***OILP Newsletter- April 2024***

Welcome to the OILP Monthly Newsletter! We are pleased to share recent updates from ACL, TA Resources, and other IL resources below.

To improve user friendliness, we have included a Table of Contents with links to each section.

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# ***Staffing Updates***

* ***Commissioner Jill Jacobs Departing ACL:*** Recently Jill Jacobs, the Commissioner of the Administration on Disabilities, announced that she will be leaving ACL to join the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities as their new Executive Director. Her last day at ACL will be April 19th. We thank the Commissioner for her service and wish her the best in her new position.

Jennifer Johnson will be serving as the Acting Commissioner in the Administration on Disabilities after the Commissioner’s departure.

# ***Reporting and Guidance***

* ***PPR Reviews:*** Program Officers have been reviewing CIL PPRs and several PPRs have been returned to grantees for revisions. Please remember to check the portal for a status update at <https://portal.q90.com/external/login.php>.
* ***CIL Combined Annual Report Released for Program Years 2020 and 2021:*** The [CIL Annual Report](https://acl.gov/programs/aging-and-disability-networks/centers-independent-living) is available on ACL’s website under the subheading of Annual Reports.
* ***IL Network Contact Updates:*** As a reminder, if there are any contact information changes for CIL Executive Directors, SILC Executive Directors, SILC Chairs or DSE’s, please let your Program Officer know. To verify the current name and contact information for your Program Officer, please view the [OILP staff list](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Facl.gov%2Fprograms%2Fcommunity-living-programs%2Foffice-independent-living-programs-contact-list&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840333464084%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=LQcxic97v80MGqaN1bel6SS1MDOr6pmyqDC4jlXlqEM%3D&reserved=0) on ACL’s website. For guidance on changes in Executive Directors, please visit [Changes in CIL Executive Directors](https://acl.gov/programs/aging-and-disability-networks/centers-independent-living) under Frequently Asked Questions.
* ***OILP Monthly Newsletters:*** Beginning in April 2024, the newsletters and other communications will be distributed from OILP@acl.hhs.gov. Please add this e-mail address to your Safe Senders list.

The OILP newsletters from May 2023—present are available on our website under the heading of [Office of Independent Living Programs Monthly Newsletters](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Facl.gov%2Fprograms%2Faging-and-disability-networks%2Fcenters-independent-living&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840333620211%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2F5sO89wOj7j6j%2BYkZyMr86ok8JhvjxQbV%2BxDT68NXlI%3D&reserved=0).

* ***SPIL Instrument and Instructions Posted on Website:*** The updated SPIL instrument and instructions are now available on our website under the heading of [Submitting State Plans for Independent Living](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Facl.gov%2Fprograms%2Faging-and-disability-networks%2Fstatewide-independent-living-councils&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840333620211%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IcBn3khGfAFXxl4GDqyEO1XKzrqL2mEHrDx9B200hBU%3D&reserved=0).
* ***Audit Confirmation Requests:***  Many Centers for Independent Living have reached out to request verifications for their independent fiscal audits. Please be advised that audit confirmation requests should be sent to pmsoigaudit@psc.hhs.gov.
* ***Indirect Cost Rates:*** For questions regarding indirect cost rates, contact information can be found at the [Indirect Cost Rates webpage](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cjennifer.martin%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Outlook%5C0J7AWLXI%5C%E2%80%A2%09https%3A%5Cwww.hhs.gov%5Cabout%5Cagencies%5Casa%5Cpsc%5Cindirect-cost-negotiations%5Cindex.html).
* ***Allowable Expenses:*** OILP has recently received questions from our grantees regarding allowable costs. For additional guidance, please consult [45 CFR 75.403](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ecfr.gov%2Fcurrent%2Ftitle-45%2Fsubtitle-A%2Fsubchapter-A%2Fpart-75%2Fsubpart-E%2Fsubject-group-ECFRffa2eaa9f93be60%2Fsection-75.403&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840333620211%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=U8M87su7nF6LbhwNkDxLeZam4kaS5p8%2FdxMtmwtrGB4%3D&reserved=0) and contact the fiscal officer listed in your notice of award.

* ***Public Health Workforce Funding:*** As we are now in 2024, please keep in mind that all Public Health Workforce (PHWF) grant funds must be spent by ***September 30, 2024***. If you are having difficulty spending these funds or require guidance, please reach out to your [Program Officer](https://acl.gov/programs/community-living-programs/office-independent-living-programs-contact-list).

As a reminder, the Public Health Workforce funding was released for both CIL and ILS Programs in March 2022.  The guidance is available under Guidance for ACL Programs, subheading of [Public Health Workforce Grants](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Facl.gov%2Fcovid19%2Faging-and-disability-networks&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840333620211%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BOgiPpfPJR6ugssBQL%2BO6foyOwg%2BP1R12GAWWmJ6%2F3o%3D&reserved=0).

# ***Conferences, Trainings and Technical Assistance***

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* ***Section 722 States Becoming Section 723 States FAQ Document Released:*** This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is available at [Independent Living Programs FAQs](https://acl.gov/programs/centers-independent-living/cil-frequently-asked-questions-faqs).
* ***Understanding the Role of the Independent Living (IL) Network Before, During and After a Disaster:*** Thank you forjoining us on ***March 27, 2024, from 3:00 P.M.- 4:30 P.M.***  for a lively discussion with OILP staff, SILC/CIL directors and our colleagues from the Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies (Partnership) as we discussed this resource tool and dived into a discussion about CIL and SILC involvement before, during and after disaster, including development of SPIL goals around disaster and emergency management.

For the recording, please visit [ILRU's website](https://www.ilru.org/training/understanding-role-independent-living-il-network-during-and-after-disaster).

This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document, *“*[*Understanding the Role of the Independent Living (IL) Network Before, During and After a Disaster*](https://acl.gov/programs/centers-independent-living/cil-frequently-asked-questions-faqs)*,”* answers questions that ACL has received most often from Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs) over the years.

* ***Intentional Community Outreach Webinar:*** Please join ILRU for a webinar on ***April 16, 2024, from 3:00 – 4:30 P.M. Eastern Time*** on the topic of Intentional Community Outreach. In this webinar, you will learn about the outreach requirements for CILs and SILCs and explore how developing intentional community connections can support your outreach efforts.

For more information, please e-mail Mary-Kate@ncil.org or to register, please visit the Registration Link

* ***SPIL Training and Technical Assistance Series:*** Please join IL-NET's newly launched monthly virtual meeting that offers comprehensive training and technical assistance for the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL). These sessions are aimed at providing you with in-depth training on SPIL requirements, while also offering a platform to discuss how to leverage your plan to build cross-coordination and elevate the IL network in your state. By participating, you will have the opportunity to learn from experts and peers alike and gain valuable insights on how to make the most of your SPIL. Don't miss out on this opportunity and join us on the first Thursday of every month. To register or for more information, please visit [SPIL Training and Technical Assistance Series](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ilru.org%2Ftraining%2Fspil-training-and-technical-assistance-series&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840333776462%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3Chds5I1ir%2BrdrN3aeEG7PTzHbswMMOk%2FTcCmbsPOTk%3D&reserved=0).
* ***SILC 101: A Deep Dive for New SILC Members and Staff:*** This ILRU rapid course is designed to increase understanding of common issues for all different types of Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs). The audience for this training is council-elected chairpersons, their fellow Governor-appointed council members, and staff hired by the SILC, such as executive directors, coordinators, and chairpersons.

[***Visit ILRU's website to view the training today***](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fxv7q9udab.cc.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D001ZD7NsdOz6FwbwLj5JKqYtS3Z8fSZgan8dX5UqWQObz_E3cH5vgFcE_2vgKbyIo8qXc_i17Lfjn9ZOZos71TZyAaBA5E8NjRft2lA9zRn7tfCBESgkQmeQNjaGvVooOhVzXGr4c5V_VojxS6pNQiMY8LnVROFQonHVeOEyqFbYZu-x7VZy13BVin7-9AEzherkv4y9xf8GnwoaJUz1sLin94EktCttLja%26c%3D7kmlnZdoV5bxC_d2dz5BrX2Sb9RW8nOT1sBQ1fYDtYNKqOU1OuViEQ%3D%3D%26ch%3D5YDPVI5JXf2ZzFRL6fBjcKlI3b8jSdAPbfvt7zMxN6QmRWNgsSjXcg%3D%3D&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7C5432fb5522fc43535c6608dc54e20129%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638478576871476988%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2a43rOyd%2FeoIlv2IS827s%2BGOq9EGlLX2TtVXUJcmiro%3D&reserved=0)***!***

* ***ILRU IL-NET National Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA) Center: Management 101: A Guide for New CIL Executive Directors:*** Are you a New Center for Independent Living (CIL) Executive Director, or planning to become an Executive Director in the future?

This course will focus your attention on important aspects of the job that you need to know about early on and that might get lost in the daily conflicting demands for attention.

Concrete action steps are provided in easy-to-use checklists, bullet points, dos and don’ts, and general knowledge to support newly hired Executive Directors of Centers for Independent Living.

[Visit ILRU's website to view this training](https://www.ilru.org/training/management-101-guide-for-new-cil-executive-directors-1-course)

* + ***2024 Rural Conversation Series: 3rd Wednesday of the Month at 1:00 p.m. Eastern***

The Rural Conversation Community series is provided by ILRU's IL-NET National Training and Technical Assistance Center for Independent Living and facilitated by APRIL, the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living. There are no presenters or designated speakers in these conversations; they are an informal time and space to gather with your peers and share about current events and ask your peers questions. Captioning and ASL are provided. Bring your questions for your peers and updates on your CIL’s creative solutions and activities to share.

[2024 Rural Conversation Series](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.april-rural.org%2Findex.php%2Frural-conversations&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840333776462%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Nd1z5OQwV1x5fk76R%2Fdq68k1XcqzSgqQ14LvkeO%2F%2BO0%3D&reserved=0)

* ***Youth Coordinator Connect Meetings: 1st Tuesday of the Month at 2:00 p.m. Eastern***

Join us to begin building a community of peer support and sharing for Youth Program Coordinators. Come share your experiences and tips and tricks and problem solve barriers to growing and implementing youth programs in your Center for Independent Living. Meet and learn from your colleagues throughout the country who are working towards the common goal of improving services for youth with disabilities.

Each month we will discuss a topic as it relates to youth programs and services.  These topics are chosen as a group.  We will also brainstorm solutions for barriers that may come up in your programs. To register, please visit [Youth Coordinators Connection Call](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZItd-GtrDkpHdNejRIeh4Yyk8iAfpETKbak#/registration).

* ***Advocacy Committee Meetings: 1st Wednesday of the Month at 4:00 p.m. Eastern***

APRIL is a national membership organization dedicated to advancing the rights and responsibilities of people with disabilities in rural America.

APRIL is committed to an aggressive and culturally appropriate advocacy strategy tied to its Vision statement: “APRIL is the unified voice of independent living in rural America.” In furtherance of that Vision, APRIL has engaged hundreds of members and dedicated many hours aimed at developing a mission-focused system-change agenda to further the civil rights of all people with disabilities regardless of age, disability, income, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, or nationality.

Equally important to us, is ensuring that young people with disabilities are integrated into all facets of program development and delivery. We are truly committed to the mantra “Nothing About Us, Without Us.”  The advocacy committee works to address APRIL’s advocacy priorities

[Advocacy Committee](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.april-rural.org%2Findex.php%2Fadvocacy&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840333776462%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=AsoIBJtmc2bpHHIziYpuTke22LHH86IX3pQkmHXcE9w%3D&reserved=0)

* ***Emergency Prep Committee: 2nd Monday of the Month at 3:00 p.m. Eastern***

APRIL began this committee to support CILs and SILCs in their efforts on emergency preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.

We are in a constant climate crisis. Disasters and emergencies are increasing in intensity and frequency. Persons with disabilities are 26% of the US population. Disabled people are disproportionately impacted by disasters and emergencies. We are 2-to-4 times more likely to die or be injured during a disaster.

We are all first responders when disasters strike in our localities. Let’s get together to share good practices and strategies, information and resources, and peer support before, during, and after disasters and emergencies.

[Emergency Preparedness Committee](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.april-rural.org%2Findex.php%2Fadvocacy%2Fdisaster-and-emergency-preparedness&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840333776462%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hgnow2GGHiDpv7wSlo9PYRDDZb0cCOnbbCggV9GJgjk%3D&reserved=0)

# ***Opportunities for Engagement***

* ***Seeking Disability Service Organizations to Submit Social Engagement Innovations by April 12, 2024:***

Are you a disability service organization that is addressing loneliness or social isolation? Do you have best practices around social connection you would be willing to share?

If so, then this opportunity is for you!

[Submit Your Innovation Today](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LTFNDPP)

ACL’s [Commit to Connect initiative](https://committoconnect.org/), in collaboration with [engAGED: The National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults](https://www.engagingolderadults.org/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank), is launching a [call for social engagement innovations](https://committoconnect.org/share-your-innovations/). The aim is to identify innovative interventions, programs, and services that are addressing social isolation and loneliness.

Submissions will be considered for inclusion in the [Innovations Hub](https://committoconnect.org/innovations-hub/) — a searchable clearinghouse of best practices and data-driven interventions, programs, and services promoting social connections across populations. Contributing to this hub will encourage adoption, replication, and program awareness to address social isolation and loneliness.

Please review the [eligibility criteria](https://committoconnect.org/share-your-innovations/) and [submission questions](https://committoconnect.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Call-for-Innovations-Submission-Questions-2024.pdf) prior to submission.

Any questions? Please contact Commit to Connect.

* ***DETAC Announces Results and Innovation in Systems Excellence (RISE) e-Learning Community: Peer Support for Centers for Independent Living (CILs) Building Employment Services:*** The Disability Employment Technical Assistance Center (DETAC) is pleased to accept rolling applications to participate in the Results and Innovation in Systems Excellence (RISE) e-Learning Community, Peer Support for Centers for Independent Living (CILs) Building Employment Services.

This is a peer-to-peer discussion-based community and our expert facilitators from the [Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL)](https://www.april-rural.org/index.php/en/). will guide conversation and share resources as applicable, but there won’t be formal presentations.

There will be virtual sessions for 1 hour that will be facilitated monthly, on the 3rd Thursday of each month ***from 2:00-3:00 PM Eastern Time.***

• Session Three: April 18, 2024 (applications due 4/11/24)

• Session Four: May 16, 2024 (applications due 5/10/24)

• Session Five: June 20, 2024 (applications due 6/14/24)

• Session Six: July 18, 2024 (applications due 7/12/24)

• Session Seven: August 15, 2024 (applications due 8/9/24)

For more information or to apply, please visit[***DETAC Results and RISE e-Learning Community Application Form***](https://forms.gle/s9GRNfoXtuRMHeQR8)***.***

* ***Independent Living Services Program Performance Report Instrument Posted for 30-day Comment Period:*** To submit a comment, please visit [Independent Living Services (ILS) Program Performance Report (PPR)](https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=202401-0985-001).
* ***Input Opportunity: Ensuring Wheelchair Users Can Fly with Dignity:*** The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is seeking public comments on a new [proposed rule](https://www.transportation.gov/airconsumer/flying-with-dignity-NPRM-PDF) designed to ensure airline passengers who use wheelchairs can travel safely and with dignity. [**Comments can be submitted online, by mail or fax, or hand-delivered**](https://www.regulations.gov/document/DOT-OST-2022-0144-0225)***through May 13, 2024***.
* ***FDA Proposes New Ban of Electrical Stimulation Devices for Self-Injurious or Aggressive Behavior:*** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration released a proposed rule to ban electrical stimulation devices intended to reduce or stop self-injurious or aggressive behavior. The proposed rule and instructions for commenting can be found in the [notice of proposed rulemaking published in the Federal Register](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/03/26/2024-06037/banned-devices-proposal-to-ban-electrical-stimulation-devices-for-self-injurious-or-aggressive). Comments due by ***May 28, 2024***.
* ***Disaster & Emergency Query:*** ACL is seeking feedback from any CILs/SILCs that have engaged in any contracts with their state/county emergency management agencies and provision of services before, during or after disaster. We’re looking for CILs/SILCs that have developed innovative models which could be replicated by other CILs or SILCs. For more information or to share your story, please e-mail Ed Ahern.
* ***Seeking Partnerships around Disasters in Mid-West States:*** We are looking for CILs in mid-west states who are engaging in collaborative partnerships (aging, emergency management, housing, public health and health) around disaster and other emergency management issues. ACL and FEMA will be working together throughout 2024 to raise awareness to issues important to people with disabilities and older adults during disaster.

As we plan these activities, we’re looking to ensure our grantee work is spotlighted. Our first event topic will be ‘preparing for mid-west disasters’ (tornados, flood, heat, e.g.). For more information or to share your story, please e-mail Ed Ahern.

# ***Funding Opportunities***

* ***Streamlined Requirements for Tribal Applicants for FY24 Buses and Bus Facilities and Low- or No-Emission Programs:*** FTA’s FY24 Notice of Funding Opportunity for the [Low-or No Emission (Low-No)](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJzdWJzY3JpYmVyX2lkIjoiMTM3MTEwNjc1OSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2xpbmtfaWQiOiIxMTAiLCJ1cmkiOiJicDI6ZGlnZXN0IiwibGlua19pZCI6IjE4ODM3Nzk1NTkiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwMzA0LjkxMjM2ODIxIiwidXJsIjoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cudHJhbnNpdC5kb3QuZ292L2xvd25vIiwiZW1haWwiOiJ2aWN0b3JpYS53cmlnaHRAYWNsLmhocy5nb3YifQ.69ouvosC9VOUTl3j_IbD5xMJLy0cV0YfaCVM1p6UsJw&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cb77ce28330c349defd7308dc3d1a8676%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638452431330471704%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OelIEfKrUr%2BvwXz85hEFCOv7qqw%2BT%2FTR17rRppOrIeA%3D&reserved=0) and [Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities programs](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJzdWJzY3JpYmVyX2lkIjoiMTM3MTEwNjc1OSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2xpbmtfaWQiOiIxMTEiLCJ1cmkiOiJicDI6ZGlnZXN0IiwibGlua19pZCI6IjM3MDQ1NzEyNSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDAzMDQuOTEyMzY4MjEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy50cmFuc2l0LmRvdC5nb3YvYnVzLXByb2dyYW0iLCJlbWFpbCI6InZpY3RvcmlhLndyaWdodEBhY2wuaGhzLmdvdiJ9.WBOq58tGA7AGaX77yxpCHy5GXPhShQh8eGceksp-KtY&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cb77ce28330c349defd7308dc3d1a8676%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638452431330477321%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FGP5S2N0v0Nnq2gyYf1y1S9kVcvxw0fj66IFv1wjGKs%3D&reserved=0) introduces streamlined application requirements for tribes requesting less than $1 million, making it easier for tribes with relatively small requests to apply.

FTA has released a new resource to help tribes navigate the streamlined requirements.

The [resource](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJzdWJzY3JpYmVyX2lkIjoiMTM3MTEwNjc1OSIsImJ1bGxldGluX2xpbmtfaWQiOiIxMTIiLCJ1cmkiOiJicDI6ZGlnZXN0IiwibGlua19pZCI6IjQ5MDc3Njc2NzciLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwMzA0LjkxMjM2ODIxIiwidXJsIjoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cudHJhbnNpdC5kb3QuZ292L3NpdGVzL2Z0YS5kb3QuZ292L2ZpbGVzLzIwMjQtMDIvU3VtbWFyeS1vZi1TdHJlYW1saW5lZC1SZXF1aXJlbWVudHMtZm9yLVRyaWJhbC1BcHBsaWNhbnRzLXRvLXRoZS1GWTI0LUJ1cy1Mb3ctTm8tTk9GTy5wZGYiLCJlbWFpbCI6InZpY3RvcmlhLndyaWdodEBhY2wuaGhzLmdvdiJ9.qEDmrBriN2KJdCTSZ-b3Gjnhsuebhc6KJcOp6B6yKWI&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cb77ce28330c349defd7308dc3d1a8676%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638452431330484173%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jnqwbe5p27WimPQtP9htRVTViajR%2BF7l7H8iI7ix%2B50%3D&reserved=0) reviews:

What the streamlined requirements are and how to access them in the application form;

What to do if requesting $1 million or more; and

Whether tribes can split requests across multiple applications.

Tribal applicants are encouraged to apply before the application deadline on ***Thursday, April 25***, ***2024***.

* ***Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants:*** EPA’s new [Environmental and Climate Justice](https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/inflation-reduction-act-environmental-and-climate-justice-program) Community Change Grants program (Community Change Grants) has announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity for approximately $2 billion dollars in [Inflation Reduction Act](https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act) funds in environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenges.

EPA is accepting applications on a rolling basis for $2 billion in Inflation Reduction Act funding available to support community-driven projects that build capacity for communities to tackle environmental and climate justice challenges, strengthen their climate resilience, and advance clean energy.

[Read the announcement for the NOFO](https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-2-billion-fund-environmental-and-climate-justice)

To apply for this opportunity, [view the RFA on Grants.gov](https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/351071).  Applications packages must be submitted on or before ***November 21, 2024*** ***at 11:59 PM Eastern Time.***

For more information, please visit [Community Change Grants](https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/inflation-reduction-act-community-change-grants-program#Eligible) or contact CCGP@epa.gov.

# ***Sharing Your Stories***

* ***OILP is Seeking Success Stories:*** The Office of Independent Living Programs wants to highlight examples of the amazing work of our CIL and ILS colleagues! Therefore, we are asking you, our colleagues, to help us share your stories by copying your Program Officer on any press releases that are distributed. Please view the [staff contact list for the Office of Independent Living Programs](https://acl.gov/programs/community-living-programs/office-independent-living-programs-contact-list). We appreciate your support!

# ***Resources***

* ***Older Americans Month 2024:*** In recognition of Older Americans Month in May 2024, ACL has a variety of [available resources](https://acl.gov/oam/2024/older-americans-month-2024)for public use including social media graphics, logos and more!
* ***A World of Opportunities: Bridging I/DD and Mental Health Systems through The Link Center:*** For more information, please visit [The Link Center](https://acl.gov/news-and-events/announcements/world-opportunities-bridging-idd-and-mental-health-systems-through).
* ***Federal Transit Administration Half-Fare Program Available for Senior Citizens:*** The Federal Transit Administration offers a half fare program that applies to adults aged 65 or older or those who have a Medicare card who live in an urban area (population of 50,000+) with public transit. For more information, please visit [NADTC's blog on half-fare requirements](https://www.nadtc.org/news/blog/understanding-half-farereduced-fare-requirements/).
* ***Biden-Harris Administration Partners With States To Address Homelessness:*** For more information, please visit [ACL's announcements page](https://acl.gov/news-and-events/announcements/biden-harris-administration-partners-states-address-homelessness).
* ***National Center for Diversity, Equity, and Intersectionality:*** The National Center for Disability, Equity, and Intersectionality is a coalition of professionals, individuals with disabilities, and family members of individuals with disabilities; this coalition aims to identify and reduce life-limiting inequities in healthcare, community living, and justice for people with disabilities. More information and resources are available for CILs, SILCs and DSEs at <https://thinkequitable.com/> and<https://thinkequitable.com/what-we-do/>. Questions may be e-mailed to Peter Nye.
* ***U.S. Department of Transportation FAQ:*** The U.S. Department of Transportation provides answers to [**Frequently Asked Questions on Incorporating Accessibility in Transportation Projects**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyYW5zcG9ydGF0aW9uLmdvdi9ncmFudHMvZG90LW5hdmlnYXRvci9mcmVxdWVudGx5LWFza2VkLXF1ZXN0aW9ucy1pbmNvcnBvcmF0aW5nLWFjY2Vzc2liaWxpdHktdHJhbnNwb3J0YXRpb24tcHJvamVjdHMiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwMTA4Ljg4MTc1MTMxIn0._V9DCA0rKwY-jWi1QbXC1BZ-tPZrJYVtXCGD693jokU%2Fs%2F2575557892%2Fbr%2F234464221726-l&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cfb89953ca60b489b896508dc1926b82d%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638412901295206985%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7RkS9OD3C79dnRaiVIVYuwLf56T6tvj7buSPmLfB1Fs%3D&reserved=0) to help grant applicants understand accessibility-related requirements and best practices throughout the transportation project planning process. The FAQ provides insight on how DOT initiatives such as [ADA Transition Maps](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vbWFwcy5kb3QuZ292L3BvcnRhbC9hcHBzL3N0b3J5bWFwcy9zdG9yaWVzL2MwY2JkNGY5ZjcwMjRmMjdhMDJhNzI2Y2NkMWRhMTEyIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDEwOC44ODE3NTEzMSJ9.XmwPYtRSrU2mXHmcA3Kw-2ZVlMrcjHbJAO4L3OpvvGM%2Fs%2F2575557892%2Fbr%2F234464221726-l&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cfb89953ca60b489b896508dc1926b82d%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638412901295214716%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=NUVBAcpVjiAi4I34RVDIqH%2FbKoPYKf5JSVKi%2FL2V75g%3D&reserved=0), the Department’s [Disability Policy Priorities](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyYW5zcG9ydGF0aW9uLmdvdi9taXNzaW9uL2FjY2Vzc2liaWxpdHkvcHJpb3JpdGllcyIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDAxMDguODgxNzUxMzEifQ.7q9ibJma1yWVqMMt6paXQ2_rofHq1OM51AGTVwl-F2Q%2Fs%2F2575557892%2Fbr%2F234464221726-l&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cfb89953ca60b489b896508dc1926b82d%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638412901295221407%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=toQ%2B1AmA35OlK2Og7G6emRBZahyNAZ%2FzNKcSblZkSl4%3D&reserved=0), and the [Promising Practices for Meaningful Public Involvement in Transportation Decision-Making](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyYW5zcG9ydGF0aW9uLmdvdi9wcmlvcml0aWVzL2VxdWl0eS9wcm9taXNpbmctcHJhY3RpY2VzLW1lYW5pbmdmdWwtcHVibGljLWludm9sdmVtZW50LXRyYW5zcG9ydGF0aW9uLWRlY2lzaW9uLW1ha2luZyIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDAxMDguODgxNzUxMzEifQ.aRSkhGpBOzNAYqrO5anUUdk2MevOmNv6e3-h8TsTEJE%2Fs%2F2575557892%2Fbr%2F234464221726-l&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cfb89953ca60b489b896508dc1926b82d%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638412901295227886%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TRr6CNePM1PrIhcWibN8%2BLmeu%2Bh19Gk4vHJNUUfNpHA%3D&reserved=0) guide can be used to advance accessibility in the many projects funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and beyond. By making information on accessibility more available, DOT aims to ensure that new investments in transportation are designed for all.
* ***HHS Provides Additional Tools to Strengthen Access to Quality Home and Community-Based Services:*** For more information, please visit [HHS Provides Tools for Accessing HCBS Services](https://acl.gov/news-and-events/announcements/hhs-provides-additional-tools-strengthen-access-quality-hcbs).
* ***Voting Accessibility Resources from ACL:*** To view ACL’s updated voting resource page, please visit [ACL's voting resource page](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Facl.gov%2Fnews-and-events%2Fannouncements%2Fvoting-resources-older-americans-and-people-disabilities&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840334245246%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=88lBjr0LMHnPtbgoDfvulZv4s9C98wknsmXzAM2FpC4%3D&reserved=0).
* ***Disability Vaccine Access Opportunities Center Resource Hub Launched:*** Resources and toolkits are available to serve people with disabilities before, during and after public health emergencies at the [DVAO hub](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdvao.able-sc.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840334245246%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1Miwm6EHce9%2Fat%2F8m6lqtQCSiiiOPJkfjvSBu1ydf4M%3D&reserved=0).
* ***ACL Expands DIAL to include self-service features:*** ACL’s Disability Information and Access Line (DIAL) launched in September a new tool to help people with disabilities find local services and resources to support community living. Through DIAL’s enhanced [website](https://dial.acl.gov/home) and its searchable database, users can now find the information they need, at any time of day, every day of the year. We encourage you to provide any contact information updates for your CIL through the DIAL website.

* ***Disability, Diversity, and Intersectionality in CILs:*** For research, training, and technical assistance resources, please visit ILRU’s website at [https://www.ilru.org/projects/cil-diversity](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ilru.org%2Fprojects%2Fcil-diversity&data=05%7C01%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbb9de1e85bc64e7d721408dbdee35cd6%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638348840334401513%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cUzl6%2B2E5JeS22uepHPfGEpfz2W%2FjG4L52XEiRhE3b8%3D&reserved=0).

Please share this newsletter with your staff so they can use these great resources. As always, please feel free to contact our office if you have questions.