

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) for Ohio for 2017-2019

General Information

Designated Agency Identification

State: Ohio

Agency: Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

Plan for: 2017-2019

Submitted in fiscal year: 2016

View grant [9OIS0021-01](#) in the Grant Award screen.

Part I: Assurances

Section 1: Legal Basis and Certifications

1.1 The designated State unit (DSU) eligible to submit the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL or the plan) and authorized under State law to perform the functions of the State under the State Independent Living Services (SILS) and Centers for Independent Living (CIL) programs.

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency (OOD) is the Designated State Entity.

1.2 The separate State agency eligible to submit the plan and authorized under State law to provide vocational rehabilitation (VR) services to individuals who are blind.

N/A

1.3 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.

Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council

1.4 The DSU and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, and the SILC are authorized to jointly develop, sign and submit this SPIL on behalf of the State, and have adopted or otherwise formally approved the SPIL. Yes

1.5 The DSU, and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, may legally carry out each provision of the plan and will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the three-year period it receives funding under the SPIL. Yes

1.6 The SPIL is the basis for State operation and administration of the program. All provisions of the SPIL are consistent with State law. Yes

1.7 The representative of the DSU and, if applicable, of the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, who has the authority under State law to receive, hold, and disburse Federal funds made available under the SPIL and to submit the SPIL jointly with the SILC chairperson is Kevin L. Miller, Executive Director.

Section 2: SPIL Development

2.1 The plan shall be reviewed and revised not less than once every three years, to ensure the existence of appropriate planning, financial support and coordination, and other assistance to appropriately address, on a statewide and comprehensive basis, the needs in the State for:

- The provision of State independent living services;
- The development and support of a statewide network of centers for independent living;

- Working relationships between programs providing independent living services and independent living centers, the vocational rehabilitation program established under title I, and other programs providing services for individuals with disabilities.

Yes

2.2 The DSU and SILC conduct public meetings to provide all segments of the public, including interested groups, organizations and individuals, an opportunity to comment on the State plan prior to its submission to the Commissioner and on any revisions to the approved State plan. Yes

2.3 The DSU and SILC establish and maintain a written description of procedures for conducting public meetings in accordance with the following requirements. The DSU and SILC shall provide:

- appropriate and sufficient notice of the public meetings;
- reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication in the conduct of the public meetings, including providing sign language interpreters and audio-loops; and
- public meeting notices, written material provided prior to or at the public meetings, and the approved State plan in accessible formats for individuals who rely on alternative modes of communication.

Yes

2.4 At the public meetings to develop the State plan, the DSU and SILC identify those provisions in the SPIL that are State-imposed requirements beyond what would be required to comply with the regulations in 34 CFR parts 364, 365, 366, and 367. Yes

2.5 The DSU will seek to incorporate into, and describe in, the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under a project funded under chapter 2 of title VII of the Act and that the DSU determines to be effective. Yes

2.6 The DSU and SILC actively consult, as appropriate, in the development of the State plan with the director of the Client Assistance Program (CAP) authorized under section 112 of the Act. Yes

Section 3: Independent Living Services

3.1 The State, directly or through grants or contracts, will provide IL services with Federal, State, or other funds. Yes

3.2 Independent living services shall be provided to individuals with significant disabilities in accordance with an independent living plan mutually agreed upon by an appropriate staff member of the service provider and the individual, unless the individual signs a waiver stating that such a plan is unnecessary. Yes

3.3 All service providers will use formats that are accessible to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about:

- the availability of the CAP authorized by section 112 of the Act;
- the purposes of the services provided under the CAP; and
- how to contact the CAP.

Yes

3.4 Participating service providers meet all applicable State licensure or certification requirements. Yes

Section 4: Eligibility

4.1 Any individual with a significant disability, as defined in 34 CFR 364.4(b), is eligible for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs authorized under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act. Any individual may seek information about IL services under these programs and request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities, as appropriate. The determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs meets the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51. Yes

4.2 Service providers apply eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services. Yes

4.3 Service providers do not impose any State or local residence requirement that excludes any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services from receiving IL services. Yes

Section 5: Staffing Requirements

5.1 Service provider staff includes personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of centers. Yes

5.2 To the maximum extent feasible, a service provider makes available personnel able to communicate:

- with individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication, nonverbal communication devices, Braille or audio tapes, and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act; and
- in the native languages of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act.

Yes

5.3 Service providers establish and maintain a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services and, if appropriate, in administering the CIL program. The staff development programs emphasize improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of IL services, including knowledge of and practice in the IL philosophy. Yes

5.4 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act. Yes

Section 6: Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting

6.1 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will comply with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements and will adopt those fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for those funds. Yes

Section 7: Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting

7.1 In addition to complying with applicable EDGAR recordkeeping requirements, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will maintain records that fully disclose and document:

- the amount and disposition by the recipient of that financial assistance;
- The total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which the financial assistance is given or used;
- the amount of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources;
- compliance with the requirements of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act and Part 364 of the regulations; and
- other information that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate to facilitate an effective audit.

Yes

7.2 With respect to the records that are required by 34 CFR 364.35, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will submit reports that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate. Yes

7.3 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will provide access to the Commissioner and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, to the records listed in 34 CFR 364.37 for the purpose of conducting audits, examinations, and compliance reviews. Yes

Section 8: Protection, Use and Release of Personal Information

8.1 Each service provider will adopt and implement policies and procedures to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names in accordance with the requirements of 34 CFR 364.56(a)(1-6). Yes

Section 9: Signatures

As the authorized signatories, we will sign, date and retain in the files of the state agency(ies) and the Statewide Independent Living Council the Part I: Assurances, 1-8, and the separate Certification of Lobbying forms ED-80-0013 (available in [MS Word](#) and [PDF](#) formats) for the state independent living program (Part B) and the centers for independent living program (Part C).

The effective date of this SPIL is October 1, 2016.

Section 9: Signature for SILC Chairperson

Name Arthur Schlesinger

Title Chair, Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council

Signed? Yes

Date signed 06/29/2016

Section 9: Signature for DSU Director

Name Kevin L. Miller

Title Executive Director

Signed? Yes

Date signed 06/29/2016

Section 9: Signature for Separate State Agency for Individuals Who Are Blind

Is there a Separate State Agency for Individuals Who Are Blind? No

Name

Title

Signed? No

Date signed

Part II: Narrative: Section 1 - Goals, Objectives and Activities

Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities

1.1 Goals and Mission

Describe the overall goals and mission of the State's IL programs and services. The SPIL must address the goals and mission of both the SILS and the CIL programs, including those of the State agency for individuals who are blind as they relate to the parts of the SPIL administered by that agency.

Goal Name: System Advocacy

Goal Description:

Mission: People with disabilities in Ohio live independently and participate fully in their community. Ohio IL Network will promote community based living as the preferred living arrangement for persons with disabilities.

Goal Name: Increase Independent Living & Community Integration

Goal Description:

Persons with disabilities will live independently in the community of their choice through utilization of services and supports-consumer choice

Goal Name: Increase Community Access and Outreach

Goal Description:

Ohio Citizens, both those with disabilities and those without, will gain deeper understanding and appreciation of disability related issues and services through outreach and public education.

Goal Name: Increase Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Satisfaction of IL Services

Goal Description:

Consumers and other stakeholders will indicate satisfaction with services provided by CILs.

1.2 Objectives

1.2A. Specify the objectives to be achieved and the time frame for achieving them.

Goal(s) from Section 1.1	Objective to be achieved	Time frame start date	Time frame end date
System Advocacy	<p>Objective 1 (Housing): Ohio IL Network will participate in activities at the local, state, and/or federal level to increase affordable, accessible housing for persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Measure/indicator: During FFY 2015, using information from the 704 reports, the IL network provided 921.75 of advocacy activities related to accessible and affordable housing at the local, state, and federal levels. During the 3 year period of the SPIL, these hours will increase by 2% each year.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
System Advocacy	<p>Objective 2 (Community Supports/ Health Care): Ohio IL Network will advocate for and educate on expanded options and access to health care and community supports for persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Measure/indicator: During FFY 2015, using information from the 704 reports, the IL network provided 1,598.375 hours in advocacy activities related to community and supports/health care for persons with disabilities through participation in committees and coalitions at the local, state and federal levels. (Example, MyCare Ohio, Single Entry Point). During the 3 year period of the SPIL, these hours will increase by 2% each year.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
System Advocacy	<p>Objective 3: Ohio IL Network will establish an internal advocacy taskforce to share best practices and ideas to reduce and/ or remove barriers to community-based living.</p> <p>Measure/indicator: An Advocacy Taskforce will be formed in the first quarter of 2017, and will meet, most likely by teleconference, at least two times per year throughout the life of the SPIL. Annually, the Taskforce will issue its recommendations on best practices to reduce and/or remove barriers to community-based living. These recommendations will be shared with the relevant state parties.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
System Advocacy	Objective 4 (Transportation): Ohio IL Network will participate in activities at the local, state, and/or	10/01/2016	09/30/2019

	<p>federal level that increase accessible and affordable transportation options for persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Measure/indicator: During FFY 2015, using data from the 704 reports, the IL network provided 1002.25 hours participating in advocacy related to access to transportation for persons with disabilities through participation in committees and coalitions at the local, state, and federal levels. During the 3-year period of the SPIL, these hours will increase by 2% each year.</p>		
Increase Independent Living & Community Integration	<p>Objective 1 (Peer Support): Persons with disabilities will provide Peer Support to other persons with disabilities in order to assist in the achievement of IL goals.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: During the 2015 FFY, from data collected in the 704 reports, 461 individuals requested Peer Support services and 349 of them received those services. In year one of the SPIL, CILs will incorporate a question into existing satisfaction surveys that tracks whether greater self-direction and independence is achieved through peer support so that by years 2 and 3 of the SPIL, increases of at least 2% can be achieved.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
Increase Independent Living & Community Integration	<p>Objective 2 (Independent Living Skills Training): Persons with disabilities will achieve the Independent Living goals they set for themselves.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: In year one of the SPIL CILs will consistently track the number of consumers who receive IL skills training through the NET/CIL data collection/retrieval system. By year two monitoring can begin as baseline numbers are established. By year 3 of the SPIL increases of at least 2% should be accomplished.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
Increase Independent Living & Community Integration	<p>Objective 3 (Community Living): Persons with disabilities will live in the community setting of their choice.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: Transition: For FFY 2015 CILs transitioned more than 225 consumers from Nursing Homes or other restrictive environments into the community. CILs will continue to work toward</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019

	<p>increasing this number during each year of the SPIL.</p> <p>Diversion: These numbers are reflective of another new prong within the new 5th Core Service, unduplicated people who remain in the community as a result of diversion services has not yet been measured. Data will be tracked through the following Community-Based Living goals achieved, as well as individuals receiving home modifications, ramps, DME, peer support, ILST, LTCSS benefits navigation, access to technology, access to HOME Choice services, access to affordable/accessible housing, access to personal assistance services, and/or access to accessible transportation.</p>		
Increase Independent Living & Community Integration	<p>Objective 4 (Youth Transition): Out of school youth with disabilities who are under the age of 26 will be supported in the transition to adult life through the delivery of IL services.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: The number of individuals under the age of 26 who meet their IL goals will be tracked. This is a prong of the newly added 5th Core service and because it is new, a baseline has not been established. Data will be collected beginning in the first year of the SPIL and monitoring will become more effective and measurable by years 2 and 3 of the SPIL.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
Increase Independent Living & Community Integration	<p>Objective 5 (Self-Advocacy): Persons with disabilities will be provided the tools to become self-advocates.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: The CILs will incorporate a question into their existing satisfaction survey during year one of the Plan that speaks specifically to the ability to become better self-advocates and if that skill has been provided by the CILs. Those comments can be measured and evaluated during year two with the objective of increasing the numbers by year three.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
Increase Independent Living & Community Integration	<p>Objective 6 (Employment): Persons with disabilities will gain the IL skills and knowledge necessary to become more employable.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019

	<p>Measure/Indicator: The number of consumers who successfully meet their vocational goals within their IL plan. Because of the IL philosophy of consumer control, employment may not be an objective outcome for consumers.</p>		
Increase Community Access and Outreach	<p>Objective 1: Ohio IL Network will engage in activities and information programs to enhance community awareness of disabilities and disability issues.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: During FFY 2015, based on data from the 704 reports, the IL network invested 2,417.55 hours on Community Education in Community Activities. During the 3-year period of the SPIL, this number will increase by 2% each year.(May include participation in educational events related to Housing, Health Care, Assistive Technology, and Transportation).</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
Increase Community Access and Outreach	<p>Objective 2: Ohio IL Network will increase awareness of IL services to unserved and underserved populations within their service areas.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: CILs will increase the number of hours spent on outreach to underserved and unserved populations within the service areas.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
Increase Community Access and Outreach	<p>Objective 3: Ohio IL Network will build/participate in coalitions or collaborative partnerships to expand the participation of persons with disabilities in services, programs, activities, resources, and facilities.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: During FFY 2015 using data from the 704 reports, the IL Network spent 2,735.85 hours on Collaboration/Networking in Community Activities. The IL Network expects to increase these activities and the hours spent on them by 2% each year of the SPIL.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
Increase Community Access and Outreach	<p>Objective 4: Ohio IL Network will provide technical assistance to the community on making services, programs, activities, resources, and facilities in society accessible to persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: During FFY 2015, the IL network spent 3,149.2 hours on Technical</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019

	Assistance in Community Activities. During the period of the SPIL, this number will increase by 2% each year.		
Increase Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Satisfaction of IL Services	<p>Objective 1: The Ohio IL Network will develop a model consumer satisfaction survey and process to measure quality of service delivery resulting in and increase CILs ability to determine effectiveness of services.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: The survey will be developed by February 28, 2017, then distributed to CILs for review and comment with distribution to consumers to begin effective October 1, 2017. Survey results will be posted on the OSILC and CIL websites by the end of the second and third year of the SPIL.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
Increase Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Satisfaction of IL Services	<p>Objective 2: The Ohio IL Network will work toward consistent data collection/standardized services documentation and measuring outcomes.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: The IL Network will develop a draft CIL data collection manual by March 31, 2017. The draft manual will be disseminated to the CILs for review and comment by June 30, 2017. The IL Network will conduct a training on the new manual by September 15, 2017. In year two of the SPIL a competency certification process will be developed and implemented to ensure consistent data collection.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019
Increase Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Satisfaction of IL Services	<p>Objective 3: Increased funding through resource development will enable CILs to better meet the needs of consumers.</p> <p>Measure/Indicator: The Ohio IL Network, will identify potential funding opportunities (example: State agencies) and facilitate at least 1 annual meeting between potential funders and CILs.</p> <p>Annually, all CILs will be able to describe at least 1 resource development activity to expand funding.</p>	10/01/2016	09/30/2019

1.2 Objectives

1.2B Describe the steps planned regarding outreach to populations in the State that are unserved or underserved by programs under title VII, including minority groups and urban and rural populations.

- Identify the populations to be designated for targeted outreach efforts

Unserved and underserved includes individuals from racial and ethnic minority backgrounds, including those with limited English proficiency. It also includes specific groups of individuals within the population of individuals with disabilities, including individuals who have hearing loss, vision loss or other disabilities that require assistive technology in order to participate in community life. CILs continue to target people in long term care facilities wishing to relocate into the community, those individuals with disabilities at risk of becoming institutionalized, as well as transition age youth throughout the State.

- Identify the geographic areas (i.e., communities) in which the targeted populations reside

In urban areas, Somali and Hispanic/Latino communities are rapidly emerging populations. In rural areas, the unserved and underserved populations include the Amish, Mennonites, and people who reside in Appalachian areas. Each CIL will develop outreach strategies to address those populations which they identify in their service areas. Based on the Comprehensive Needs Assessment the ILOB program has been targeting the following counties to increase referrals to the program: Adams, Morgan, Noble, Greene, Madison, Harrison, Logan, Union, Delaware, Knox, Ashland, Lorain, Lake, Paulding, Henry, Wood and Sandusky Counties.

- Describe how the needs of individuals with significant disabilities from minority group backgrounds will be addressed

The OSILC, CCDs and the CILs will develop their own outreach strategies to address the needs of minority groups, based on their particular service areas.

1.3 Financial Plan

Describe in sections 1.3A and 1.3B, below, the financial plan for the use of Federal and non-Federal funds to meet the SPIL objectives.

1.3A Financial Plan Tables

Complete the financial plan tables covering years 1, 2 and 3 of this SPIL. For each funding source, provide estimated dollar amounts anticipated for the applicable uses. The financial plan table should include only those funding sources and amounts that are intended to support one or more of the objectives identified in section 1.2 of the SPIL. To the extent possible, the tables and narratives must reflect the applicable financial information from centers for independent living. Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about completing the financial tables and narratives.

Year 1 - 2017 Approximate funding amounts and uses

Sources	SILC resource plan	IL services	General CIL operations	Other SPIL activities
Title VII Funds				
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part B			626851	
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part C				
Title VII Funds Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)				
Other Federal funds - Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	250000			
Other Federal funds - other		2752396		
Non-Federal funds - State funds		28000		
Non-Federal funds - Other				
State GRF to Match I&E	67662			
Balance of GRF	118570			
State GRF to Match Part B			65768	
SSR for CCD program		772000		
Total	436232	3552396	692619	0

Year 2 - 2018 Approximate funding amounts and uses

Sources	SILC resource plan	IL services	General CIL operations	Other SPIL activities
Title VII Funds				
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part B			519915	
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part C				
Title VII Funds Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)				

Other Federal funds - Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	250000			
Other Federal funds - other		2752396		
Non-Federal funds - State funds		28000		
Non-Federal funds - Other				
State GRF to Match I&E	67662			
Balance of GRF	118570			
State GRF to Match Part B			65768	
SSR for CCD program		772000		
Total	436232	3552396	585683	0

Year 3 - 2019 Approximate funding amounts and uses

Sources	SILC resource plan	IL services	General CIL operations	Other SPIL activities
Title VII Funds				
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part B			519915	
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part C				
Title VII Funds Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)				
Other Federal funds - Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	250000			
Other Federal funds - other		2752396		
Non-Federal funds - State funds		28000		
Non-Federal funds - Other				
State GRF to Match I&E	67662			
Balance of GRF	118570			

State GRF to Match Part B			65768	
SSR for CCD program		772000		
Total	436232	3552396	585683	0

1.3B Financial Plan Narratives

1.3B(1) Specify how the part B, part C and chapter 2 (Older Blind) funds, if applicable, will further the SPIL objectives.

The Ohio Independent Living Older Blind program is operated outside the Independent Living Program. However, like the IL program, the ILOB program is also administered by the DSEs Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired. Individuals served and staff are encouraged to use CILs as an additional resource for services in their communities. DSE encourages collaboration between the ILOB and IL programs. One of the CILs is also an OOD fee schedule provider and provides direct services to eligible consumers of the ILOB program. BSVI staff cross present on their various programs including IL and ILOB at staff meetings to encourage collaboration among programs.

SPIL objectives will be furthered using Part B and Part C funds by providing an ongoing funding stream to CILs in order to continue to provide IL services established in Ohio. In addition, OSILC will use State GRF funds and I & E funding to support goals and objectives of the SPIL. The resource plan for Part B, Part C, GRF, SSR and I & E funds contained in this SPIL is flat funded for the 2017 time period. DSE services include PCA, CCD, Newline and supplementing the ILOB program.

1.3B(2) Describe efforts to coordinate Federal and State funding for centers and IL services, including the amounts, sources and purposes of the funding to be coordinated.

Ohio does not anticipate any additional federal or state dollars, however, if such funds become available, Ohio will coordinate funding for Centers for IL services. Subject to availability, the OSILC writes grants for non-match GRF funds to a majority of the CILs. In addition, one of the goals of this SPIL is resource development, and OSILC is committed to assisting CILs and CCDs in identifying additional sources of funding.

The OSILC will continue its current practice of relinquishing its share of the Part B funds for additional disbursement to the Centers to maximize dollars for expanding additional IL services in Ohio.

1.3B(3) Describe any 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 DSE uses SSR funds plus a GRF allotment of \$28,000 of GRF to support the Community Centers for the Deaf for a total of \$800,000 per year. SSR funds are also used to support the ILOB program, the Personal Care Assistance program and to fund the telephone and mobile

device access to news, job postings and public service announcements for disabled and visually impaired consumers.

1.3B(4) Provide any additional information about the financial plan, as appropriate.

In year 2017, the funding for the Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part B assumes the grant will be flat at the 2016 level plus \$34,942 in carry-over funds. By 2018, the carry-over funds would be fully liquidated and the amount for the CIL operations would be limited to the grant and state match.

OSILC continues to pass all of the Part B and state match to the CILs therefore OOD continues to support OSILC with I&E funds.

1.4 Compatibility with Chapter 1 of Title VII and the CIL Work Plans

1.4A Describe how the SPIL objectives are consistent with and further the purpose of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act as stated in section 701 of the Act and 34 CFR 364.2.

This State Plan for Independent Living reflects the State's commitment to carry out an Independent Living Plan under Chapter 1 of Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Chapter 1), and also the State's planning and implementation activities related to the plan. The State Plan objectives provide the opportunity for people with disabilities in the state of Ohio to maximize opportunities which allow for integration and full inclusion in the mainstream of society in all aspects of daily life. This is accomplished by promoting community integration via consumer-controlled community-based services and advocacy in the areas of transportation, housing, voting, emergency management, access to health care and youth transition. OSILC, the CILs and the DSE will collaborate in these efforts. These efforts will comply with standards and indicators presented in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act.

1.4B Describe how, in developing the SPIL objectives, the DSU and the SILC considered and incorporated, where appropriate, the priorities and objectives established by centers for independent living under section 725(c)(4) of the Act.

The Ohio Abilities Network (OAN), the CIL Network in Ohio, provided important input. CIL Directors were an integral part of the SPIL development team and CIL Directors provided input for goals and objectives at several specific junctures as the SPIL was created. There was a working session at the OSILC annual meeting devoted to SPIL goals and objectives and CILs provided written priorities for content of the SPIL.

1.5 Cooperation, Coordination, and Working Relationships Among Various Entities

Describe the steps that will be taken to maximize the cooperation, coordination and working relationships among the SILS program, the SILC, and centers; the DSU, other State agencies represented on the SILC and other councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues; and other public and private entities determined to be appropriate by the SILC.

The description must identify the entities with which the DSU and the SILC will cooperate and coordinate.

The OSILC seeks to maximize resources as well as cooperation with the CILs in a number of ways. OSILC provides technical assistance for specific things such as NET/CIL installation, equipment upgrades and ongoing training, funding assistance for reasonable accommodations for consumers and staff of CILs to attend disability-related meetings and conferences, supports the CIL association, OAN, with contributions such as printing updated letterhead, envelopes and providing funds to update websites, and technical assistance as requested for training such as Quick Books tutorials.

OSILC coordinates with the CILs, OAN and other public and private agencies to facilitate the goal of increasing affordable, accessible housing, transportation options, emergency preparation, advocacy, voter education, and financial planning options.

Agencies and groups with whom the OSILC coordinates and cooperates its efforts in support of SPIL goals and objectives include:

- Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD)
- Disability Rights Ohio (DRO)
- The Ohio Olmstead Taskforce (OOTF)
- Central Ohio Deaf Blind Association (CODBA)
- Universal Healthcare Action Network of Ohio (UHCAN)
- Integrated Care Delivery System (ICDS) stakeholder regional workgroups member
- Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA)
- Ohio Brain Injury Advisory Council
- Ohio Dept. of Medicaid (ODM)
- Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC)
- HOME Choice Housing Committee workgroup
- Front Door Stakeholder Committee workgroup
- Ohio Dept. of Aging (ODA)
- Area Agencies on Aging

- Aging and Disability Resource Network (ADRN)
- Unified Long Term Care Services and Supports workgroup
- Governor's Council on People with Disabilities (GCPD)
- Delaware Creative Housing/ Creative Living Systems (DCH/CLS)
- Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD)
- Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC)
- Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA)
- Ohio Consumers for Health Coverage (OCHC)
- Ohio Disability Health Programs (ODHP)
- Disability Community Planning Group (DCPG) workgroup
- State Health Assessment/State Health Improvement Plan Advisory Committee (SHA/SHIP)
- Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 10
- Ohio Disability Employment Alliance (ODEA)
- Columbus Advisory Council on Disability Issues (CACDI)
- The ARC of Ohio
- Assistive Technology of Ohio (AT-OHIO)
- Ohio Dept. of Health (ODH)
- Ohio Dept. of Transportation (ODOT)
- Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO)
- Goodwill Industries
- Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)
- Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

- Visitability Strategy Group (VSG) Steering committee
- Community Center for the Deaf (CCD)
- Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA)

As a direct result of participation with the groups and agencies shown above, OSILC is able to maximize working relationships and further accomplish goals and objectives of the SPIL. CILs and CCDs maintain working relationships with groups of agencies and organizations within their service areas and regions that address the needs of specific disability populations and will continue collaborative efforts with the ultimate missions of helping people with disabilities in Ohio live independently and participate fully in their community. CILs and CCD's share materials and referrals in their service areas.

1.6 Coordination of Services

Describe how IL services funded under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will be coordinated with and complement other services to avoid unnecessary duplication with other Federal, State, and local programs, including the OIB program authorized by chapter 2 of title VII of the Act, that provide IL- or VR-related services.

The DSE and OSILC have been in collaboration with various entities throughout the state i.e. the CILs and the Area Agencies on Aging to discuss referral process, services each agency offers, and how to ensure all consumers needs are being met. There should also be a concerted collaboration between OSILC, CILs and the DSE to further the goals of youth transition. The CILs will partner with the DSE Youth Leadership Forum.

1.7 Independent Living Services for Individuals who are Older Blind

Describe how the DSU seeks to incorporate into, and describe in, the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under the Older Individuals who are Blind program and that the DSU determines to be effective.

The Ohio Independent Living Older Blind program is operated outside the Independent Living Program. However, like the IL program, the ILOB program is also administered by the DSE Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired. Individuals served and staff are encouraged to use CILs as an additional resource for services in their communities. DSE encourages collaboration between the ILOB and IL programs. One of the CILs works with the DSE to provide direct services to eligible consumers of the BSVI program through a fee for service program. BSVI staff cross present on their various programs including IL and ILOB at staff meetings to encourage collaboration among programs.

During fiscal year 2015 DSE served 1,221 consumers through Ohio's Independent Living Older Blind Program. Individuals served are 55 and over whose severe visual impairment makes competitive employment extremely difficult to obtain, but for whom IL goals are feasible.

Part II: Narrative: Section 2 - Scope, Extent, and Arrangements of Services

2.1 Scope and Extent

2.1A Check the appropriate boxes in the SPIL Instrument table indicating the types of IL services to be provided to meet the objectives identified in section 1.2 of this SPIL, and whether the services will be provided by the CILs or by the DSU (directly and/or through contract or grant).

Table 2.1A: Independent living services	Provided by the DSU (directly)	Provided by the DSU (through contract and/or grant)	Provided by the CILs (Not through DSU contracts/grants)
Core Independent Living Services - Information and referral	No	Yes	Yes
Core Independent Living Services - IL skills training	No	Yes	Yes
Core Independent Living Services - Peer counseling	No	Yes	Yes
Core Independent Living Services - Individual and systems advocacy	No	Yes	Yes
Counseling services, including psychological, psychotherapeutic, and related services	No	No	No
Services related to securing housing or shelter, including services related to community group living, and supportive of the purposes of this Act and of the titles of this Act, and adaptive housing services (including appropriate accommodations to and modifications of any space used to serve, or occupied by, individuals with significant disabilities)	No	Yes	Yes
Rehabilitation technology	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mobility training	No	Yes	Yes
Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life skills training, and interpreter and reader services	No	Yes	Yes

Personal assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services	No	Yes	Yes
Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation, accessible transportation and other support services	No	Yes	Yes
Consumer information programs on rehabilitation and IL services available under this Act, especially for minorities and other individuals with disabilities who have traditionally been unserved or underserved by programs under this Act	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities	No	Yes	Yes
Supported living	No	No	No
Transportation, including referral and assistance for such transportation	No	Yes	Yes
Physical rehabilitation	No	No	No
Therapeutic treatment	No	No	No
Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices	No	No	Yes
Individual and group social and recreational services	No	Yes	Yes
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	Yes	Yes	Yes
Services for children with significant disabilities	No	Yes	Yes
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 significant disabilities	No	Yes	Yes

Appropriate preventive services to decrease the need of individuals with significant disabilities for similar services in the future	No	Yes	Yes
Community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with disabilities	No	Yes	Yes
Other necessary services not inconsistent with the Act	No	Yes	Yes

2.1B Describe any service provision priorities, including types of services or populations, established for meeting the SPIL objectives identified in section 1.2.

Specific priorities are established by community run, consumer controlled CILs. However, each CIL is required to develop an annual work plan that connects the appropriate goals and objectives of the SPIL, to their local consumer-run services.

2.1C If the State allows service providers to charge consumers for the cost of services or to consider the ability of individual consumers to pay for the cost of IL services, specify the types of IL services for which costs may be charged and for which a financial need test may be applied, and describe how the State will ensure that:

- Any consideration of financial need is applied uniformly so that all individuals who are eligible for IL services are treated equally; and
- Written policies and consumer documentation required by 34 CFR 364.59(d) will be kept by the service provider.

Indicate N/A if not applicable.

N/A

2.2 Arrangements for State-Provided Services

2.2A If the DSU will provide any of the IL services identified in section 2.1A through grants or contractual arrangements with third parties, describe such arrangements.

The DSE provides SSR funded Personal Care Assistance (PCA) and Community Centers for the Deaf (CCD) programs into the Independent Living program. The services are provided under Sec 713 Authorized Uses of Funds but are not subject to Sec 725 certifications.

Community Centers for the Deaf Program Information:

The Community Centers for the Deaf (CCD) are Ohio's centralized resource for services to deaf, hard of hearing, and Deafblind individuals. These services are available in every county in Ohio.

Each Center receives funding from OOD to provide community support and language services for Deaf Ohioans, their families, and their communities.

The CCDs provide the five core IL services, including Information and Referral, Independent Living Skills Training, Peer Counseling, transition, and Individual and Systems Advocacy to a targeted population. Additionally, all CCDs provide Interpreting and Communication services.

Information and Referral Services may include, but are not limited to:

? Providing general information about the unique needs of the target population to the general public or a specific audience;

? Providing specific information regarding a subset of the target population to the general public or a specific audience;

? Responding to inquiries about the target population in all counties in the target geographic area;

? Developing partnerships with programs so that the unique needs of the target population are addressed and considered in their programming;

? Developing partnerships with specific providers that have a high influence in the deaf community (i.e., Social Security Administration, Job and Family Services, court systems);

? Providing direct referrals to community supports to both the target population and general public;

? Providing information about technology related to the target population; and

? Coordinating communication access.

All CCDs provide information for a statewide Information and Referral database, maintained by the DSE and placed on the DSE's public website. By contract, each CCD must provide updates to the Information and Referral database annually.

Independent Living Skills Training services address the education and training required for Deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind individuals to live in a community and participate in community activities. Training promotes self-awareness and esteem and develops advocacy and self-empowerment skills. Services include, but are not limited to:

? Conducting group trainings on budgeting and financial planning, stress management, medical management, and other healthy living topics;

? Providing one-on-one advocacy and education;

? Providing mentoring opportunities;

- ? Teaching the target population how to advocate for themselves and their community; and
- ? Encouraging early intervention and planning for young or new members to the target population.

Peer Counseling allows Deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind individuals to develop leadership skills, an understanding of their own community, and opportunities for understanding other disability groups. Services include, but are not limited to:

- ? Developing a mentoring program;
- ? Developing a cross-disability awareness program;
- ? Developing leadership opportunities for members of the target community to encourage their peer or cross-disability peer group; and
- ? Developing opportunities for members of peer groups to interact.

Individual and Systems Advocacy Services promote short- and long-term opportunities and change for Deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind individuals. Advocacy services may be provided to individuals and groups and may also target general systems to ensure that the needs of the target population are accounted for and understood. Services include, but are not limited to:

- ? Advocating for the target population when the right to communication is threatened;
- ? Advocating for the provision of reasonable accommodation services in housing, community and government services, medical, employment, and religious settings;
- ? Increasing the awareness of the unique needs and values of Deaf, hard of hearing, and Deafblind persons in the business, educational, and general communities;
- ? Conducting deafness simulation trainings to increase sensitivity and awareness;
- ? Working with One Stop centers and other work-focused programs to increase target population access to services.
- ? Conducting accessibility studies in polling locations;
- ? Conducting deaf awareness and communication trainings with service providers and community partners;
- ? Attending general community events to expose the larger community to matters related to hearing loss and Deaf culture;
- ? Increasing the awareness of the need for the target population to have information in their preferred language;

? Consulting with Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRPs) that contract with OOD and provide basic VR services to the target population;

Interpreting/Communication Services are language accessibility (any signed language, C-Print, writing, emerging technologies, etc.) used by people who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind.

DSE procured CCD services and has awarded contracts to the entities identified below.

Greenleaf Family Center

TRIAD Deaf Services, Inc.

Hearing and Speech & Deaf Center of Greater Cincinnati

Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center

Deaf Services Center

Family Services Association

The Center for Individual and Family Services/The Rehab Center

Youngstown Hearing and Speech Center

DSE also utilizes SSR funds to support the Personal Care Assistance Program. That service will continue but now as a sub-part of the Independent Living Program.

Personal Care Assistance (PCA) - Summary

In order to maintain employment, look for employment, or participate in training for employment, some Ohioans with severe disabilities may require a personal care attendant/aide to assist them with activities of daily living (ADLs). DSE's PCA Program provides partial reimbursement to eligible individuals so that they may hire an attendant/aide.

DSE's PCA Program does not hire attendants/aides; rather, DSE provides the funding so that eligible individuals may hire the attendant/aide who may best meet their needs.

ADLs may include but are not limited to: dressing, grooming, bathing and toileting, food preparation, feeding, medicating, turning, repositioning, transferring and assisting with ambulation.

Eligible individuals require assistance in ADLs so that they may work, look for work, or attend training that will lead to work.

The PCA Program is an employment program. All individuals must be competitively employed, actively looking for work, or be in an approved training program that will lead to work. Additionally, to qualify for the PCA Program, an individual must:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Be an Ohio resident and obtain services in Ohio
- Have a severe physical disability
- Not be receiving duplicative PCA services from DSE's vocational rehabilitation programs
- Need no fewer than 8 consecutive weeks of PCA and no more than 455 hours per quarter
- Have adjusted income not exceeding 600% of the poverty level
- Be capable of instructing and supervising a personal care assistant
- Be living independently or through PCA be capable of living independently
- Agree to be subject to periodic evaluation of need for continuing PCA service

PCA Priority - Limited funds are made available to eligible individuals based on the following priorities:

1. People who have a job and need a personal care assistant to keep the job.
2. People who are actively seeking a job and need PCA to find and keep a job.
3. People in an accredited job training program who need PCA to participate in training.

PCA Participant Responsibilities - If approved as eligible for PCA services, each program participant is responsible for the following duties:

1. Screen, interview, select, instruct, and supervise their attendant(s)/aide(s);
2. Pay the attendant(s)/aide(s) wages;
3. Develop an organized system to maintain all PCA Program-related paperwork;
4. Follow all obligations, procedures, and payments of employer costs as required by law;
5. Reapply for the PCA Program annually; and
6. Follow all other rules and procedures established by the PCA Program.

Eligible individuals must ensure that their attendant(s)/aide(s):

- ? Agree to the terms of work and payment;
- ? Are able to perform required tasks;
- ? Report to work as scheduled; and
- ? Understand their tax obligations as required by law.

DSE's PCA Program does not hire attendants/aides; nor, does the program provide a list of qualified attendants/aides. Attendants/aides are hired by the eligible individual who requires the assistance.

2.2B If the State contracts with or awards a grant to a center for the general operation of the center, describe how the State will ensure that the determination of an individual's eligibility for services from that center shall be delegated to the center.

The DSE incorporates language into grant issues to CILs regarding the determination of an individual's eligibility based on federal regulations. The DSE ensures this specialization is met through DSE conducted Part B audits/monitoring or audits conducted by other entities contracted with the DSE.

Part II: Narrative: Section 3 - Design for the Statewide Network of Centers

3.1 Existing Network

Provide an overview of the existing network of centers, including non-Part C-funded centers that comply with the standards and assurances in section 725 (b) and (c) of the Act, and the geographic areas and populations currently served by the centers.

Ohio's IL network is currently comprised of 10 Centers funded with Part C dollars and two (2) funded with Part B dollars only. 48 of Ohio's 88 counties are served by Part B and/or Part C funds. Each CIL will operate in compliance with all applicable standards and assurances.

SOUTHEASTERN OHIO CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (SOCIL) SPIL Signatory

Counties Served: Fairfield and Hocking - Part B and Part C Funding

SOCIL collaborates with a wide range of community agencies to influence the lives of people with disability. Attendance at the various support groups (Abilities United; Parkinson; and Alzheimer) continues to grow. SOCIL continues to improve community access by conducting ADA surveys and educating the public. Phase I and II of the Sensory Trail (music stations and accessible tree house) are complete and Phase III (accessible Wetland Boardwalk) has begun. SOCIL is working closely with the city Park and Recreation departments to expand inclusive sports and recreation opportunities. Community sensory sensitive activities continue to be conducted such as Sensory Sensitive Santa and theater sensory sensitive movie viewings. Collaborations with mental health agencies have resulted in the Photo Project for teens in Hocking County and adults in Fairfield County. In addition Mental Health First Aid trainings are conducted throughout the year. SOCIL assists families to navigate the system of transition services from school to independent living through IL classes, college tours, People First IL trainings, Job Service Center tours, and job readiness programs with employment agencies. In addition SOCIL assists 4th-8th graders attend the Kids in College summer program at Ohio University to expand their educational horizons. The Carrier Alert program is underway to alert letter carriers to distress of residents that are elderly or have a disability and are living alone. SOCIL is coordinating a deaf fund for the Columbus Foundation to connect children with hearing disability access to resources to facilitate their success.

THE ABILITY CENTER OF GREATER TOLEDO (ACT) SPIL signatory

Counties served: Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Williams, and Wood - Part B and Part C Funding.

Branch Center ? Four counties in NW Ohio; Fulton, Henry, Williams, and Defiance. Located in Bryan, Ohio

Branch Center ? Ottawa County ? Located in Port Clinton

HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER ? ACT's Community Living Program has helped more than 700 people with disabilities of all ages move into their own housing. ACT has a Home Accessibility Program that provides wheelchair ramps and minor home modifications for 150 consumers a year. The program is supported with funds from State and City community development funds.

ADVOCACY ? ACT provides leadership in systems advocacy on the federal, state and local levels. Our staff chair various committees; including Ohio's Olmstead Task Force. Our new staff attorney represents the values of the Center in supporting consumers facing systems advocacy barriers. Researching and developing white papers help to move advocacy conversations forward based on fact. We have recently been successful in getting County and City officials to appoint ADA Coordinators to their staff.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS ? The Center provides support to community-based day camps as they accommodate kids with special needs. We recognize the rights of all campers to access everything our community has to offer and provide adaptations which allow each child to get the most out of their summer experience. Sixty children per year participate in this program.

YOUTH TRANSITION ? This year we initiated a program to support youth with disabilities to transition to post-secondary opportunities. We have partnered with Toledo Rotary to facilitate mentoring and summer employment experiences.

ASSISTANCE DOGS ? In 2011, ACT merged with Assistance Dogs of America, Inc. In doing so we have expanded the visibility of all Center services, as Assistance Dogs had a constituency not necessarily connected to IL. The program provides 20 new dogs a year to consumers and schools who use the dogs to promote positive student interactions and reward for good behavior. Currently this program supports 140 working dogs in the community and uses no public dollars to support the program.

RURAL IL SERVICES ? Our rural offices serve areas with limited transportation options. IL staff act as liaisons to many service agencies in an effort to streamline needs. The one-stop approach bridges many unmet needs. Our rural offices host an annual "Day at the Range", introducing adaptive outdoor recreation opportunities to over 200 participants.

WESTERN RESERVE INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER (WRILC) SPIL Signatory

Counties served: Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, and Columbiana - Part B Funding.

We provide the five core services to all four counties. We also provide Emergency Preparedness education; braille transcription for our four county area; and recreation services (Game Day, Crochet class, Summer Picnic, and Christmas Get Together) to our consumers in Trumbull County. Our services in Ashtabula and Columbiana Counties are done through our "Center satellites without walls". Our specialists live in their respective areas and have acquired donated office spaces to use when needed. We provide HOME Choice services (Transition Coordination, Community Support Coach, Independent Living Skills Training, and Community Living

Specialist) to Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana and Ashtabula County; as well as presently, Information and Referral, IL Skills, and Advocacy to Columbiana and Ashtabula County.

TRI-COUNTY INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER (TCILC) SPIL Signatory

Counties served: Summit, Portage, and Stark - Part B and C Funding

Tri-County provides independent living skills training, peer support, advocacy and information/referral services, and operates a durable medical equipment program (donated) for individuals with disabilities. On an annual basis over 1000 people are served by the 5 Core Services. An emphasis is placed on creating an accessible community, so ongoing advocacy efforts are focused on the elimination of barriers to affordable and accessible housing and transportation. When cooperative efforts fail, the Center routinely files formal complaints with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development, or the U.S. Dept. of Justice. Typically, over 40 complaints are filed annually with an over 90% compliance achievement.

As a result of donated and purchase of new durable medical equipment, the Center routinely serves over 300 people by way of our loan closet of wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs and portable wheelchair ramps. When funds are available, the Center provides home modifications to low-income people with disabilities, which includes bathroom modifications, door widening, installation of stair railings and wheelchair ramps or vertical platform lifts.

In addition, the Center has created 3 collaborative groups to address the primary issues of affordable-accessible housing, affordable/accessible transportation, and the need for home modifications/adaptive equipment.

On an annual basis, the Center transitions over 30 people from nursing homes to community-based living with in-home services and supports.

Center staff continue their involvement with a number of community task forces and committees on disability awareness/sensitivity, housing, transportation, civil rights of people with disabilities, and access to employment.

Due to increased need for basic support services by people with disabilities, the Center has placed additional emphasis on working with consumers to access to affordable healthcare and dental services; understand the upcoming changes impacting Medicare/Medicaid, food stamps, and subsidized housing.

Over the past 5 years, the Center has experienced greater demand in providing consumers information and resources to assist them in obtaining utility bill and rental payments, food, and access to affordable rental units. Further, over the past 5 years, the Center is working with over 100 persons with disabilities per year who find themselves homeless due to low or no income brought about by the onset of disability, high medical bills, and the long waiting period to obtain approval for Social Security disability benefits.

Mid-Ohio Board for an Independent Living Environment (MOBILE) SPIL Signatory

Counties served: Franklin - Part C Funding

MOBILE is a non-profit 501c3 and a Center for Independent Living providing assistance to people with all types of disabilities.

MOBILE was created to promote independence, self-advocacy empowerment for people with disabilities as well as to offer support, information and referral, independent living skills training, coordination of personal care, deaf equipment, community education, anti-crime initiative, transition services and other services. Our service area consists of the following Ohio counties: Franklin, Delaware, Union, Madison, Pickaway, and Licking

SERVICES FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (SIL) SPIL Signatory

Counties served: Cuyahoga, Lake, and Geauga - Part B and C Funding

SIL is located in Northeast Ohio and serving both urban and rural areas. SIL provides the five core services as well as additional supports/services to address barriers to community living and access. For example:

- SIL provides transition services through Ohio's HOME Choice programs for individuals relocating from facilities to the community. In addition to transition services, SIL staff provide community support coaching and independent living skills training for individuals transitioning from facilities.

- SIL's Youth Transition program focused on youth in high school to give them skills needed post high school as they move on to employment or further education opportunities. Participants are followed for a minimum of one year post high school.

- SIL offers several Peer Support opportunities through small group and individual supports, including the Big Peer/Little Peer mentoring program and several support groups.

- In addition to ILST offered to HOME Choice consumers, SIL provides ILST and Evaluation to small group and individuals.

- SIL is contracted by Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities to manage the Personal Care Attendant Program in 10 counties in Northeast Ohio.

- SIL offers an Equipment Loan Program that provided durable medical equipment (wheelchairs/walkers/tub benches etc) and soft supplies (adult diapers and chucks). In addition the Equipment Loan program, SIL manages a Temporary Ramp program for HOME Choice participants which is funded by the Ohio Department of Medicaid.

- SIL's offers ADA surveys and workshops to community businesses and other stakeholders. In addition, SIL staff address ADA and other access complaints from consumers and the community.

- SIL offers community education opportunities thru small group workshops, community forums and local/statewide conferences. Examples of workshop topics include: Disability Awareness, ADA 101, Empowering Individuals with disabilities in the Midst of Health Care Reform, Personal Care Assistance Management, Voters Rights, Planning for an Emergency and Transportation. In the past year, SIL has hosted two conferences. Staff are often requested to present at outside conferences and workshops on local, state and national levels.

- SIL actively participates in local, state and national advocacy committees and coalitions covering issues such as transportation, emergency management, and long-term services and supports. The agency hosts three advocacy coalitions: Emergency Preparation; Housing, and Transportation.

- SIL's most recent program is Transportation for Independent Living. SIL currently has 8 vans providing much needed transportation services in multiple counties. This program has the ability to cross county lines.

All services and supports are developed in response to identified community needs.

ACCESS CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (ACIL) SPIL Signatory

Counties served: Clark, Greene, Montgomery, Preble - Part C Funding

The Access Center provides the five-core services to our four counties. Beyond the core Independent Living Services, the CIL has several successful programs that assist both individuals with disabilities directly and the community.

The Recycled Equipment Donated for Independence (REDI) Program serves several hundred individuals annually by providing them with medical equipment that has been donated to the center. This program allows individuals that have been unable to afford the equipment remain independent in their homes.

The Think This is Easy? Training Program provides a hands-on learning experience in disability awareness to individuals. This program works with service providers and policy makers so they may have better understandings of the barriers that individuals in our community are facing every day.

The Center works with the HOME Choice Program to transition individuals currently residing in nursing facilities back into community living. The center works closely with the individuals so that their needs in the community can be met and their goals of independence can be reached.

The Access Center hosts a Traumatic Brain Injury Support Group, and Caregiver Support Group that works to form strong peer relationships while connecting individuals to community

resources. This program has been very successful and the both groups welcome individuals and family from any disability background.

The Center also has formed a Youth program that has been working with students in the local school systems. The group of 7th and 8th graders are taught independent living skills and disability awareness. This group is an inclusive group of students with and without disabilities. The second group are students that had enough credits to graduate, but chose to remain in school. These students are taught advocacy and disability awareness skills, as well as some employment and social skills.

CENTER FOR DISABILITY EMPOWERMENT (CDE) SPIL signatory

Counties served: Delaware, Franklin - Part B Funding

The Center for Disability Empowerment (CDE) provides supports and resources in order for people with disabilities to be participants and contributors in their communities as they live, learn, worship, work and play alongside people who do not have disabilities. We are driven by the choice and direction of people with disabilities. We serve individuals of any age, with any disability, who are residents of Franklin and Delaware Counties. CDE's Board and Staff have a combined experience of more than 100 years with disability, advocacy and independent living.

CDE offers the core services of Information and Referral, Peer Support, Independent Living Skills, Advocacy and Transition. In addition, we provide support as a coordinator for the Personal Care Assistance program funded by the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities. Through our Access Ohio program we offer training and technical assistance throughout Ohio on all titles of the Americans with Disabilities Act. These services are provided for a fee to businesses, government entities and private organizations.

LINKING EMPLOYMENT, ABILITIES AND POTENTIAL (LEAP) SPIL signatory

Counties served: Lorain, and Erie - Part B and C Funding

Cuyahoga, Erie, Lorain, and Medina Counties are served with \$70,495 Part B and \$153,181 Part C funds (total \$223,676), and \$2,277,000 in leveraged resources (OOD-VR; DD; Medicaid; WIOA; Aging/ADRC) for a total budget of approximately \$2,500,000 serving the independent living needs of individuals in Northeast Ohio. In addition to the 5 core services LEAP provides services with non-Title VII funds in a total of six counties. Our Systems Change advocacy work is local, Statewide and National.

5th Core:

Nursing Home Transition: LEAP provides Transition Coordination, CSC and ILST through Ohio's Home Choice. In total we have transitioned 260 individuals in Cuyahoga, Lorain, Erie, Medina, Counties.

Youth Transition, funded by WIOA: LEAP has operated a school-to-work program in Cleveland high-schools for 20 years, serving 100 students annually. LEAP serves students interested in STEM-careers in Cuyahoga County high-schools.

Total Impact: Through individual and community services, LEAP reaches 6,000 people annually. In 2015 LEAP served 2,348 individuals, 988 had CSR's, the balance participated in recreation or I&R services.

Additional Services:

1) Personal Care Assistance: LEAP serves 70 consumers annually in Cuyahoga, Lorain, Erie, Huron, Medina counties.

2) Aging and Disability Resource Centers: LEAP is the ADRC disability partner, funded by the OAA, for Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, Lorain, Medina counties.

3) LEAP's Public Policy Center is funded through grants. LEAP plays a significant leadership role in statewide and local coalitions. We are responsive to HCBS policy, to ensure that the voice of persons with disabilities continues to be represented in policy decision-making. Through LEAP's efforts, coalition partners in Northeast Ohio continue to work together to educate the public about system changes, and policymakers about the impact of those changes.

4) Disability Benefits Assistance: LEAP's income support programs, funded through contracts/fees, serve 460 annually in Cuyahoga and Lorain. Benefits counseling and SSI/SSDI Benefits Analysis, are provided by Certified Benefits Specialists.

5) Quantum LEAP Recreation: 300+ individuals in Cuyahoga County participate annually in LEAP's integrated community activities.

6) LEAP's Competitive, Customized, and Supported Employment programs, funded by fees, serve 300 people annually in Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, Lorain, Medina, Erie, Huron counties.

Accreditation/Recognition: LEAP's programs are CARF Accredited. Our Youth Transition Program meets the PEPNet standards for promising and effective practices, receiving an international PePNet award. LEAP meets the Ohio Association of Non-Profit Organization's Standards of Excellence, a code for ethics and accountability. LEAP is an EEOC Freedom to Compete, and a DOL New Freedom Initiative, award winner.

SOCIETY FOR EQUAL ACCESS (SEA) SPIL Signatory

Counties served: Holmes, Coshocton, Tuscarawas, Carroll, Harrison, Guernsey, Belmont, and Jefferson - Part B and C Funding

The Society for Equal Access is an independent living center that offers supports to people with disabilities to help them become more independent within the community. We provide the core services of Peer Support, Advocacy, Independent Living Skills Training, Information and

Referral, and Transition. We have three independent living specialists that serve eight counties including; Tuscarawas, Holmes, Carroll, Harrison, Coshocton, Guernsey, Jefferson, and Belmont.

Society for Equal Access Independent Living Center continues an Adult Daily Living Skills class. Areas covered are safety and first aid, cooking, health and nutrition, shopping and budgeting, basic sewing, keeping a clean home, job readiness, and personal hygiene. Classes are held in the winter months

SEA has Youth in Transition Classes during the summer for high school age students with disabilities. Life skills lessons are taught in socialization, safety and first aid, cooking, health and nutrition, shopping and budgeting, basic sewing, cleaning skills, job readiness, and personal hygiene.

SEA received outside referrals to provide assistance with transitioning individuals out of nursing facilities by way of the HOME Choice Program. Individuals are currently receiving independent living services that include advocacy after leaving the nursing facilities and moving into a private residence.

SEA continues to receive grant money through the United Way of Tuscarawas County with the sole purpose of building handicapped accessible ramps for individuals who reside in Tuscarawas County. SEA provided voluntary manpower through volunteer groups like churches, family members, and organizations. This program is supervised by the assigned independent living skills staff covering Tuscarawas County. This year the construction of ramps allowed consumers access to their medical appointments and other functions. There were a total of 53 wooden ramps constructed in the eight county area in which SEA serves. We also have 20 metal ramps in use throughout our region donated from AAA9.

SEA offers individuals the use of durable medical equipment. Through our loan program, a total of 117 individuals were able to borrow items such as hospital beds, potty chairs, wheel chairs, power chairs, and walkers to assist them to be as independent as possible in their homes.

INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER OF NORTH CENTRAL OHIO (ILCNCO)

Counties served: Huron, Crawford, Richland, Ashland, Morrow, and Knox - Part C Funding

The ILCNCO serves primarily rural counties. Our services include the five core services as required. In addition, the agency offers the following; Appreciation of Arts Program, Y programs for families and individuals with disabilities; Power to Change Education Program; Direct Services; Youth Sports; Summer Kids program; Emergency services; Boy Scouts; assistive devices loan closet; assistance with Social Security/other benefits for I/Ds. ILCNCO assists students with IEP hearings. The Center receives funding through the Federal Poverty Program to assist with housing, utilities, and food.

CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING OPTIONS (CILO) SPIL Signatory

Counties served: Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, Highland and Warren Counties ?
Part C Funding

The Center for Independent Living Options, Inc. (CILO) serves individuals with disabilities in the Greater Cincinnati region. In 2015 CILO served over 555 individuals and provided information and referral to another 2488 individuals.

CILO stays connected to the community to assure that services are relevant to the changing needs of the population we serve. Our goal to be consumer-driven and resilient to the instability of current funding streams requires the creation of innovation programming. We continue to focus on our core service of Peer Support by providing weekly classes for computer skills, creative writing and preparing for employment that give consumers the opportunity to learn while having social interaction. With the recent addition of a Life Series, CILO offers free educational presentations throughout the month to enrich the lives of people with disabilities in our community. Our strong advocacy for and by people with disabilities positioned us to provide leadership among some 20 agencies for the 25th Anniversary of the ADA celebration in Cincinnati last year.

CILO continues to be a resource for people with disabilities who are seeking affordable housing opportunities in Greater Cincinnati. CILO has been providing support services and permanent housing vouchers for twenty years to those with disabilities and their families who are experiencing homelessness. Through U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding CILO assisted 77 households (individuals and families) to transition into permanent housing over the last year. CILO continues to act as a Transition Coordinator for the Ohio HOME Choice Program which transitions individuals from nursing homes into community-based living. As of the end of January 2016, CILO has accepted 900 referrals and has successfully transitioned some 548 consumers back into the community since the program began in 2009. CILO also provides IL Skills Training and Community Support Coaching.

By introducing new fundraising opportunities both through special events and community events, CILO continue to expand its circle of support. CILO is proactive in seeking new, unrestricted income sources in order to continue to meet the needs of our community that might not otherwise be filled.

CILO celebrates the diversity of artists with disabilities through an arts program and fine arts exhibition gallery, Art Beyond Boundaries, located in the arts district of Cincinnati. Presenting six exhibitions per year, this program provides a unique opportunity for artists with disabilities to grow professionally and market their art.

3.2 Expansion of Network

Describe the design for the further expansion of the network, including identification of the unserved and underserved areas in the State and the order of priority for serving these areas as additional funding becomes available (beyond the required cost-of-living increase).

40 of the 88 Ohio counties do not receive Part B or Part C funding. The areas are: the southeast counties along the West Virginia border and several other southern counties, the western counties along the Indiana border and multiple west central counties in Ohio.

The CILs are currently providing some IL services within every county of the State. For example, CILs provide Personal Care Assistance (PCA) services, Temporary Ramp Program services, and HOME Choice transition services in most counties beyond their designated service areas. Centers continue to leverage IL funds and resources to obtain additional funding to provide Independent Living services for consumers in the state.

Ohio is not currently considering expanding its network of CILs, given the scheduled reduction in Part B and Part C funding over the course of the 2017-2019 SPIL. Currently, there are two Ohio Centers funded solely by Part B funds. If substantial additional funds become available in excess of COLA Ohio's desire would be:

- For at least one of the current Part B only funded centers to become a Part C center. That CIL will have their Part B dollars replaced with Part C to serve areas not already served by Part C funds. This should result in additional Part B funds being available to the Ohio IL Network.
- Ohio's next priority would be to proportionately allocate those additional funds to those CILs whose total funding of Part B and Part C is less than \$250,000.00 per year. All CILs should reach that minimum base funding level.
- Ohio's final priority for any additional funds is to expand IL Core services into unserved areas.

While a substantial increase in state dollars is not anticipated, if additional State dollars become available, those State dollars would be used to proportionately allocate those additional funds to those CILs whose total funding is less than \$250,000.00 per year so they can reach that minimum base funding level.

3.3 Section 723 States Only

3.3A If the State follows an order of priorities for allocating funds among centers within a State that is different from what is outlined in 34 CFR 366.22, describe the alternate order of priority that the DSU director and the SILC chair have agreed upon. Indicate N/A if not applicable.

N/A

3.3B Describe how the State policies, practices and procedures governing the awarding of grants to centers and the oversight of these centers are consistent with 34 CFR 366.37 and 366.38.

N/A

Part II: Narrative: Section 4 - Designated State Unit (DSU)

4.1 Administrative Support Services

4.1A Describe the administrative support services to be provided by the DSU for the SILS (Part B) program and, if the State is a Section 723 State, for the CIL (Part C) program. Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about administrative support services.

The DSE does not provide administrative support but does provide I&E funds to support OSILC's operation.

The DSE also supports IL by providing a liaison to the OSILC, CILs and the CIL Association, the Ohio Abilities Network. The DSE facilitates OSILC activities by making conference rooms, and teleconferencing available. The DSE collaborates with OSILC and CILs to publish and communicate IL information from the CILs or OSILC to the public as well as providing training and technical assistance.

4.1B Describe other DSU arrangements for the administration of the IL program, if any.

The DSE is responsible for receiving, dispersing, and accounting for all OSILC and CIL funds that are Title VII Part B or Title II Innovation & Expansion dollars. The DSE serves as a pass-through for state GRF non-match funds.

DSE is responsible for administration of the PCA and CCD programs including receiving, dispersing, accounting and reporting of the SSR dollars utilized to support them. DSE actively manages the PCA and CCD contracts for program and fiscal performance.

Part II: Narrative: Section 5 - Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

5.1 Resource plan

5.1A Describe the resource plan prepared by the SILC in conjunction with the DSU for the provision of resources, including staff and personnel, made available under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII, section 101(a)(18) of the Act, and from other public and private sources that may be necessary to carry out the functions of the SILC identified in section 705(c). The description must address the three years of this SPIL.

- Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

For more information click the icon.

The financial tables and narratives in Section 1.3 describe the IL financial plan. In-kind resources will continue to be utilized during the 3 years of the SPIL by the CILs and by OSILC. The in-kind resources include, but are not limited to; space for public meetings and hearings, and teleconferencing capacity, posting notices and announcements on websites and providing technical assistance in a number of areas are donations from the DSE.

For the period beginning October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2019, OSILC will be involved with a number of the goals and objectives that are enumerated by the CILs in Part II, Section 1.

A goal responsibility where OSILC will take a lead role is in Resource Development opportunities for CILs. This will include the identification of possible statewide programs and services that could provide fee-for-service opportunities for the CILs at the local level. The OSILC in cooperation with the CILs will create in year one, a Statewide Satisfaction Survey about how satisfied consumers view the services they receive from the CILs as identified in Goal #4, Objective 1.

OSILC in conjunction with the Ohio DD Council will be convening a task force to identify overarching, systemic issues and current gaps in assistive technology in Ohio within year one of the SPIL. This should help remove barriers for individual access to technology as identified in Goal #2, Objective 3. It will also assist the DD Council in determining potential grant projects that accelerate efforts toward innovative and sustainable programs in the area of assistive technology.

The OSILC will continue to provide input during each year of the SPIL at the statewide level for creation of more affordable, accessible housing to support Goal #1, Objective 1.

5.1B Describe how the following SILC resource plan requirements will be addressed.

- The SILC's responsibility for the proper expenditure of funds and use of resources that it receives under the resource plan.

The Executive Director oversees all financial matters of the OSILC including the receipt of funds, request for funds, disbursement of non-match GRF funds, accounting of funds, monitoring of funds, and is responsible for all audits of the organization and any funding responsible for all audits of the organization and any funding accountability. The Executive Director develops the annual budgets with the OSILC finance committee, which is then approved by the full council and amended, as needed. The Executive Director reports to the council.

- Non-inclusion of conditions or requirements in the SILC resource plan that may compromise the independence of the SILC.

The OSILC and the DSE work hard to maintain the independence of the OSILC by not having language in grant award agreements that may inadvertently compromise the OSILC's autonomy. They have worked cooperatively at the state level to educate legislators and key staff in OBM that OSILC is an independent program.

- Reliance, to the maximum extent possible, on the use of resources in existence during the period of implementation of the State plan.

The DSE has made a commitment for additional Title 1, Innovation and Expansion funds each year of this Plan. These funds have been factored into the resource planning and the development of the goals and objectives.

5.2 Establishment and Placement

Describe how the establishment and placement of the SILC ensures its independence with respect to the DSU and all other State agencies. Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

The OSILC is not established as an entity within any state agency, including the DSE, and is independent of the DSE and other state agencies. The following is a brief description of the legal status of the OSILC. The OSILC is an independent agency within state government as recognized by federal law, the Executive Order of the Governor, and the Ohio Revised Code (R.C. 3304.50). The Ohio Attorney General's office affirms that we are also legislatively recognized by the appropriation of funding in GRF 415-402 and ND 31.4 415-611, which are appropriations to fund the Statewide Independent Living Council.

OSILC is not housed physically or programmatically within the DSE or other state agencies. The office is physically located at 670 Morrison Road, Suite 200, Gahanna, OH 43230. The roles and responsibilities of the DSE, OSILC and the CILs will be set forth in a Memorandum of Understanding between the entities, consistent with compliance to Federal laws and regulations.

Per state statute, the OSILC hires an Executive Director. Staff is interviewed, hired, trained, managed, evaluated and if necessary, terminated by the Executive Director. OSILC staff works under supervision of the OSILC Executive Director to coordinate efforts carrying out commitments of the SPIL. The Executive Director periodically contracts with independent firms,

contractors to coordinate and manage special projects or functions of the business. The OSILC voting members evaluate the Executive Director at a time established by the Council.

The OSILC has its own Federal Tax ID number and pays payroll and expenses through checking accounts at the Huntington National Bank and JP Morgan Chase Bank. The OSILC creates its own budgets.

5.3 Appointment and Composition

Describe the process used by the State to appoint members to the SILC who meet the composition requirements in section 705(b). Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

The Governor uses his discretion in appointing members to the OSILC who meet the composition requirements in section 705(b). As openings become available for OSILC appointment, the OSILC publishes the openings to a wide variety of organizations, on its website, and through other social media entities. The application from the Governor's Office on Boards and Commissions is available at the OSILC website as well as an informational document developed by OSILC for prospective applicants. Boards and Commissions also has the State's application available at their website. Once applications are received by the OSILC, candidates are vetted, interviewed and educated as to the agency's mission and Council responsibilities, by members of OSILC's Recruiting and Nominating Committee, then their paperwork is forwarded to the Office of Boards and Commissions. The Governor has the discretion to appoint the applicants that come from the process as just described, or to appoint other applicants. Based on request for assistance from OSILC to secure additional members and appointments for a compliant board, the DSE may assist OSILC's recruitment efforts through outreach to qualified individuals. The State ensures that the OSILC composition and qualification requirements are met by reviewing all information on the membership application and contacting OSILC or the DSE to ask additional questions regarding requirements as set forth in section 705(b).

The OSILC Chair is elected from among the voting council members for a one-year term. The Chair and other elected members of the Executive Committee may serve two consecutive one-year terms.

The term limits of voting council members are maintained by the Governor's Executive Order, which states that no member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive full terms. Members may be reappointed for one term, and a vacancy occurring in the OSILC membership shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. A member appointed by the Governor to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which a predecessor was appointed, shall serve for the remainder of such term.

OSILC actively recruits for new members through other organizations, agencies and workgroups that have an interest in disability issues. Recruitment is also done on an individual basis primarily by staff and OSILC members and in conjunction with the CILs.

5.4 Staffing

Describe how the following SILC staffing requirements will be met.

- SILC supervision and evaluation, consistent with State law, of its staff and other personnel as may be necessary to carry out its functions.

? SILC supervision and evaluation, consistent with State law, of its staff and other personnel as may be necessary to carry out its functions.

The OSILC Employee Handbook dictates policies for staffing and states that employees of the OSILC serve at the will and pleasure of the Executive Director. The Executive Director works directly with and is managed solely by the Council.

The OSILC Employee Handbook indicates that the voting members of the Council have the ultimate approval authority for all personnel policies. The Executive Director has the responsibility for implementing the personnel policies. Employment is voluntarily entered into, and the employee is free to resign at any time, with or without cause. Similarly, OSILC may terminate the employment relationship at will at any time, with or without cause, so long as there is no violation of applicable federal or state law. OSILC may exercise its option to have some or all employees under contract.

Employees are provided with a job description and are requested to review the job description and provide feedback to the Executive Director regarding changes and improvements.

All new employees will receive a performance appraisal after 90 days. The Executive Director or designee shall meet with evaluated employees. All employees will be given the opportunity to self review and make copies of their performance reviews. Employees who disagree with their appraisal are encouraged to discuss their appraisal with the Executive Director and provide written comments to be included in their personnel file. Employees may request an evaluation at any time.

The OSILC Executive Committee will conduct the evaluations of the Executive Director and make recommendations to the full Council for final approval. Evaluations will be taken into consideration when opportunities for advancement and salary increases are available. The OSILC Executive Director works directly with and is managed solely by the OSILC Executive Committee. That committee assigns the duties, defines the responsibilities, supervises, and evaluates the Executive Director. The Executive Director directly manages, assigns duties, delegates responsibilities to and evaluates staff.

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

No other organizations provide staff support to the OSILC. Neither the DSE nor any other organization can assign duties or responsibilities to OSILC staff. The DSE and OSILC take great

care to collaborate yet remain independent. The DSE serves as the fiscal agent for Part B and State dollars. OSILC is located physically separate from the DSE and DSE personnel are made available only to provide technical assistance as required by federal regulations.

Part II: Narrative: Section 6 - Service Provider Requirements

Describe how the following service provider requirements will be met:

6.1 Staffing

- Inclusion of personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of centers.

The CILs affirm by signatures on grant award agreements that providers will follow all the requirements in Section 6.1 through 6.7, plus the standards and assurances of Section 725 and the directives of the State.

The OSILC, CILs and the DSE have developed collaborations that allow for the sharing of information regarding specialists. OSILC employs an individual with a disability who works with groups and CILs to promote understanding of the regulatory requirements for a group to become a CIL, and provides technical assistance to those groups and existing CILs as needed to ensure that there is proper adherence to Title VII of the Act and regulations.

- Availability, to the maximum extent feasible, of personnel able to communicate (1) with individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication devices, Braille, or audio tapes and (2) in the native languages of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act.

The individual CILs employ staff with the skills needed to meet the particular needs of the people with disabilities within their service areas. In addition, CILs may have contracts with or utilize individual agencies such as Vision Centers, Deaf Services Centers, online interpreter services, assistive technology providers, or personal interpreters. All written policies, materials, and IL services are provided in alternative formats as requested. Employees and the public are made aware through written policies and disclosures on printed materials that alternative formats are available upon request.

- Establishment and maintenance of a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services and, where appropriate, in administering the CIL program, improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of IL services, including knowledge of and practice in the IL philosophy.

Staff are trained on cross disability community issues and provide IL core services and other independent living services to individuals with significant disabilities in an inclusive manner that is neither targeted nor limited to a particular type of significant disability. Individual satisfaction surveys and group forums are some ways in which CILs identify future agency goals and future staff development needs. Staff development programs insure that under represented groups

continue to receive access to services in a culturally competent manner. Budgets dictate the level of Professional Association memberships and disability-related conferences staff attend to acquire new knowledge. Advanced technology allows CILs to

participate in cost effective and diverse webinar-style training within their own CIL locations.

- Affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act.

CILs, CCDs and OSILC are equal opportunity employers. As grantees they agree not to discriminate by reason of race, creed, color, religion, sex, age, gender identity, disability, national origin, or ancestry. Reasonable accommodations are made for qualified individuals with disabilities. CILs comply with the Rehabilitation Act and maintain a staff compliment of at least 51% individuals with disabilities. The Annual 704 report reflects the number of persons employed with disabilities as well as a 51% minimum of people with disabilities. At least 51% of the OSILC staff are people with disabilities.

6.2 Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting

- Adoption of those fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for funds made available through parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act, in addition to complying with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements.

The DSE disperses Part B funding through grant award agreements with the CILs on a yearly basis. The grant award agreements contain the relevant assurances listed on the first page of the SPIL, as well as 6.1 through 6.7. The DSE monitors the use of funds yearly by audits as well as sign-off approval of the monthly invoice listing by the DSE. The sign-off is required before reimbursements may be issued by the DSE. The grant award agreements also contain the state provisions required by the Office of the Governor. The OSILC, DSE and CILs affirm these requirements and expect them to be followed by any contracted service provider.

DSE receives SSR funds and plans to continue to utilize up to \$3.56M annually to support the PCA (\$2.7M) and CCD (\$772K) programs plus the contract for telephone/mobile device delivery of job leads, news, information and public service information. This is administered through contracts.

6.3 Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting

- Maintenance of records that fully disclose and document the information listed in 34 CFR 364.35.

Maintenance of records comply with applicable Federal record-keeping requirements. They include a proper system of accounting and other records to account for all expenditures of all project-program costs including approved budgets, invoice copies and receipts, and audit reports.

All costs are validated by a payroll record, invoice, cancelled check or any other generally accepted accounting documentation. Records are retained per retention schedules for specified time periods and are available for review and audit.

- Submission of annual performance and financial reports, and any other reports that the Secretary determines to be appropriate

Annually the RSA 704 Performance Report Part I is submitted by the OSILC and the DSE if required by federal regulations. Likewise, annually the RSA 704 Performance Report Part II is submitted by the CILs. CILs provide copies of the annual 704 report to the OSILC and the DSE if required by federal regulations. Initial 524 budget expenditures and narratives are submitted to ACL based on individual grant awards.

- Access to the Commissioner and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, for the purpose of conducting audits, examinations, and compliance reviews, to the information listed in 34 CFR 364.37.

The confidential individual case records, files and consumer service records of individuals served including records of evaluations are maintained and made available to duly authorized representatives. Financial records that fully disclose and document use of financial resources are also maintained and made available. Records and reports are retained for a period of not less than three years following contract end date or until questions arising from the audit have been resolved, whichever is later.

6.4 Eligibility

- Eligibility of any individual with a significant disability, as defined in 34 CFR 364.4(b), for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs.

Consumer Service Records show evidence of services rendered to various individuals or groups of individuals. Staff is instructed that participants are selected without regard to race, creed, color, religion, sex, age, disability, national origin or ancestry.

- Ability of any individual to seek information about IL services under these programs and to request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities.

Any individual may seek information about IL services under these programs and request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities. OSILC and CILs maintain a map of the Ohio CIL service areas and CIL contact information so they can connect callers with the closest CIL or with one that may offer the particular program or service requested by the caller. Individual CILs maintain databases of information and referral sources such as electronic files, paper files, CDs, DVDs, and books to assist people with disabilities effectively with service needs.

OSILC, CCDs, CILs and the DSE will work collaboratively to leverage resources and strengthen the information and referral services provided between these programs. DSE has moved CCDs to a common vernacular and reclassified the core services they provide so that they are in alignment with the 5 core IL services.

- Determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs in a manner that meets the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51.

Any individual may seek information about IL services under these programs and request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities. OSILC and CILs maintain a map of the Ohio CIL service areas and CIL contact information so they can connect callers with the closest CIL or with one that may offer the particular program or service requested by the caller. Individual CILs maintain databases of information and referral sources such as electronic files, paper files, CDs, DVDs, and books to assist people with disabilities effectively with service needs.

OSILC will actively engage CCDs, CILs, and DSE to leverage resources where possible to strengthen the information and referral services provided between these programs. DSE will engage CCDs about moving to a common vernacular and classification of the core services they provide. While CCD services are well aligned with the 5 core IL services, a unified naming convention will better enable the tracking of services utilized and their outcomes.

- Application of eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion, or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services.

Before or at the same time as an applicant for IL services may begin receiving funded IL services, the CIL confirms the individual has met the definition of a person with a significant disability (364.4b). This documentation is dated and signed by the appropriate staff member and maintained in the applicant's file.

- Non-exclusion from receiving IL services of any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services, based on the imposition of any State or local residence requirement.

Staff are instructed that consumers are selected without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, ancestry, race, religion, gender identification or type of significant disability. Consumer records show evidence of services to diverse representations of individuals or groups of individuals.

6.5 Independent Living Plans

- Provision of IL services in accordance with an IL plan complying with Sec. 364.52 and mutually agreed upon by the individuals with significant disabilities and the appropriate service provider staff unless the individual signs a waiver stating that an IL plan is unnecessary.

CILs maintain a record of the individual either signing a waiver that an IL plan is not necessary or signing the actual IL plan. The IL plan indicates goals or objectives established, the services to be provided, and the anticipated duration of the service program and each component service. An accessible copy of the IL plan is provided to the individual. The IL plan is reviewed at least annually to determine whether services should be continued, modified, or discontinued, or if the individual should be referred to other services.

6.6 Client Assistance Program (CAP) Information

- Use of accessible formats to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about the availability of the CAP program, the purposes of the services provided under the CAP, and how to contact the CAP.

CILs provide a detailed explanation of the availability and purposes of CAP including information on how to contact the program. This information is provided in accessible format as requested. Documentation of this notification to individuals is maintained in their file.

6.7 Protection, Use and Release of Personal Information

- Adoption and implementation of policies and procedures meeting the requirements of 34 CFR 364.56(a), to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names.

Staff are trained on the established policies to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names. Unauthorized release of confidential information shall result in disciplinary action. The recipient of services must sign a release of information if they are requesting individual information to be released to them, legally authorized representatives or another agency. The signed releases are maintained in the individual's confidential file.

Part II: Narrative: Section 7 - Evaluation

Describe the method that will be used to periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the plan in meeting the objectives established in Section 1. The description must include the State's evaluation of satisfaction by individuals with significant disabilities who have participated in the program.

Section 7: Evaluation

Goal(s) and the related Objective(s) from Section 1	Method that will be used to evaluate
System Advocacy Increase Independent Living & Community Integration Increase Community Access and Outreach Increase Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Satisfaction of IL Services	OSILC in conjunction with the CILs will develop a system to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the plan in meeting the objectives established in Section 1. OSILC will use information from the NET/CIL data collection and retrieval system, the annual 704 reports, and work plans to monitor and evaluate the SPIL. Furthermore, OSILC will comply with Federal reporting requirements.

Part II: Narrative: Section 8 - State-Imposed Requirements

8 State-Imposed Requirements

Identify any State-imposed requirements contained in the provisions of this SPIL.

n/a