OILP Newsletter- August 2024

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the OILP Monthly Newsletter! We were pleased to meet some of you at the NCIL Conference in Washington, D.C. in July. Below are recent updates from ACL, TA Resources, and other IL resources.

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

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# **Funding Opportunities**

* ***IL Training and Technical Assistance Center Contract Opportunity:*** The Administration on Disabilities (AoD), Administration for Community Living (ACL) seeks to fund a contract to operate the Independent Living Training & Technical Assistance Center (IL T&TA Center). The contract opportunity can be found on [SAM.gov](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fsam.gov%2Fopp%2F84acb76bf927428dacbd5a34d067a2de%2Fview&data=05%7C02%7CJennifer.Martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7Cbd2380c6e72f4ce8aa6308dcb597be31%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638584910534193662%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=V5p2ex3ub2G8DEkvB17BIPXKyw7IoHSjxIIX%2BAW5vW4%3D&reserved=0): The deadline for proposals is ***August 30, 2024 at 2:00 P.M. Eastern Time.***

The IL T&TA Center will provide expertise on independent living services for IL network grantees funded by AoD, ACL, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The IL network includes the Centers for Independent Living (CILs), the Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs), and Designated State Entitles (DSEs).

The Contractor is required to have specialized experience in CIL and SILC operations and the role of the DSE.

With this Performance Work Statement (PWS), ACL seeks to:

* Ensure the provision and innovation of high-quality independent living services among CILs with an emphasis on:

o Information and referral services;

o Independent living skills training;

o Peer counseling;

o Individual and systems advocacy;

o Facilitating transition from institutions to community-based residences;

o Assisting people at risk of entering institutions to remain in the community; and

o Facilitating the transition of youth to postsecondary life.

* Ensure that IL network grantees meet and exceed statutory compliance with standards and assurances and critical and noncritical areas of programmatic, operational, and fiscal management; and
* Improve performance, outcomes, operations, and governance of IL network grantees.

The IL T&TA Center will develop an aggressive strategic plan with measurable goals and objectives to assess the IL T&TA effectiveness and demonstrate improvements in IL grantee outcomes. The IL T&TA Center will also be responsible for coordinating and partnering with other IL T&TA Centers funded by ACL to IL network grantees and advance community living.

* ***Federal Transit Administration Announces Notice of Funding for the Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility Technical Assistance Center:*** FTA and the [Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDUsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyYW5zaXQuZG90Lmdvdi9jb29yZGluYXRpbmctY291bmNpbC1hY2Nlc3MtYW5kLW1vYmlsaXR5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDcwMS45NzAyMjI4MSJ9.a7ZcBXsPKaw1ChCJZGtXBwPzm1pC2DwWj31zLzPJnCU%2Fs%2F2940276605%2Fbr%2F245072376237-l&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7C5a598fbae7c54b62b1c908dc99fd5ccd%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638554560684345192%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6ogjdRzceOSIPnbRBqf3qHXMo4qshniICZA1wjoiI0w%3D&reserved=0) (CCAM) recently published a [Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDYsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyYW5zaXQuZG90Lmdvdi9ub3RpY2VzLWZ1bmRpbmcvY29tcGV0aXRpdmUtZnVuZGluZy1vcHBvcnR1bml0eS1jb29yZGluYXRpbmctY291bmNpbC1hY2Nlc3MtYW5kLW1vYmlsaXR5LWNjYW0iLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwNzAxLjk3MDIyMjgxIn0.eZJsyrCtkNASXmaiM3CNQC1nXiode47-_4mD1uOYUio%2Fs%2F2940276605%2Fbr%2F245072376237-l&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7C5a598fbae7c54b62b1c908dc99fd5ccd%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638554560684355258%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dXB7eSLHKgws3ZlUouy59zZz0ncuWhkHoa42KYQ%2Fzo0%3D&reserved=0) to establish the CCAM National Technical Assistance Center to support the [CCAM federal agencies](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDcsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyYW5zaXQuZG90Lmdvdi9jY2FtL2Fib3V0L2FnZW5jaWVzIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDcwMS45NzAyMjI4MSJ9.fOmn_01vlnoYQdS7_Hdke608v5yq7IFmk3YJS_H__V8%2Fs%2F2940276605%2Fbr%2F245072376237-l&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7C5a598fbae7c54b62b1c908dc99fd5ccd%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638554560684365306%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=I%2FM3bJc%2BnOIgL1YUOrx7s0W6sN%2FH9vC7%2FKdSXoP9%2FzM%3D&reserved=0) and their stakeholders in improving transportation access for people with disabilities, older adults, and individuals of low income.

The technical assistance center will coordinate [human services transportation](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDgsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyYW5zaXQuZG90Lmdvdi93aGF0LWh1bWFuLXNlcnZpY2UtdHJhbnNwb3J0YXRpb24iLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwNzAxLjk3MDIyMjgxIn0.lwbCbw0VabPKfwAoWgpcY5Wn9t2Cl6j3Eli6EZ6RJ4g%2Fs%2F2940276605%2Fbr%2F245072376237-l&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7C5a598fbae7c54b62b1c908dc99fd5ccd%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638554560684375252%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9Ar8RxxulkHSTZ4pq9%2BM2TMG9%2FwV6GD04t9n5E8ITA8%3D&reserved=0) to improve people's access to everyday destinations. Funded with $2.5 million in the first year, the center will carry out activities to encourage collaboration across the [130 federal programs](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDksInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnRyYW5zaXQuZG90Lmdvdi9yZWd1bGF0aW9ucy1hbmQtZ3VpZGFuY2UvY2NhbS9hYm91dC9jY2FtLXByb2dyYW0taW52ZW50b3J5IiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDcwMS45NzAyMjI4MSJ9.IfEmJPX62NO7Yui-fkE7dAiGExGy2ui2yCMDT5o0X6o%2Fs%2F2940276605%2Fbr%2F245072376237-l&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7C5a598fbae7c54b62b1c908dc99fd5ccd%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638554560684384942%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hNSNZvuJHoMUrpfoC0l%2FguPQLxqeNmNx%2FarUUHQtQMY%3D&reserved=0) that fund transportation, connect state and local grantees, and provide community grants to improve access and mobility. ***Apply by August 30, 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](mailto:CCGP@epa.gov).

# **Reporting and Guidance**

* ***Please Save the Date for the September 4 OILP Quarterly Connection Call at 3:00 P.M. Eastern Time.*** Alison Barkoff, the Principal Deputy Administrator of ACL, will be providing remarks. In addition, the OILP team will share information on monitoring and upcoming training & technical assistance for IL. As always, we will leave time for any Q&As you have from the field. The OILP Quarterly Connection Call provides an opportunity to get updates from the Office of Independent Living Services (OILP), meet new staff, hear presentations from our ACL colleagues; learn more about new programs or funding opportunities and get reminders around dates of importance. Board members, directors, staff – are all encouraged to attend. To register, the September OILP Quarterly Connection Zoom link is [September OILP Quarterly Connection Call](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Fwebinar%2Fregister%2FWN_AVS3bAlNRoWyoMiwxr9omQ%23%2Fregistration&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.martin%40acl.hhs.gov%7C318c77320c0f4437efd808dc8575772d%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638531986774442193%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FX1hbqB1uDCMYDqtkPwRxNGWGI1HuI1wxwhcew8PSPY%3D&reserved=0).
* ***OILP Monitoring:*** As a reminder regarding the current OILP monitoring process for grantees, the office continues to follow the COMP process when conducting reviews. More about that process can be found [here](https://acl.gov/programs/il-comp). On the IL COMP webpage is a [CIL evaluation tool](https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/programs/2019-12/2%20CIL%20Eval%20Tool.pdf) and a [fiscal review tool](https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/programs/2019-12/Fiscal%20review%20tool_0.xlsx) that OILP uses when conducting monitoring visits. We encourage grantees to use these tools to strengthen their operations, and always let your Program Officer know if you have any questions.
* ***No Cost Extensions:*** As a reminder, the federal fiscal year is coming to an end at the end of September, requests for No Cost Extensions need to be submitted at least 30 days before the project end date. Please let your [Program Officer](https://acl.gov/programs/community-living-programs/office-independent-living-programs-contact-list) if you need a No Cost Extension, along with the grant number, the amount, the reason for the extension request, and the plan for its use if the extension is granted.
* ***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](mailto: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).

* ***Taking Action on the Disability Community’s Most Critical and Urgent Priorities:*** Please see this [blog post](https://acl.gov/news-and-events/acl-blog/taking-action-disability-communitys-most-critical-and-urgent-priorities) by Alison Barkoff, performing the duties of ACL Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging.
* ***DOJ Final Rule ADA Title II Digital Accessibility:*** The Federal Register published the Department’s [final rule](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmFkYS5nb3YvYXNzZXRzL3BkZnMvd2ViLXJ1bGUucGRmIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDQyNS45Mzg1MjgxMSJ9.nmkZ4DXvXkJrI8d4rvNUl4AlhXNhR2LdLglQMvzglkQ%2Fs%2F3063358158%2Fbr%2F241336615423-l&data=05%7C02%7Crobert.groenendaal%40acl.hhs.gov%7C58cf090745f84eb56b9408dc652f9c4c%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638496502373139500%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YqoR6HCwqohH8Q1KZtoUMfOFmwC4chq1drzngLgxAWA%3D&reserved=0) under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which applies to State and local governments, to improve web and mobile application (app) access for people with disabilities. The rule clarifies how State and local governments can meet their existing ADA obligations as many of their activities move to the digital space. This rule, [signed by the Attorney General](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lmp1c3RpY2UuZ292L29wYS9wci9qdXN0aWNlLWRlcGFydG1lbnQtcHVibGlzaC1maW5hbC1ydWxlLXN0cmVuZ3RoZW4td2ViLWFuZC1tb2JpbGUtYXBwLWFjY2Vzcy1wZW9wbGUiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwNDI1LjkzODUyODExIn0.MGWn9TYxpC40qXmrFMFlBH2P9QRarDwcwsZRFUUTISo%2Fs%2F3063358158%2Fbr%2F241336615423-l&data=05%7C02%7Crobert.groenendaal%40acl.hhs.gov%7C58cf090745f84eb56b9408dc652f9c4c%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638496502373150112%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Ye5UN%2BV%2ByPa%2FpI9H8PPch8PsN70jZQCna1oc3GR8VtI%3D&reserved=0) earlier this month, adopts a technical standard for web and mobile accessibility to ensure that people with disabilities can better access important public services like health care, voting, and education.

With this publication, the dates by which State and local governments must comply with the rule’s requirements are now finalized. State and local governments with a population of 50,000 or more will have to be in compliance with the rule’s requirements beginning on April 24, 2026. State and local governments with a population of less than 50,000, as well as special district governments, will have to be in compliance beginning on April 26, 2027. This means that State and local governments’ web content and mobile apps will have to generally meet the technical standard in the rule by these dates and on an ongoing basis after these dates.

In the meantime, State and local governments still have existing Title II obligations. This means that even before the compliance dates, State and local governments must provide people with disabilities equal access to their services, programs, and activities offered via the web and mobile apps.

For a high-level summary of the final rule, read the [fact sheet](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmFkYS5nb3Yvbm90aWNlcy8yMDI0LzAzLzA4L3dlYi1ydWxlLyIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDA0MjUuOTM4NTI4MTEifQ.X45xr_I4lm8mgAKMjohb2X4cepSTlBu7ZrmNRIPBB0A%2Fs%2F3063358158%2Fbr%2F241336615423-l&data=05%7C02%7Crobert.groenendaal%40acl.hhs.gov%7C58cf090745f84eb56b9408dc652f9c4c%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638496502373158024%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7559S23hiG9CqxQe7KAoeIhY3IiU7S4gPxC0f2aR0PE%3D&reserved=0). Individuals can also find the official version of the full rule in the [Federal Register](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmZlZGVyYWxyZWdpc3Rlci5nb3YvZG9jdW1lbnRzLzIwMjQvMDQvMjQvMjAyNC0wNzc1OC9ub25kaXNjcmltaW5hdGlvbi1vbi10aGUtYmFzaXMtb2YtZGlzYWJpbGl0eS1hY2Nlc3NpYmlsaXR5LW9mLXdlYi1pbmZvcm1hdGlvbi1hbmQtc2VydmljZXMtb2Ytc3RhdGUiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjQwNDI1LjkzODUyODExIn0.WAgZf_-Ltr1vtZyCfUJx3QWR7ay36HG7cXALBTWdbhc%2Fs%2F3063358158%2Fbr%2F241336615423-l&data=05%7C02%7Crobert.groenendaal%40acl.hhs.gov%7C58cf090745f84eb56b9408dc652f9c4c%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638496502373164301%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BcaXTQfzFv8xsh7vpPrk96WNGqnE2M7IS%2BKGjoPKlyI%3D&reserved=0). The Department also plans to issue a Small Entity Compliance Guide to assist small State and local governments in complying with the rule.

To find out more about the ADA, visit [ada.gov](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDQsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmFkYS5nb3YvIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDQyNS45Mzg1MjgxMSJ9.dsIvZOHPs6rnnaFKNDZvQaSPOm_Zt8PH-44NPKLV82g%2Fs%2F3063358158%2Fbr%2F241336615423-l&data=05%7C02%7Crobert.groenendaal%40acl.hhs.gov%7C58cf090745f84eb56b9408dc652f9c4c%7Cd58addea50534a808499ba4d944910df%7C0%7C0%7C638496502373170626%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=f9cqRrT3tVF26CRoj3fdj6KIc7V1HfqAIOidBT%2FwOGI%3D&reserved=0) or call the Justice Department’s toll-free ADA information line at 1-800-514-0301 (voice) or 1-833-610-1264 (TTY).

* ***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](mailto:pmsoigaudit@psc.hhs.gov).
* ***Indirect Cost Rates:*** For questions regarding indirect cost rates, contact information can be found at the [Indirect Cost Rates webpage](•%09https:/www.hhs.gov/about/agencies/asa/psc/indirect-cost-negotiations/index.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 period ends ***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).

# **Staffing Updates**

* ***Team Leader for the Office of Independent Living Programs:*** Ed Ahern has been promoted to the Team Leader role in the Office of Independent Living Programs (OILP). He also oversees the monitoring for IL and any support around this area to OILP staff. Congratulations Ed!

# **Conferences, Trainings and Technical Assistance**

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* ***IL-NET Presents: Innovations in Transition - Strategies to Engage Unhoused Consumers:*** Please join this webinar on ***August 15, 2024; 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time.***

[Register online](mailto:Register%20online) or reach out to [Mary-Kate@ncil.org](mailto:Mary-Kate@ncil.org) for more information.

With the current housing crisis, many people with disabilities find themselves unhoused, at risk of homelessness, or living in segregated institutions. Centers for Independent Living can play a vital role in supporting unhoused consumers with disabilities. The fifth core service, Transition, opens a door for CILs to identify needs and fill gaps in their local community. This workshop will highlight how CILs can use IL philosophy and core services to support transition services with unhoused consumers.

**In this training, attendees will learn**:

* How to identify and eliminate barriers within your CIL that prevent unhoused consumers from engaging in services.
* Outreach strategies for engaging unhoused consumers based on your community.
* The role of information and referral, IL skills training, peer support, and advocacy in supporting consumers' transition into housing and preventing institutionalization.
* ***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).

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| |  | | --- | | * ***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 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**

* ***Input Needed: Addition of “Care Workers” in Standard Occupational Classification:*** The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is seeking input to inform a possible revision of the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Manual. Comments are sought on a variety of topics, including whether OMB should consider adding “care workers” as a detailed occupation (and how the occupation should be named and described).

**Comments due Monday, August 12, 2024**  
[**Go to the Federal Register**](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/06/12/2024-12825/statistical-policy-directive-no-10-standard-occupational-classification-soc-request-for-comments-on)

* ***CMS Call for Measures: HCBS Quality Measure Set Review:*** On behalf of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Mathematica is issuing a call for measures as part of CMS’ process to make updates to the Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Quality Measure Set.Anyone can suggest measures for addition or removal. Suggestions will be considered by CMS in finalizing the 2028 HCBS Quality Measure Set, which will be the first state reporting cycle for all states. CMS will base updates on workgroup recommendations and other input sources. The draft 2028 HCBS Quality Measure Set will be posted in the Federal Register for public comment before it is finalized.

The HCBS Quality Measure Set aims to:

Promote more common and consistent use within and across states of nationally standardized quality measures in HCBS programs.

Create opportunities for CMS and states to have comparative quality data on HCBS programs.

Drive improvement in quality of care and outcomes for people receiving HCBS.

Support states’ efforts to promote equity in their HCBS programs.

To submit measure suggestions, please visit [HCBS measures](https://acl.gov/news-and-events/announcements/cms-call-measures-hcbs-quality-measure-set-review). Suggestions are due ***August 16, 2024, at 8:00 PM Eastern Time.***

* ***Health Care Providers and Accessible Medical Equipment:*** ACL is seeking feedback from any CILs that are educating medical professionals on the topic of accessible medical equipment. To share your experiences, please e-mail [Ed Ahern](mailto:edward.ahern@acl.hhs.gov).
* **Disaster, Emergencies and Disability:** FEMA and ACL are partnering in a series of disaster related webinars. September’s Webinar will be focused on the National Preparedness Theme “Preparing Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Communities for Risks and Disasters.” If your CIL is involved with preparedness among these communities, please reach out to [Ed Ahern](mailto:edward.ahern@acl.hhs.gov) to learn more on how you might participate in this event.

Disasters impact everyone – but they impact people with disabilities at even greater rates. Key to the best outcomes for people with disabilities is preparation. We are looking to spotlight any preparedness activities CILs/SILCs are doing in September to share across ACL social media. If your CIL/SILC has plans, please reach out to [Ed Ahern](mailto:edward.ahern@acl.hhs.gov).

On April 28, 2024, ACL and FEMA’s Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC) collaborated to present the first in a series of disaster related webinars impacting people with disabilities and older adults. The first, Strengthening Disaster Preparedness and Response for Aging and Disability Communities, featured members of the IL network sharing their experiences. Read more about it in an article by the [Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies](https://disasterstrategies.org/acl-and-fema-odic-disaster-webinar-series-summary-1/).

# **Sharing Your Stories**

* ***Harlem Independent Living Center, New York Expands Services:*** For more information, please view their [July 2024 Newsletter](https://myemail-api.constantcontact.com/Updates-from-Harlem-Independent-Living-Center--HILC-.html?soid=1141251554001&aid=7bOEmeSy-CI).
* ***Disability-centered study reveals critical gaps in supporting recently disabled gun violence survivors in Chicago, Access Living, IL:*** Access Living, a leading disability service and advocacy center in Chicago, has released the findings of its first qualitative [study](https://www.accessliving.org/disabled-gun-violence-survivors-in-chicago-an-initial-needs-survey/) into the experiences of Chicagoans who have become disabled due to gun violence. Access Living collected more than 150 firsthand stories over eighteen months from individuals and groups and interviewed government officials, community-based organizations, violence prevention leaders, and medical professionals, to better understand the needs of people disabled by gun violence. Since 2010, more than 37,000 non-fatal shooting incidents have occurred in Chicago, leaving potentially thousands of people in Chicago with various new disabilities navigating things like finding accessible housing, accessing healthcare, and working with their newly acquired disability.

The survey was necessary to reveal and center shared experiences and needs of those individuals, especially those from Chicago’s Black and Brown communities. The study started with a series of listening sessions with disabled gun violence survivors led by disabled peer facilitators. Shared commonalities among participants included hardship in accessing healthcare and mental health resources, housing, and community support while encountering systemic racism. [The report can be found in its entirety on Access Living's website](https://www.accessliving.org/disabled-gun-violence-survivors-in-chicago-an-initial-needs-survey/).

“Regardless of race and gender, the primary experience every participant shared after their shooting was a feeling of criminalization,” states the report. “Across the board, they felt that health care, law enforcement and their community networks were unprepared to handle someone disabled by gun violence and assumed criminal participation on their part.”

The interviews and research led to policy and service recommendations that can be followed by other disability-led organizations.

At Access Living, action steps include hiring two peer support coordinators who are survivors themselves, who will create a space to provide culturally competent community and individual lived experience for newly disabled survivors, and a peer navigator to connect the same population to independent living resources.

“These findings guide how to grow our services and advocacy on behalf of a rapidly growing segment of Chicago’s disabled community. We also need to raise awareness and ignite more conversations about how to assist people and communities nationwide dealing with the lasting effects of gun violence,” says Karen Tamley, CEO of Access Living.

This work was completed with funding from the Ford Foundation and the collaboration of experienced stakeholders and community members such as Lurie’s Childrens Hospital, Broken Winggz, and more. The thought leadership in this report reflects a city-wide and nationwide commitment to recognize and heal the trauma inflicted by gun violence.

“There is no justice or healing in any policy without bringing in a disability framework, and the Ford Foundation is honored to support a project that aims to see the entirety of a community’s needs,” says Rebecca Cokley, Disability Rights Program Officer for the Ford Foundation. “Recognizing the diverse experiences within the disability community ensures no one is left out of the disability justice work we prioritize.”

Access Living will continue to expand its peer support programs to include more specialized culturally competent care, such as hiring peer support mentors specifically for woman, men, youth, LGBTQIA+, and Latinx groups.

* ***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**

* ***Impact of the ADA: A Guest Blog by Ed Ahern:*** The Office of Independent Living Programs Team Leader, Ed Ahern, was recently featured on acl.gov discussing his personal experiences prior to the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please visit the blog at [Impact of the ADA](https://acl.gov/news-and-events/acl-blog/impact-ada-guest-blog-ed-ahern).
* ***Centers for Independent Living and Their Role in Emergency Management:*** Please view this article by the [Emergency Management Network](https://emnetwork.substack.com/p/centers-for-independent-living-and).
* ***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/).
* ***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 [Think Equitable](https://thinkequitable.com/) and[What We Do](https://thinkequitable.com/what-we-do/). Questions may be e-mailed to [Peter Nye](mailto:peter.nye@acl.hhs.gov).
* ***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:*** 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 [Disability, Diversity and Intersectionality in CILs](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.