: GOAL 9: SUSTAINABILITY The SILC will be a sustainable nonprofit council.

Objective #9.1: Increase the diversity of funding streams to fund the general operation of the SILC.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #9.1.1: Number of new funding sources and the amounts of each.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #9.1.1: Desired Outcomes: A SILC that is less vulnerable to changes in state and federal funding priorities. Target Dates: 9/30/2025, 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

## 1.4 - EVALUATION

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The SILC will use the Participant Satisfaction Survey as a starting point in the development of a survey used to evaluate the effectiveness of the SPIL. This survey may or may not be adopted by the CILs as the new Participant Satisfaction Survey. A random sample of participants from across Alaska will be selected to participate in the evaluation of the SPIL. Once the target sample size has been reached by securing enough participants willing to participate in the evaluation, these participants will be issued a quarterly survey to monitor and evaluate participants' satisfaction tied to the desired outcomes of SPIL objectives. This sample of participants will have the opportunity to participate for the entire 3-year period of the SPIL. However, if any volunteers drop out, an additional random selection of participants will occur to fill any vacancies.

The IL Network is working toward a streamlined reporting process to minimize additional reporting requirements to the SILC by CILs that is beyond the quarterly 704/PPR provided to the DSE. CILs will only provide additional reporting to the SILC on SPIL Objectives as needed.

The SILC ED will compile all the CIL data from quarterly reports and include it in the quarterly SILC ED Report, along with SILC data on SPIL objectives, so that the SILC board is kept apprised of progress toward meeting SPIL objectives and can play an active role in adjusting SPIL activities where needed to improve effective implementation of the SPIL.

## 1.4 - EVALUATION

Goal #1: GOAL 1: TRANSPORTATION Alaska will have a community transit system that uses a variety of modes and programs to help people with disabilities be able to live more independently in the community of their choice.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Increase the accessibility, affordability, availability and safety of no less than 3 modes of transportation (e.g. accessible taxis, taxi vouchers, etc.).	1. Significant changes will be reported by CILs to the SILC, including a description of the change and an explanation of how or why it took place, the community or communities affected, and the number of people with disabilities impacted if known.	Survey of community resources.	CIL

Goal #2: GOAL 2: HOUSING Alaska will have accessible, affordable, and available housing to help Alaskans with disabilities be able to live more independently in their community of choice.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Increase awareness of housing options for participants and community members.	1. Number of I&Rs on housing options. 2. Percentage increase for the above 2 data points over 2023 baseline.	Administrative data.	CIL
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Increase or maintain the number of Alaskans with disabilities who receive home modifications through programs offered by both the state and the Alaska IL Network, especially in rural and remote communities.	1. Number of Modifications provided. 2. Comparison to previous years. 3. Urban/Rural/remote breakdown for each program.	Administrative data.	CIL

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Increase efforts to promote the use of universal design or visitability.	1. Number of visits to SILC website with online resources.	Administrative data.	SILC

Goal #3: GOAL 3 : EMPLOYMENT Alaskans with disabilities will have the services and supports they need to secure competitive integrated employment.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Increase or maintain the percentage of CIL staff who experience a disability.	1. Compare current and previous years' numbers and the percentage of CIL employees who experience a disability.	Administrative data.	CIL
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Increase the number of participants selecting employment goals.	1. Compare current and previous year numbers and the percentage of participants selecting employment goals.	Administrative data.	CIL

Goal #4: GOAL 4: HEALTH & WELLNESS Alaskans with disabilities will have access to health information and services needed for health and wellness throughout their lifespan.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Improve participants' and public access to information on emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.	1. Number of public meetings and events the SILC participates in to gather and disseminate information.	Administrative Data	SILC
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Increase advocacy to promote participant-directed options for people with disabilities receiving Medicaid Waiver and Veteran Directed Care Services.	1. Stakeholder groups partnered with in joint advocacy efforts.	Administrative Data	CIL, SILC

Goal #5: GOAL 5: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY Alaskans with disabilities will have access to assistive technology devices/tools, durable medical equipment and non-durable medical supplies to support



independence.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Improve participants' and public access to information and resources related to assistive technology, durable medical equipment, and non-durable medical supplies.	1. Number of visits to SILC website with online resources.	Administrative Data	SILC

Goal #6: GOAL 6: DIVERSITY Alaska CILs and CIL Programs will be representative of the populations in their regions.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	CILs will strive to have a participant base representing the diversity of the communities they serve.	1. Participants demographics to be compared to census data for each region.	Administrative Data	CIL

Goal #7: GOAL 7: YOUTH TRANSITION Alaska's youth with disabilities will have leadership training opportunities to facilitate their transition into adulthood.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Youth delegates will participate in the Alaska Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) each year it is held with a 90% graduation rate.	1. Graduation rates for the Alaska YLF.	Administrative Data	SILC
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	100% of Alaska YLF graduates will demonstrate increased IL competency.	1. Scores from pre and post-YLF surveys.	Administrative Data	SILC
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Alaska YLF graduates will have improved employment outcomes.	1. Percentage of graduates that become employed by the summer following graduation.	Administrative Data	SILC

Goal #8: GOAL 8: IL NETWORK The Independent Living Network in Alaska promotes independent living ideals through education, outreach and partnerships.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	CILs will strive to maintain a return rate for the quarterly CIL Participant Satisfaction Surveys of 20% or greater.	1. Return rates for CIL Participant Satisfaction Surveys.	Administrative Data	CIL, SILC
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	IL Network will participate in awareness activities with policymakers and legislators to maintain funds for rural service delivery and outreach.	1. Policymakers, and legislators who participate in awareness activities to maintain funds for rural service delivery and outreach.	Administrative Data	CIL

Goal #9: GOAL 9: SUSTAINABILITY The SILC will be a sustainable nonprofit council.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Data to be collected</b>	<b>Data collection method</b>	<b>Organization primarily responsible for data collection</b>
September: 2025, 2026, & 2027	Increase the diversity of funding streams to fund the general operation of the SILC.	1. Number of new funding sources and the amounts of each.	Administrative Data	SILC

## 1.5 - PART I: FINANCIAL PLAN

Sources, uses of, and efforts to coordinate funding to be used to accomplish the SPIL Goals and Objectives. Process for grants/contracts, selection of grantees, and distribution of funds to facilitate effective operations and provision of services.

Fiscal Year(s): 2025 - 2027

October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2027

<b>Sources</b>	<b>Projected Funding Amounts and Uses</b>					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$0	\$0	\$338717	\$0	\$0	\$338717
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$0	\$995262	\$0		\$995262
						\$1333979
Other Federal Funds						

Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
						\$0
Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$350000	\$0	\$1510000	\$0	\$0	\$1860000
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						\$1860000
TOTAL	\$350000	\$0	\$2843979	\$0	\$0	\$3193979

## 1.5.2 - PART II: FINANCIAL PLANNING NARRATIVE

Sources, uses of, and efforts to coordinate funding to be used to accomplish the SPIL Goals and Objectives. Process for grants/contracts, selection of grantees, and distribution of funds to facilitate effective operations and provision of services.

### Financial Plan Narratives

- Part B funds will further all objectives.
- Part C funds will further all objectives.
- No Chapter 2 (Older Blind) funds will be used to further SPIL objectives. The Chapter 2 (Older Blind) funds will stay with the Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation while the part B, part C and Sec. 101 (a) (18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion) funds will be used to fund the SILC.

Efforts to coordinate Federal and State funding for centers and IL services, including the amounts, sources and purposes of the funding to be coordinated.

We are continuing to work with the DSE and other state entities to ensure fee-for-service opportunities are available for the CILs. We are able to serve individuals in approximately ½ of the cities in Alaska. The Alaska Independent Living Network is committed to diversifying its base. To go about that diversification in a variety of ways, including using Medicaid billing (Access Alaska), being an Aging and Disability Resource Center (SAIL and ILC), and slowly growing the size of the organization (Arctic Access). Each organization also gets funding from the Alaska Department of Health and Social Service grants to perform programs that are related or complementary to the base IL grant. Each Center works to increase the amount of fee for service it provides and they have become community rehabilitation providers for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The DSE (Alaska Division of Senior and Disabilities Services) distributes Part B funds with additional match (state funds to the designated CILs) based on the funding formula. The total amount of funding is applied to the funding formula and each CIL receives the balance of funds after their Part C funding is backed out. The funds are distributed through a grant agreement and activities and responsibilities are described in their responses to a Request for Proposal released by the state. CILs send SDS their 704/PPR data on a quarterly basis to meet reporting requirements for the state. The Performance Measure Framework is due at the end of the fiscal year (Final Report). The Demographic report is due quarterly, and the biannual program narrative is due semi-annually.

The SILC is awarded a contract by the Alaska Division of Senior and Disabilities Services after submitting a letter that explains why the SILC should be considered for a sole source contract, to provide the services of the state's independent living council. The SILC is funded by a mix of I&E and State General Funds, so the I&E funding is transferred to SDS through a

Reimbursable Services Agreement prior to distribution to the SILC. The SILC fulfills its reporting requirements by submitting its 704/PPR to SDS annually.

In-Kind resources including plant, equipment or services to be provided in support of the SILC resource plan, IL services, general CIL operations and/or other SPIL objectives.

The Alaska Independent Living Network resource plan includes each center for independent living (CIL) raising 50% of the funding needed to meet the goal of a fully served state. The CILs appreciate the individuals who volunteer for their respective organizations. The SILC and CIL board of directors are important volunteers along with those who are participating in the Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation work assessments by volunteering in the offices of the IL Network. The Network also uses paid volunteers, such as the Jesuits, VISTA, and Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). These individuals are critical to the strategies the Network is using to increase the amount of funding directed at services and outreach.

The Network also accepts in-kind donations. This is especially true in rural Alaska. In rural Alaska, the Nome office and Kotzebue home-office space (for Arctic Access) are in-kind donations. This includes the square footage of the office, the heat, phones, and internet. All of the CILs accept donations of funds and equipment (e.g., loan closet materials, office equipment, etc.). Donations vary greatly, but all centers receive some amount of funding from donations. The SILC is in the process of developing new funding streams for long-term sustainability. We are now receiving donations but have not reached the contribution level to apply for Pick Click Give.

CIL Funding

In February of 2024, the IL Network updated the CIL Funding Formula. After several meetings of the IL Network, the changes were presented to the DSE and then approved by the SILC during the April 2024 meeting held in Wasilla, Alaska.

The updated Funding Formula uses the disability population data of each census area in Alaska, using Disability Counts from the University of Montana. All Part B, Part C, and State General Fund IL funds will be considered in the Funding Formula. Additionally, the updated Funding Formula has the following weighted factors:

- A Rural Factor; Urban, Rural, Remote using the state of Alaska Office of Management and Budget (OMB) definition
- Cost of living Allowance; based on Alaska Medicaid Waiver rate chart
- A Service Factor; designating a region as unserved, underserved, or served based on updated definitions.

Two additional Service Factors were added and defined to accommodate unique issues with two CILs. Alaska is the largest state by measure of land mass, with communities being geographically dispersed and a low population basis. Service delivery off the road system is more expensive due to higher transportation costs and fewer service providers.

The IL Network continued to use the OMB census area designations for the Rural Factormetric;

- Anchorage, Fairbanks North Star Borough, and Matanuska-Susitna Borough are considered Urban;
- Kenai Peninsula Borough, Juneau City and Borough, Ketchikan Gateway Borough, and Kodiak Census areas are considered rural;
- The remaining census areas are considered remote.

The essence of the Cost-of-Living Allowance (COLA) factor was a combination of the degree to which a census area has the infrastructure to provide services plus the cost of obtaining the necessary commodities and labor to provide those services. The Department of Health and Social Services used these COLA factors to arrive at Medicaid rates in different areas of the state.

Finally, the state population base is very spread out, with the size of communities varying between less than 100 people to over 300,000 people. There are five Service Factors with

different weights and definitions.

The formula will calculate the percentage of funding for each CIL based on these weighted factors. If the CIL receives Part C funding, then that amount will be subtracted from the total.

#### Future Funding

Wherever possible this plan assumes the same level of funding for CILs as the preceding year, unless there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. not meeting the standards and indicators or decrease or increase in funding).

#### Future Increases in Federal Part C, Federal Part B, and/or State IL funds:

If there are any increases in federal Part B and/or state funding during any year of the SPIL or should Part B and or state funds become available as the result of increases in Part C funding, the CILs will receive a commensurate increase in funding based on the current funding formula.

## 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.

#### Core Independent Living Services: Information and referral

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

#### Core Independent Living Services: IL skills training

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

#### Core Independent Living Services: Peer counseling

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

#### Core Independent Living Services: Individual and systems advocacy

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

#### Transition Services: Transition from nursing homes & other institutions

Is this service being provided?	Yes
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Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Transition Services: Diversion from institutions

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Transition Services: Transition of youth (who were eligible for an IEP) to post-secondary life

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

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.

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Rehabilitation technology

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Mobility training

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life skills training, and interpreter and reader services

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes

Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Personal assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation opportunities, and accessible transportation and other support services

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

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

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Transportation, including referral and assistance for such transportation and training in the use of public transportation vehicles and systems

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Individual and group social and recreational services

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Training to develop skills specifically designed for youths who are individuals with significant disabilities to promote self-awareness and esteem, develop advocacy and self-empowerment skills, and explore career options

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Services for children

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

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

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Appropriate preventive services to decrease the need of individuals with disabilities for similar services in the future

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with disabilities

Is this service being provided?	Yes
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Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

Such other necessary services as may be necessary and not inconsistent with the Act

Is this service being provided?	Yes
Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds?	Yes
Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

## 2.1 - OPTIONAL MAP ATTACHMENT

Uploaded Document Name: SILC\_graphic\_FY23\_2-1-24.pdf

## 2.2 - OUTREACH TO UNSERVED AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

Definition of served, unserved, and underserved.

To determine who is currently unserved/underserved, we surveyed Alaskans, held focus groups, and reviewed our sister agencies' data (e.g., DVR, DD Council) about which groups are currently unserved/underserved by their organization. The team also used the U.S. Census (as well as the American Community Survey), the Disability Compendium, and State of Alaska data. After reviewing the information, we created a list of unserved/underserved individuals who live in pockets throughout the state, specifically in areas served by the CILs. It was determined that the following segments of the population should be considered unserved/underserved.

Age Ranges: Seniors with disabilities, Youth with disabilities

Gender/Sexual Orientation: LGBTQ

Disability type: People with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder/Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, People with traumatic brain injuries, People with mental illness, Deaf and hard of hearing

Race/Nationality: African Americans with disabilities, Asian Americans with disabilities, Hispanics with disabilities, Alaska Natives with disabilities

Geographically unserved areas of the state are illustrated in the IL Network's annual infographic (see attached).

There is a great need for Independent Living services in the southwestern portion of the state, but to be able to ensure a CIL would be successful requires enough funding to pay the higher costs of utilities, personnel costs, and travel. With the current funding levels, we do not see any expansion happening in the near future. Instead, focus will be given to integrating Independent Living into existing services in unserved areas of rural Alaska.

### Targeted Populations

Seniors with disabilities, Youth with disabilities in transition to adulthood (16-24 year old's), People with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder/fetal alcohol syndrome (FASD/FAS), People with traumatic brain injuries (TBI), People with mental illness, Deaf (and hard of hearing) Alaskans, African-Americans with disabilities, Asian-Americans with disabilities, Hispanics with disabilities, Alaska Natives with disabilities.

### Geographic Areas

To target one or more geographic regions seems disingenuous, because of the expanse of the state and the relatively small areas that are routinely covered by the IL staff members. We know that we need to find new ways to reach out to more communities and find ways to bring services to individuals with disabilities living 50 or more miles away from a center for

independent living or its satellite.

### Outreach activities and methods to be conducted and who will conduct each

Many new outreach efforts have been started. The SILC has taken over the responsibility of getting participants satisfaction surveys through the U.S. Postal Service. The surveys have a cover letter that explains who we are, which CIL they received services from, why we are doing these letters and surveys, and the opportunity to win a small prize if they return the survey.

Every CIL and the SILC uses social media to get the word out to the community about certain ideas and opportunities. These posts are picked up by other groups who get them out to their communities. In rural Alaska, this is an important mechanism for the exchange of information; it is more influential than television ads. The SILC and the CILs participate in rural outreach, such as Health Fairs, to get exposed to more individuals in more communities. The IL Network also uses sister boards to get the independent living message to more communities, such as during rural outreach trips and to specific disabilities (e.g., developmental). The CILs will participate in cultural events and fairs as part of the attempt to reach out to specific cultures and races. One of the easiest ways to reach out to a community is through one-to-one contact. Peer mentoring is one of the best ways to overcome divisions based on our outward appearance and bring a community in from the cold.

ACL Feedback Notes: Thank you kindly for addressing this section based on the previous feedback note ---- Previous feedback note: Section 2.2 requires that the state IL network describe "their definitions of unserved and underserved and explain how their definitions for unserved and underserved are determined." Please add this answer into your response and resubmit. Thank you.

## 2.3 - COORDINATION

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

We look forward to our continued relationship with DVR and the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development as we work on issues of employment, transportation, assistive technology issues, and transition-age youth. Similarly, we have continued to work with the State Rehabilitation Committee on issues around employment, youth transition, and service dogs.

The Alaska Department of Health (specifically SDS and its Grant Unit) has made the transition of the DSE smooth. We continue to have a good working relationship with them.

The Alaska Division of Senior and Disabilities (SDS) continues to be a major stakeholder committed to offering IL activities to Alaskans with disabilities. The department and its divisions, including SDS and the Alaska Division of Public Health, have been integral to providing IL services, transportation, housing, the transition of youth out of foster care and of individuals who want to live in the least restrictive environment, health care access, emergency preparedness, recreation, community involvement, peer support, as well as information and referral.

The SILC will continue to work with the various boards housed in the Department of Health. The SILC has a variety of ongoing projects with the DD Council, including working on creating a new advisory group, led by the SILC, for FEMA and Alaska's emergency management teams, transportation issues, assistive technology, and Medicaid Reform. The IL Network works with the Alaska Commission on Aging, the Alaska Long Term Care Ombudsman Office, AgeNet, and the Trade Association for senior service providers, to improve the lives of Elders and seniors (with disabilities). We are working together on the following issues: transportation (e.g., accessible taxis, community transit), emergency preparedness, and least restrictive housing options. The Alaska Mental Health Board and the Advisory Board on Alcohol and Drug Abuse share an Executive Director and partner with the SILC on legislative education and awareness, transportation, voting access, and youth transition.

There are several other committees that the SILC has strong relationships with including those

belonging to the Alaska Department of Revenue, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and those who are non-profits and are aligned with a state agency. The Alaska Mobility Coalition (AMC) is a non-profit agency that focuses on community transit that is safe, affordable, accessible, and available for the general public; including specifically persons with disabilities. The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, a state agency in the Department of Revenue, is a conduit for change in the way services are provided to individuals with specific disabilities (mental illness, developmental disabilities, Alzheimer's and Related Dementia, alcoholism/drug abuse, and/or brain injury.) Luckily, because of the amount of funding available through the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority (the Trust), the positive outcomes are felt by many people with other disabilities. The Trust is able to sway public policy by offering grant funding that is cost-effective, person-centered, and uses best practices. The SILC has been able to work with the Trust to ensure independent living opportunities are available to more individuals in Alaska including selection tools for selecting Conflict-Free Case Managers and a program for the transition of individuals who are in assisted living homes and would rather be living in less restrictive environments. The Alaska Brain Injury Network is in flux and the SILC is working with its partners to create a new state plan for individuals with traumatic and acquired brain injury.

The SILC actively seeks out ways to blend and braid funding and responsibilities with other federal (FEMA), state (Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities), and local partners on activities surrounding transportation, emergency preparedness, information and referral, transitions, assistive technology, and durable medical equipment, as well as the Americans with Disabilities Act implementation.

The Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Consortia (TVRC), Alaska University Center for Excellence on Developmental Disabilities (UAA Center for Human Development), and the Protection and Advocacy Agency (Alaska Disability Law Center) will continue to be important resources for the Network's efforts to increase accessibility and awareness on disability rights issues. These agencies act as a medium for our message and to ensure that the concerns of rural Alaskans are received.

## Section 3: Network of Centers

### 3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

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Current Centers for Independent Living including: legal name, geographic area and counties served, and source(s) of funding. Oversight process, by source of funds, and oversight entity.

### 3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

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Access Alaska, Inc.

Counties Served: Anchorage, Denali, Fairbanks North, Matanuska-Susitna, North Slope, Southeast Fairbanks

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Anchorage (Full Services)

Denali (Limited Services)

Fairbanks North (Full Services)

Matanuska-Susitna (Full Services)

North Slope (Limited Services)

Southeast Fairbanks (Limited Services)

Arctic Access

Counties Served: Nome, Northwest Arctic

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to DSE

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to DSE

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to DSE

Oversight Entity: DSE

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Nome (Full Services)

Northwest Arctic (Full Services)

Independent Living Center, Inc.

Counties Served: Kenai Peninsula, Kodiak Island, Valdez-Cordova

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Kenai Peninsula (Full Services)

Kodiak Island (Full Services)

Valdez-Cordova (Limited Services)

Southeast Alaska Independent Living, Inc.

Counties Served: Haines, Juneau, Ketchikan, Prince of Wales, Sitka, Skagway, Wrangell, Yakutat,

Angoon/Hoonah, Petersburg

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE

State Funds

Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE  
Other Non-Federal Funds  
Oversight Process: CIL submits CIL PPR to ACL/OIP and DSE  
Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP  
SPIL Signatory: Yes  
County Services  
Haines (Full Services)  
Juneau (Full Services)  
Ketchikan (Full Services)  
Prince of Wales (Full Services)  
Sitka (Full Services)  
Skagway (Limited Services)  
Wrangell (Limited Services)  
Yakutat (Full Services)  
Angoon/Hoonah (Full Services)  
Petersburg (Limited Services)

### 3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

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#### CIL Network

Explain the criteria for defining the CIL network, bearing in mind that those CILs included in the network should be those eligible to sign the SPIL.

#### Criteria for Defining the IL Network

The Alaska IL Network is composed of representatives of the Alaska Statewide Independent Council, the SILC/CIL Designated State Entity Alaska; and all four Alaska CILs. Each Alaska CIL is eligible to sign the SPIL.

#### How Services are Configured

CIL services in Alaska are provided by four CILs.

- Access Alaska
- Arctic Access
- Independent Living Center, Inc.
- Southeast Alaska Independent Living, Inc.

#### Access Alaska

Access Alaska serves the largest population centers in Alaska, with offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Wasilla. From these offices, Access Alaska provides all core services in the Anchorage Municipality, Fairbanks NorthStar Borough, and Matanuska-Susitna (Matsu) Borough, with a 2020 Census of 501,326 people. Access also provides itinerant services in the North Slope Borough, Yukon Koyukuk, and Denali Borough, census areas to 17,533 people. These communities require travel by airplane or boat to access and establish Access as responsible for one of the largest regional spans in the nation.

#### Arctic Access

Arctic Access maintains offices in Nome and Kotzebue. From these offices, Arctic Access provides all 5 core services in the Northwest Arctic Borough and the Nome census areas. The number of individuals living in the Northwest Arctic Borough and the Nome census area, according to the 2020 Census is 17,839. There are small hubs with many villages.

#### Independent Living Center (ILC)

The Independent Living Center (ILC) maintains offices in the communities of Homer, Kodiak, Soldotna, and Seward. From these offices, ILC provides all five core services to individuals with disabilities living in the Kenai Peninsula Borough and Kodiak Island and itinerant services to the Chugach and Copper River census regions. The number of individuals living on the Kenai and Kodiak Islands, according to the most recent Census, is 73,410. There are

an estimated 9,691 individuals living in the itinerant service communities. The total size of ILC's region is 61,466 square miles larger than the state of Georgia with some areas off the road system and accessible only by air or water.

#### Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL)

Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL) maintains offices in Juneau, Haines, Sitka, Ketchikan, Angoon, and Klawock. Additionally, through an agreement with a local tribe, SAIL has a part-time staff in the village of Kake. From these seven locations, SAIL provides all five core services in the Hoonah-Angoon Census Area; Haines Borough; Juneau City and Borough; Ketchikan Gateway Borough; Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area; Sitka City and Borough. These six census regions have a total population of 64,859 according to the recent Census. SAIL provides itinerant services to the Petersburg Borough, Skagway, Wrangell, and Yakutat census regions. According to the 2020 Census, 7,362 individuals live in these regions of the state.

In FY 2019, 3116 participants were served by the Alaska CILs. Statewide, the age range of participants most often served by the Alaska IL Network was almost equally divided between the age group 25-59 and the group 60+, with 1271 and 1287 individuals respectively.

Participants with physical disabilities, 827, were the most often served, followed by 642 individuals whose primary disability was listed as cognitive, followed by 535 individuals who identified as having a mental/emotional disability. Statewide, the vast majority of ethnicities served were Caucasian, Alaska Native/American Indian, and those who selected "two or more races". This is similar to the breakdown of the population of Alaska.

#### Disaster and Emergency Response Services

During and following a disaster or other emergency, Alaska's IL entities expect to play a role in addressing the daunting challenges individuals with disabilities and their families face in such times to maintain their safety, health, independence, and well-being. Alaska's IL entities have begun working with other disability organizations and FEMA on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness and Response. We will continue to develop this coordination and work on the development of long-term strategies for the IL Network to better prepare for and respond to emergencies and disasters.

For these reasons, it is the intent of this plan that, unless specifically prohibited for any funding stream, funding streams identified in the SPIL's financial plan be allowed to be used at the discretion of the recipient in the areas listed below. This includes new emergency response funding that becomes available during the period of the plan.

- Within the entity's assigned service area.
- In a service area assigned to another entity. In such cases, the entity(ies) providing the service will be guided by a memorandum of agreement with the CIL assigned to that area. Should the nature of the disaster/emergency prohibit the home CIL from participating in the coordination agreement, the assisting entities will still use a mutual memorandum of agreement to guide/coordinate the response.
- In areas unserved by any CIL. In this case, if multiple IL entities will be responding, a mutual memorandum of agreement between the entities will guide/coordinate the response.

Use of funds should follow the principles outlined in the Administration for Community Living/Office of Independent Living Programs (ACL/OILP) Disaster Services Policy, and other guidance issued at the time of the emergency, about particular funding sources.

## **3.2 - EXPANSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF NETWORK**

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Plan and priorities for use of funds, by funding source, including Part B funds, Part C funds, State funds, and other funds, whether current, increased, or one-time funding, and methodology for distribution of funds. Use of funds to build capacity of existing Centers, establish new Centers, and/or increase the statewide reach of the Network. (Follow the instructions in Title VII, Part C of

the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.)  
Definition of served, unserved, and underserved.

To determine who is currently unserved/underserved, we surveyed Alaskans, held focus groups, and reviewed our sister agencies' data (e.g., DVR, DD Council) about which groups are currently unserved/underserved by their organization. The team also used the U.S. Census (as well as the American Community Survey), the Disability Compendium, and State of Alaska data. After reviewing the information, we created a list of unserved/underserved individuals who live in pockets throughout the state, specifically in areas served by the CILs. It was determined that the following segments of the population should be considered unserved/underserved.

Age Ranges: Seniors with disabilities, Youth with disabilities

Gender/Sexual Orientation: LGBTQ

Disability type: People with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder/fetal alcohol syndrome, People with traumatic brain injuries, People with mental illness, Deaf and hard of hearing

Race/Nationality: African Americans with disabilities, Asian Americans with disabilities, Hispanics with disabilities, Alaska Natives with disabilities

Geographically unserved areas of the state are illustrated in the IL Network's annual infographic (see attached).

There is a great need for Independent Living services in the southwestern portion of the state, but to be able to ensure a CIL would be successful requires enough funding to pay the higher costs of utilities, personnel costs, and travel. With the current funding levels, we do not see any expansion happening in the near future. Instead, focus will be given to integrating Independent Living into existing services in unserved areas of rural Alaska.

Wherever possible this plan assumes the same level of funding for CILs as the preceding year, unless there are extenuating circumstances (e.g. not meeting the standards and indicators or decrease or increase in funding).

Minimum funding level for a Center and formula/plan for distribution of funds to ensure that each Center receives at least the minimum.

The minimum funding level for a CIL is \$250,000. Accounting for all funding sources used to fund IL services in Alaska, The funding formula for IL funding distribution ensures that all four CILs receive the minimum funding level.

Priorities for establishment of new CIL(s).

The funding formula is capable of accounting for any adjustments of service regions. There are no proposed changes to service regions at this time. However, CILs may enter MOAs with one another at any time, in order to provide IL services outside of designated service regions.

Action/process for distribution of funds relinquished or removed from a Center and/or if a Center closes.

In the event that funds are relinquished or removed from a CIL and/or a CIL closes, the following steps will be taken:

- The SILC will take the lead in the formation of a review committee with representation from the SILC, DSE, and stakeholder organizations (e.g. The Alaska Mental Health Trust, Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, Alaska Commission on Aging, etc.), which will issue a competitive RFP to the remaining CILs.



- The remaining CILs may submit a single proposal, which outlines a plan for serving one, more or all of the communities formerly served by the CIL in question.
- The review committee will meet to approve plans of service on a community-by-community basis.
- Notice of approval will be issued immediately as decisions are made, in order to minimize lapses in service for each community that is up for review.
- The funding formula will be updated to reflect the change in service areas and include only the CILs that remain.
- If there are no respondents to the RFP or some communities are not included in CIL proposals, funds will go back into the funding formula for redistribution. Part C funds will be redistributed in the same manner that Part B and State GF are distributed in the existing funding formula.

Plan to build capacity of existing CILs and/or expand statewide reach by establishing branch offices and/or satellites of existing CILs.

Any expansion would occur through an increase of Part C or State funds. Our current funding formula is capable of adjusting according to any increases or decreases in funds (including Part B, Part C, other funds, and one-time funds), unless state or federal regulations prohibit the method of distribution used in the funding formula. In the event of an increase or decrease in funds, each CIL receives an increase or decrease of funds commensurate with the funding formula.

Plan/formula for distribution of new funds (Part B, Part C, one-time funds, etc.)

The CILs will use Part B and/or C funds, I & E, state funds, individual and corporate donations, municipal grants, foundation grants, fees for service, other state grants, and other federal grants. The SILC will use I&E, State General Funds, administrative fees from foundation grants, and donations.

Plan and priorities for use of funds, by funding source, including Part B funds, Part C funds, State funds, and other funds, whether current, increased, or one-time funding, and methodology for distribution of funds. Use of funds to build the capacity of existing Centers, establish new Centers, and/or increase statewideness of the Network.

If there are any increases in federal Part B and/or state funding during any year of the SPIL or should Part B and or state funds become available as the result of increases in Part C funding, the CILs will receive a commensurate increase in funding based on the current funding formula.

Plan/formula for adjusting distribution of funds when cut/reduced.

CIL's will receive a decrease in funds commensurate with the funding formula.

Plan for changes to Center service areas and/or funding levels to accommodate expansion and/or adjustment of the Network. State the needed change(s) as concretely and succinctly as possible.

no funding changes needed

Temporary Changes (if applicable) Other (if applicable)

not applicable

## Section 4: Designated State Entity



## 4.0 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

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Alaska Division of Senior and Disability Services will serve as the entity in Alaska designated to receive, administer, and account for funds made available to the state under Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B of the Act on behalf of the State.

### 4.1 - DSE RESPONSIBILITIES

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- receive, account for, and disburse funds received by the State under this chapter based on the plan;
- provide administrative support services for a program under Part B, and a program under Part C in a case in which the program is administered by the State under section 723;
- keep such records and afford such access to such records as the Administrator finds to be necessary with respect to the programs;
- submit such additional information or provide such assurances as the Administrator may require with respect to the programs; and
- retain not more than 5 percent of the funds received by the State for any fiscal year under Part B for the performance of the services outlined in paragraphs (1) through (4).

### 4.2 - ADMINISTRATION AND STAFFING: DSE ASSURANCES

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Administrative and staffing support provided by the DSE.

The DSE does not take any percentage for the administration of Part B funds or the state match. The DSE does not provide any staff to the SILC.

### 4.3 - STATE-IMPOSED REQUIREMENTS

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State-imposed requirements contained in the provisions of this SPIL including:

- State law, regulation, rule, or policy relating to the DSE's administration, funding, or operation of IL programs and/or establishment, funding, and operations of the SILC
- Rule or policy implementing any Federal law, regulation, or guideline that is beyond what would be required to comply with 45 CFR 1329
- That limits, expands, or alters requirements for the SPIL

There are no additional requirements imposed by the state.

### 4.4 - GRANT PROCESS & DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

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Grant processes, policies, and procedures to be followed by the DSE in the awarding of grants of Part B funds.

Instructions: Describe the processes, policies, and procedures to be followed by the DSE in the awarding of grants of Part B funds including: (all of the following are required)

Process for soliciting proposals

The DSE (Alaska Division of Senior and Disabilities Services) distributes Part B funds with additional match (state funds to the designated CILs) based on the funding formula. The total amount of funding is applied to the funding formula and each CIL receives the balance of funds after their Part C funding is backed out. The funds are distributed through a grant agreement and activities and responsibilities are described in their responses to a Request for Proposal released by the state.

Development of format for proposals

The DSE will comply with all requirements outlined in Alaska Administrative Code 7.AAC.78, Grant Programs, while developing the format for proposals. This includes giving the public notice of the availability of the request for proposals for the grant in a manner that is reasonably calculated to

reach potential applicants. This notice will specify the following:

- (1) the grant period;
- (2) contact information to obtain a copy of the request for proposals; and
- (3) the deadline by which a proposal in response to the request for proposals is due.

The request for proposals will specify the following:

- (1) each service delivery area or pre-defined allocation of money by area;
- (2) grant program goals to be achieved as a result of the grant project;
- (3) minimum responsiveness criteria, including any specific grantee agency requirements;
- (4) whether an applicant must submit a multi-year plan as part of the proposal.
- (5) any planning document upon which a grant award decision may be based; and
- (6) instructions for formatting, completing, and submitting a proposal.

Process for reviewing proposals and who reviewers will be

The DSE will review each proposal received in response to a request for proposals issued and prepare a record of recommendations for the commissioner's consideration. To begin this process, the State of Alaska Department of Health Financial Management Services will evaluate each grant proposal for compliance with the minimum responsiveness criteria, technical or other requirements, conditions, and criteria set out in 7 AAC 78.100 and the request for proposals; based on the contents of the proposal and other documentation and information regarding the applicant that is available. The DSE will then appoint a proposal evaluation committee comprised of at least three members. These members will consist of State staff that have received training in the procedures and responsibilities of a proposal evaluation committee before the committee meets to evaluate proposals.

Each member of a proposal evaluation committee will evaluate each responsive grant proposal independently of other committee members. After each committee member has reviewed each grant proposal, the committee will meet to make recommendations to approve or disapprove a grant award, make modifications to a proposed grant, or impose special conditions for a grant award; and rank the proposals in priority order.

Process for evaluating performance and compliance of grantees

The published request for grant proposals and subsequent grant agreements will outline program goals and specific performance measures used to evaluate progress towards these goals. Grantees will collect data and report to the DSE using the MiCIL Medicaid Information Management System. This information, along with grant narrative and fiscal reporting, will be used to measure the following:

1. Cost to provide CIL services to a consumer (Total Grant award amount/# of unduplicated consumers)
2. Number of unduplicated people assisted with transition services:
  - i. Number of individuals receiving transition services from a nursing home to the community
  - ii. Number of youth assisted with transition services into postsecondary life
3. Number of outreach activities
4. Number of outreach activities to rural/remote areas within the CILs region
5. Number of people receiving awards through the NFT program.

Additionally, grantees will submit:

1. Cumulative Fiscal Report (CFR)- overall grant and match expenditures are reported quarterly by budget line item;
2. Biannual 704 report, Part I- Subpart II, number and types of disabilities of individuals with significant disabilities receiving services;
3. Performance Measure Framework- Results-based accountability, measures the performance of the program.

These reports will be reviewed by the DSE to ensure compliance with all state and federal policies

and regulations and to measure program performance.

## 4.5 - OVERSIGHT PROCESS FOR PART B FUNDS

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The oversight process to be followed by the DSE.

- The DSE issues IL Part B contracts to each CIL annually and monitors each contract for compliance with state and federal regulations including the federal standards and indicators for Centers for Independent Living. The DSE also has performance measures to ensure cost-effective services are being provided to as many individuals as possible. Also, the DSE plans to reinvigorate the review program for both CILs and the SILC. The DSE will review financials and service delivery data on a quarterly basis and provide recommendations for improvement as necessary.

## 4.6 - 722 VS. 723 STATE

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722 State

# Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

## 5.1 - ESTABLISHMENT OF SILC

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How the SILC is established and SILC autonomy is assured.

The SILC of Alaska was established during the state fiscal year (SFY) of 1994. In that year, the Governor of Alaska appointed 13 members, on an interim basis, to the SILC of Alaska through an Executive Order. In SFY1995, the Senate passed an act to establish the SILC and clarified its relationship with the Designated State Unit (DSU). The SILC is described in Alaska Statute 47.0780.300. The statute establishes the relationship between the SILC and the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DOLWD/DVR) to provide funding, professional development, and technical assistance to the SILC. In SFY 2002, the SILC became a non-profit, with nine (9) voting members and two (2) ex-officio, non-voting members. In SFY2016, the Governor issued Executive Order 117 which stated that starting on the first day of the SFY2017 the Designated State Entity for the Independent Living Network will be moved to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services/Division of Senior and Disability Services (DHSS/SDS).

Operating as an independent non-profit helps clarify the relationship between the SILC, the DSE, and the State. This allows the SILC to carry out its general operations and programs free of any outside interference. The SILC ED and SILC Finance Committee develop the SILC's annual budget, which is approved solely by the voting members of the Council. The SILC board has an independent process for hiring the SILC ED, while the SILC ED independently hires all other SILC staff. Annual Advocacy Agendas are approved solely by the voting members of the Council.

## 5.2 - SILC RESOURCE PLAN

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Resources (including necessary and sufficient funding, staff/administrative support, and in-kind), by funding source and amount, for SILC to fulfill all duties and authorities.

Funding sources may include "Innovation and Expansion (I&E) funds authorized by 29 U.S.C. 721(a)(18); Independent Living Part B funds; State matching funds; [state allotments of Vocational Rehabilitation funding;] other public funds (such as Social Security reimbursement funds); and private sources."

The SILC will receive \$350,000 in State Funds for FFY 2025, 2026 & 2027. No Innovation and Expansion funds have been dedicated to the SILC for FFY 2025, 2026, or 2027.  
Process used to develop the Resource Plan.

The DSE contract is negotiated with the DSE each May. The annual contract does not include any conditions or requirements that would compromise the independence of the SILC. The SPIL goals, objectives, and activities and the SILC Resource Plan are developed based on the understanding that federal and state funds may fluctuate. The financial tables are developed based on conservative estimates, using current fiscal indicators and trends from the previous two years as guides for cost estimations. It is important to recognize that the SILC has limited staff and resources; therefore, it is critical to collaborate and partner with the CILs, the DSE, and other agencies to complete the goals, objectives, and activities identified in the SPIL.  
Process for disbursement of funds to facilitate effective operations of SILC.

The DSE provides the SILC with an advance at the beginning of every fiscal year to ensure that the SILC can operate continuously without disruption or any undo burden. The first advance is typically enough to get the SILC through more than half of a fiscal year. The DSE provides a second advance well before the initial advance has been drawn down. The DSE provides a funding contract that spans beyond one SPIL cycle, providing greater security when transitioning from one SPIL cycle to the next.

Justification if more than 30% of the Part B appropriation is to be used for the SILC Resource Plan.

N/A

## 5.3 - MAINTENANCE OF SILC

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How State will maintain the SILC over the course of the SPIL.

Instructions: Describe the process used by the State to appoint members to the SILC who meet the composition requirements in section 705(b). Indicate who appoints members to the SILC, how the State ensures that the SILC composition and qualification requirements are met, how the chair is selected, how term limits are maintained, and how SILC vacancies are filled. Describe how the specific SILC-staffing requirements listed in the SPIL Instrument will be addressed. Concisely describe or cite relevant written policies, procedures, by-laws, technical assistance, and monitoring activities, or other practices.

Describe how the State will ensure that: (all of the following are required)

The SILC is established and operating

Members are appointed by the Governor of Alaska. Per the federal requirements, the Alaska statute outlines that the SILC must include a representative from the DSE and the Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (as nonvoting, Ex-Officio members). The SILC will have at least 1 director of a CIL on the council as a voting member. Additionally, if the State had a tribally run center for independent living, then we would include that person as well. Our bylaws still state that we will have a Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation provider and until that is changed, we will continue to designate a seat for one of the consortia members. The Office of Boards and Commissions is usually willing to listen to the SILC's concerns, responsibilities, and needs. We have reviewed the other councils, committees, and boards the SILC members sit on and have noticed a wide diverse network to build awareness with and partner with. We encourage individuals to apply for the council. However, the Boards and Commissions' staff will put all of the individuals applying for a board with a disability focus into one group and appoint people from that group. We have tried to explain the process recommended by the Independent Living Reutilization Unit (ILRU), but the belief or push-back is that the process should be standard between all state-appointed boards.

Additionally, centers for independent living employees and participants; parents and guardians of individuals with disabilities; individuals with disabilities; representatives from private businesses, specific disability organizations, and disability service providers will be encouraged to apply to the SILC board. The SILC members and staff will describe the nomination/ appointment process to any potential candidate. A majority of members shall be persons with disabilities and not employed by any state agency or center for independent living. The Council elects the chair from among its members.

The SILC will strive to have representation from all geographic regions in the state to achieve cultural/ethnic diversity, reflective of the population of the state of Alaska. The council will include members from a wide variety of disability categories to ensure proper and adequate input from the disability community. The SILC shall select a chairperson from its voting members.

If there is an opening on the council because a member is unable to continue in his/her tenure, then the SILC Executive Committee, the SILC Executive Director, and Boards and Commission staff will work together to fill that opening as soon as possible.

Each member is appointed for a three (3) year term; members can only serve for two (2) consecutive terms. A person who has fulfilled his/her terms to the maximum extent possible will not be eligible to reapply for membership for one full term (3 years). Individuals serve at the pleasure of the governor. Appointments are made in a timely manner to keep the SILC in compliance with the Act

The SILC has struggled to get governor appointments made in a timely manner in order to remain in compliance. However, when compliance issues arise, the SILC ED maintains regular communication with Boards and Commissions to resolve the issue.

The SILC is organized in a way to ensure it is not part of any state agency

### Staffing

According to the Alaska SILC Personnel Policies, the council members constitute the Board of Directors of the corporation. As such, the SILC council members approve the personnel policy and are the only ones who may alter, change, or waive any policy contained herein.

When hiring a new Executive Director, the full Board must approve the hiring, but authorizes the Executive Committee to enter into a written contract of service with an approved candidate for the position of Executive Director and provide guidance to the position through the Chairperson.

The Board of Directors has delegated to the Executive Director authority to employ and discharge all other staff of the corporation, whether full-time, part-time, and/or temporary. The Board of Directors must approve position descriptions and pay before positions are filled, and only if an approved budget allows for it.

All staff must recognize that Alaska is an "at will" state, meaning either the employer (the SILC) or employee may terminate the employment relationship at any time with or without cause and with or without notice. No supervisor or director is authorized to enter into anything other than an at-will employment relationship with any employee on behalf of SILC.

The Executive Director, at least annually, will make a written evaluation of the effectiveness of each employee in carrying out duties included in his/her job description, review the evaluation with the employee, and place a copy of the evaluation in the employee's personnel file. Each employee shall sign the evaluation to denote that he/she has reviewed the evaluation with the Director or designee. The signature does not necessarily mean agreement with the evaluation, and the employee may write a response to the evaluation, which will also be placed in the employee's personnel file.

- Non-assignment of duties to SILC staff and other personnel made available by the DSE, or any other State agency or office that would create a conflict of interest while assisting the SILC in carrying out its duties.

The SILC's personnel policy covers conflict of interest issues by stating: "All employees will act consistent with the Ethics and Conflict of Interest policy contained herein. No employee will attempt to use his/her position to promote personal gain. Each employee will avoid actual, or the appearance

of, financial or other benefits from relationships with clients, agencies, commercial institutions, or activities with which the corporation does business or has working relationships."  
The SILC has the autonomy necessary to fulfill its duties and authorities, including "[working] with CILs to coordinate services with public and private entities, . . . conducting resource development, and performing such other functions . . . as the [SILC] determines to be appropriate

The SILC possesses the autonomy necessary to fulfill all of its duties and authorities. Necessary and sufficient resources are provided for the SILC Resource Plan to ensure the SILC has the capacity to fulfill its statutory duties and authorities

*The DSE will provide the SILC with the funds necessary and sufficient to perform its statutory duties and authorities for the period of this SPIL. However, without additional funds, such as Innovation and Expansion, the SILC will be at risk in the next SPIL cycle. The DSE has implemented a short-term solution to fund the SILC by providing a 10-year contract for \$2 million total, while allowing the SILC to draw down \$350,000 per year. At this rate, the contract will be completely drawn down in a little over five years without any kind of adjustment for CPI. This timeframe will be less than five years if accounting for CPI, making it essential to resolve this funding issue soon.*

## Section 6: Legal Basis & Certifications

### 6.1 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

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The state entity/agency designated to receive and distribute funding, as directed by the SPIL, under Title VII, Part B of the Act is Alaska Division of Senior and Disabilities Services.  
Authorized representative of the DSE Tony Newman. Title: Director.

### 6.2 - STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)

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The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) that meets the requirements of section 705 of the Act and is authorized to perform the functions outlined in section 705(c) of the Act in the State is Alaska Statewide Independent Living Council.

### 6.3 - CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CILS)

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The Centers for Independent Living (CILs) eligible to sign the SPIL, a minimum of 51% whom must sign prior to submission, are:

Access Alaska, Inc.  
Arctic Access  
Independent Living Center, Inc.  
Southeast Alaska Independent Living, Inc.

#### 6.4.A

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The SILC is authorized to submit the SPIL to the Independent Living Administration, Administration for Community Living.

Yes

#### 6.4.B

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The SILC and CILs may legally carryout each provision of the SPIL.

Yes

#### 6.4.C

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State/DSE operation and administration of the program is authorized by the SPIL.

Yes

## Section 7: DSE Assurances

### DSE ASSURANCES

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Tony Newman acting on behalf of the DSE Alaska Division of Senior and Disabilities Services located at:

Street: 550 West 8th Avenue  
City: Anchorage  
State: Alaska  
Zip Code: 99501

#### 7.1

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The DSE acknowledges its role on behalf of the State, as the fiscal intermediary to receive, account for, and disburse funds received by the State to support Independent Living Services in the State based on the plan;

#### 7.2

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The DSE will assure that the agency keeps appropriate records, in accordance with federal and state law, and provides access to records by the federal funding agency upon request;

#### 7.3

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The DSE will not retain more than 5 percent of the funds received by the State for any fiscal year under Part B for administrative expenses;

#### 7.4

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The DSE assures that the SILC is established as an autonomous entity within the State as required in 45 CFR 1329.14;

#### 7.5

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The DSE will not interfere with the business or operations of the SILC that include but are not limited to:

1. Expenditure of federal funds
2. Meeting schedules and agendas
3. SILC board business
4. Voting actions of the SILC board
5. Personnel actions
6. Allowable travel
7. Trainings

#### 7.6

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The DSE will abide by SILC determination of whether the SILC wants to utilize DSE staff:

1. If the SILC informs the DSE that the SILC wants to utilize DSE staff, the DSE assures that management of such staff with regard to activities and functions performed for the SILC is the sole responsibility of the SILC in accordance with Sec. 705(e)(3) of the Act (Sec. 705(e)(3), 29 U.S.C.796d(e)(3)).



## 7.7

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The DSE will fully cooperate with the SILC in the nomination and appointment process for the SILC in the State;

## 7.8

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The DSE shall make timely and prompt payments to Part B funded SILCs and CILs:

1. When the reimbursement method is used, the DSE must make a payment within 30 calendar days after receipt of the billing, unless the agency or pass-through entity reasonably believes the request to be improper;
2. When necessary, the DSE will advance payments to Part B funded SILCs and CILs to cover its estimated disbursement needs for an initial period generally geared to the mutually agreed upon disbursing cycle; and
3. The DSE will accept requests for advance payments and reimbursements at least monthly when electronic fund transfers are not used, and as often as necessary when electronic fund transfers are used, in accordance with the provisions of the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (15 U.S.C. 1693-1693r).

## DSE SIGNATURE SECTION

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Tony Newman

Name of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Division Director

Title of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Anthony Newman

Electronic Signature

08/08/2024

Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

# Section 8: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) Assurances and Indicators of Minimum Compliance

## 8.1 - SILC ASSURANCES

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Jenifer Galvan acting on behalf of the SILC Statewide Independent Living Council of Alaska located at:

Street: 35555 Kenai Spur Hwy PMB 285

City: soldotna

State: AK

Zip Code: 99669

45 CFR 1329.14 assures that:

1. The SILC regularly (not less than annually) provides the appointing authority recommendations for eligible appointments;
2. The SILC is composed of the requisite members set forth in the Act;
3. The SILC terms of appointment adhere to the Act;
4. The SILC is not established as an entity within a State agency in accordance with 45 CFR Sec. 1329.14(b);
5. The SILC will make the determination of whether it wants to utilize DSE staff to carry out the



functions of the SILC;

- The SILC must inform the DSE if it chooses to utilize DSE staff;
  - The SILC assumes management and responsibility of such staff with regard to activities and functions performed for the SILC in accordance with the Act.
6. The SILC shall ensure all program activities are accessible to people with disabilities;
  7. The State Plan shall provide assurances that the designated State entity, any other agency, office, or entity of the State will not interfere with operations of the SILC, except as provided by law and regulation and;
  8. The SILC actively consults with unserved and underserved populations in urban and rural areas that include, indigenous populations as appropriate for State Plan development as described in Sec. 713(b)(7) the Act regarding Authorized Uses of Funds.

## 8.2 - INDICATORS OF MINIMUM COMPLIANCE

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Indicators of minimum compliance for Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILC) as required by the Rehabilitation Act (Section 706(b), 29 U.S.C. Sec 796d-1(b)), as amended and supported by 45 CFR 1329.14-1329.16; and Assurances for Designated State Entities (DSE) as permitted by Section 704(c)(4) of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. Sec. 796c(c)(4)), as amended.

### (a) STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL INDICATORS -

1. SILC written policies and procedures must include:
  - a. A method for recruiting members, reviewing applications, and regularly providing recommendations for eligible appointments to the appointing authority;
  - b. A method for identifying and resolving actual or potential disputes and conflicts of interest that are in compliance with State and federal law;
  - c. A process to hold public meetings and meet regularly as prescribed in 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
  - d. A process and timelines for advance notice to the public of SILC meetings in compliance with State and federal law and 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
  - e. A process and timelines for advance notice to the public of SILC meetings in compliance with State and federal law and 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
    - i. "Executive Session" meetings should be rare and only take place to discuss confidential SILC issues such as but not limited to staffing.
    - ii. Agendas for "Executive Session" meetings must be made available to the public, although personal identifiable information regarding SILC staff shall not be included;
  - f. A process and timelines for the public to request reasonable accommodations to participate during a public Council meeting;
  - g. A method for developing, seeking and incorporating public input into, monitoring, reviewing and evaluating implementation of the State Plan as required in 45 CFR 1329.17; and
  - h. A process to verify centers for independent living are eligible to sign the State Plan in compliance with 45 CFR 1329.17(d)(2)(iii).
2. The SILC maintains regular communication with the appointing authority to ensure efficiency and timeliness of the appointment process.
3. The SILC maintains individual training plans for members that adhere to the SILC Training and Technical Assistance Center's SILC training curriculum.
4. The SILC receives public input into the development of the State Plan for Independent Living in accordance with 45 CFR 1329.17(f) ensuring:
  - a. Adequate documentation of the State Plan development process, including but not limited to, a written process setting forth how input will be gathered from the state's centers for independent living and individuals with disabilities throughout the state, and the process for how the information collected is considered.
  - b. All meetings regarding State Plan development and review are open to the public and provides advance notice of such meetings in accordance with existing State and federal laws and 45 CFR 1329.17(f)(2)(i)-(ii);

- c. Meetings seeking public input regarding the State Plan provides advance notice of such meetings in accordance with existing State and federal laws, and 45 CFR 1329.17(f)(2)(i);
  - d. Public meeting locations, where public input is being taken, are accessible to all people with disabilities, including, but not limited to:
    - i. proximity to public transportation,
    - ii. physical accessibility, and
    - iii. effective communication and accommodations that include auxiliary aids and services, necessary to make the meeting accessible to all people with disabilities.
  - e. Materials available electronically must be 508 compliant and, upon request, available in alternative and accessible format including other commonly spoken languages.
5. The SILC monitors, reviews and evaluates the State Plan in accordance with 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(2) ensuring:
- a. Timely identification of revisions needed due to any material change in State law, state organization, policy or agency operations that affect the administration of the State Plan approved by the Administration for Community Living.
6. The SILC State Plan resource plan includes:
- a. Sufficient funds received from:
    - i. Title VII, Part B funds;
    - ii. If the resource plan includes Title VII, Part B funds, the State Plan provides justification of the percentage of Part B funds to be used if the percentage exceeds 30 percent of Title VII, Part B funds received by the State;
    - iii. Funds for innovation and expansion activities under Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 721(a)(18), as applicable;
    - iv. Other public and private sources.
  - b. The funds needed to support:
    - i. Staff/personnel;
    - ii. Operating expenses;
    - iii. Council compensation and expenses;
    - iv. Meeting expenses including meeting space, alternate formats, interpreters, and other accommodations;
    - v. Resources to attend and/or secure training and conferences for staff and council members and;
    - vi. Other costs as appropriate.

## SILC SIGNATURE SECTION

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The signature below indicates the SILC's agreement to comply with the aforementioned assurances and indicators:

Jenifer Galvan

Name of SILC Chair

Jenifer Galvan

Electronic Signature

08/03/2024

Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

## Section 9: Signatures

### SIGNATURES

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The signatures below are of the SILC chairperson and at least 51 percent of the directors of the centers for independent living listed in section 6.3. These signatures indicate that the Statewide

Independent Living Council of Alaska and the centers for independent living in the state agree with and intend to fully implement this SPIL's content. These signatures also indicate that this SPIL is complete and ready for submission to the Independent Living Administration, Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The effective date of this SPIL is 10/01/2024

SILC SIGNATURE SECTION

Jenifer Galvan Name of SILC Chair Jenifer L Galvan Electronic Signature 08/03/2024 Date I understand that this constitutes a legal signature
--

CIL SIGNATURE SECTION

Independent Living Center, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living Joyanna Geisler Name of CIL Director Joyanna Geisler Electronic Signature 08/02/2024 Date
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Access Alaska, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living Eric Gurley Name of CIL Director Eric Gurley Electronic Signature 08/02/2024 Date
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Southeast Alaska Independent Living, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living Joan O'Keefe Name of CIL Director Joan O'Keefe Electronic Signature 08/02/2024 Date
--

Arctic Access Name of Center for Independent Living Denice Gilroy Name of CIL Director Denice L Gilroy Electronic Signature 08/05/2024 Date
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