

State Plan For Independent Living (SPIL)

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

Part B - INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

Part C - Centers for Independent Living

State: Florida

FISCAL YEARS: 2025-2027

Effective Date: 10/01/2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The mission, goals, and objectives of the Florida 3-year State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) for 2024-2027 are defined in Section 1 of the State Plan for Independent Living. The mission of the Florida Independent Living Council during this SPIL period is the Florida IL Network promotes Independence, Full Access, and Informed Choice for People with Disabilities.

The State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) identifies the goals, objectives, and activities of the Governor-appointed Florida State Independent Living Council (FILC). The collaboration between FILC and the Centers for Independent Living (CILs) is reflective of the State's commitment to improving independent living for people with disabilities.

This 3-year plan also outlines new initiatives such as the Dashboard Project, which provides Florida-specific data. This project was funded through unrestricted funds and Hurricane Ian funding. The Dashboard is an ongoing commitment of the FILC to support the CIL's work by improving outreach opportunities. Another important FILC activity is hosting the IL Network call every Thursday at 4:00. The call allows CILs to gather, discuss challenges, and share ideas. The FILC Lunch and Learn series was developed from communications at the weekly IL calls. The Lunch and Learn is a requested training, an introduction, or a new opportunity identified by FILC or the CILs. FILC will host between two - to four Lunch and Learns annually. Examples of the FILC Lunch and Learn include the AgrAbility Program, Lotus Company on the Ring development, Ethics, Sunshine Law, FEMA, and most recently, the Florida Housing Coalition. These activities were derived from comments in public forums, our CILs, and our SPIL activities.

The SPIL was created by the FILC and the CILs after public input from Floridians with disabilities and stakeholders. The FILC SPIL Committee meets quarterly and, when required, monthly. They review the CILs and the FILCs' SPIL quarterly reports and input from the public. The SPIL Committee also reviews recommendations from the SPIL workgroups. This process allows the workgroups to take a deep dive into critical issues.

In Florida, sixteen CILs are actively involved, and FILC and the CILs have a good working relationship. This is evident during a hurricane and has been instrumental in creating a SPIL Goal that has provided excellent data and understanding of the great work of the CILs during a disaster and hosting the Youth Leadership Forum.

Over the next three years (October 2024 - September 2027), the Florida CILs will perform most activities to meet the SPIL goals. We understand that there are 16 CILs, all charged with serving their community, and that can look different from CIL to CIL. FILC will continue to perform its activities and monitor, review, and evaluate the progress of the SPIL. FILC is mindful of the 5th Core Service and its role during a disaster. The Goals in the 2024-2027 SPIL are Goal 1- Increase the independence and quality of life for youth with disabilities in Florida. Goal 2- All Floridians with disabilities will have access to adequately funded Centers for Independent Living (CILs) as well as other resources that support IL. Goal 3 - All Floridians with disabilities have access to qualified personal care services in their community. Goal 4 - Disaster Preparedness/Response/Recovery Resulting in systemic change. People with disabilities will have equal access to the community resources, as a result of, but not limited to, disasters, natural (Example: hurricane or pandemic), human-made (Example: terrorism, civil unrest, or a mass shooting), or technological (Example: chemical releases, power outages, or mass cybersecurity breach). Goal 5 -To improve affordable and accessible housing options for people with disabilities. Goal 6- Individuals with disabilities have access to participate in their community.

The Florida SILC expects not just to read the results of the SPIL reports but to assist with creating a roadmap as we did with the Disaster Preparedness/Response/Recovery Resulting in Systemic Change or Goal number 4. We are very proud of our relationship with the CILs.

The FILC held an IL Conference in 2022 for the Florida CILs and is currently working on one for 2025. The IL Conference brought unity and comradery opportunities between the CIL staff and was a highlight of the year. There were significant training and peer-to-peer opportunities. The majority of the training revolved around the SPIL workgroup's efforts. Funding is the only challenge when hosting the IL Conference. FILC works closely with VR, and its current leadership they have provided support with initiatives that will bring value to IL.

Section 1: Mission, Goals, Objectives, and Activities

1.1 - MISSION

Mission of the Independent Living Network and the SPIL

The Florida IL Network promotes independence, full access, and informed choice for people with disabilities.

1.2 - GOALS

Goals of the SPIL

Goal #1: Increase the independence and quality of life for youth with disabilities in Florida.

Goal #2: All Floridians with disabilities will have access to adequately funded Centers for Independent Living (CILs) as well as other resources that support IL.

Goal #3: All Floridians with disabilities can access qualified personal care services in their community.

Goal #4: Disaster Preparedness/Response/Recovery Resulting in systemic change. People with disabilities will have equal access to the community resources, as a result of, but not limited to, disasters, natural (For example: hurricane or pandemic), human-made (Example: terrorism, civil unrest, or a mass shooting) or technological (Example: chemical releases, power outages, or mass cybersecurity breach).

Goal #5: To improve affordable and accessible housing options for people with disabilities.

Goal #6: Individuals with disabilities have access to participate in their community.

1.3 - OBJECTIVES

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

Goal #1: Increase the independence and quality of life for youth with disabilities in Florida.

Objective #1.1: Increase IL Network participation in the Florida Youth Leadership Forum(s) (YLF)

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #1.1.1: Increase awareness of the Florida YLF in the IL Network.

Indicator #1.1.2: The CILs serve individuals with disabilities, including youth and young adults with disabilities, in developing transition skills. CILs will identify transition options offered in the community. The CILs will establish a relationship with their local School Boards of Education. The Florida YLF lead organization pre- and post-surveys of participants will reflect increased awareness of pre-employment and transition options and resources. FILC will seek input from youth public forum participants on employment options and resources for Florida's youth with disabilities. FILC will work to include a youth-specific seat on the Council.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Objective Info #1.1.1: FILC will host the Youth Leadership Forum to increase knowledge and awareness of the Florida CILs and introduce leadership training to youth with disabilities. YLF participants will include CILs and other disability organizations to introduce the IL Philosophy. FILC Youth Committee will collaborate with state partners to improve participation and promote YLF. Each CIL will identify youth with disabilities to annually refer to Florida YLF.

Objective Info #1.1.2: FILC will administer the pre and post-surveys to YLF participants regarding pre-employment and transition skills for transition. CILs provide programming that promotes social and peer support to develop the necessary skills for transition. Each CIL collaborates with their local school systems to offer advocacy options for students and parents. FILC Youth Committee will host a youth-specific public forum in collaboration with CILs to raise awareness around youth transition work and employment.

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #1.2: The CILs serve individuals with disabilities, including youth and young adults with disabilities, in developing transition skills.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #1.2.1: CILs will identify transition options offered in the community. The CILs will establish a relationship with their local School Boards of Education. The Florida YLF lead organization pre- and post-surveys of participants will reflect increased awareness of pre-employment and transition options and resources. FILC will seek input from youth public forum participants on employment options and resources for Florida's youth with disabilities. FILC will work to include a youth-specific seat on the Council.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Objective Info #1.2.1: FILC will administer the pre and post-surveys to YLF participants regarding pre-employment and transition skills for transition. CILs provide programming that promotes social and peer support to develop the necessary skills for transition. Each CIL collaborates with their local

school systems to provide advocacy options for students and parents. FILC Youth Committee will host a youth specific public forum in collaboration with CILs to raise awareness around youth transition work and employment.

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #2: All Floridians with disabilities will have access to adequately funded Centers for Independent Living (CILs) as well as other resources that support IL.

Objective #2.1: The Florida IL Network has adequate resources to ensure all CILs have the capacity to provide the federally required core services and other IL services identified as essential to the communities they serve.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.1.1: The workgroup will research and identify 2 additional funding opportunities to expand IL services, with an emphasis on underserved groups. FILC will track and promote requested training brought to the IL Network. The IL Network will host biannual IL Conferences for the state when funding is available. FILC will explore process and system improvements to support CILs in fulfilling their mission and identifying the critical needs of their organization.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Objective Info #2.1.1: FILC will provide the CILs with access to the FILC Dashboard to expedite access to demographics and Florida-specific data. Identify new partnerships that result in new funding. CILs will identify new partners supporting community-based programs. FILC will make recommendations for a unified data reporting tool to improve the accuracy and timeliness of required reporting. FILC will assist in developing model processes for internal controls to assist CILs in maintaining appropriate fiscal documentation and records and track CIL usage of this process.

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #2.2: Floridians will have a better understanding and value of CILs.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.2.1: IL Network will continue to develop the IL brand to increase recognition. The IL Network will increase the number of people who have knowledge about their local CILs through promotional materials, social media, and websites. CILs will provide a success story annually to be included in the annual summary.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Objective Info #2.2.1: FILC and the CILs will collaboratively develop effective strategies to communicate and educate elected officials and public policy on the SPIL with the goal of expanding and establishing an effective statewide network of IL services for Floridians with disabilities. The IL Network will identify innovative marketing tools to increase awareness of the CILs work. FILC will utilize a web-based survey to create awareness of CIL and IL and use public forums to provide promotional materials, increase statewide awareness of CILs.

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #3: All Floridians with disabilities can access qualified personal care services in their community.

Objective #3.1: The FILC workgroup will gather public input and have a clearer understanding of the systemic barriers regarding personal care services.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #3.1.1: CILs track consumer requests for personal care services. CILs will identify training needed to better serve consumers using PCA services. The FILC workgroup will identify systemic barriers to accessing personal care services. The IL Network will identify a consumer story to educate and train state stakeholders.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Objective Info #3.1.1: The FILC workgroup will research best practices from other states and/or disability organizations on how to navigate the systemic barriers around personal care services. The FILC workgroup will create a needs assessment and host public forums to collect data from consumers to identify system barriers. The FILC workgroup will present the results of both public forums and the needs assessment data to the SPIL Committee. The FILC workgroup, based on CIL reporting, will identify a yearly training/presentation on different options for accessing personal care services in the community.

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #4: Disaster Preparedness/Response/Recovery Resulting in systemic change. People with disabilities will have equal access to the community resources, as a result of, but not limited to, disasters, natural (For example: hurricane or pandemic), human-made (Example: terrorism, civil unrest, or a mass shooting) or technological (Example: chemical releases, power outages, or mass cybersecurity breach).

Objective #4.1: The IL Network will demonstrate its essential and unique role during a disaster, as defined in Goal #4 and outlined on the ACL FAQs.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #4.1.1: CILs will increase formal community partnerships with Government and Non-Government Organizations. CILs will identify a long-term recovery organization that results in a partnership. FILC will invest/develop a dashboard to improve critical data and expand resources for the CILs. CILs will identify services provided during a disaster as defined in Goal#4. CILs will receive requests from partners operating disaster hotline services for people with disabilities during a disaster (Example: The Partnerships for Inclusive Disaster Strategies, Disability Disaster Hotline) CILs will provide at least 1 emergency preparedness training or activity for consumers per year. The IL Network will identify 1 new funding source for the additional work required during a disaster. The IL Network will identify 1 new funding source for the additional work required during a disaster. CILs will identify a long-term recovery organization in the CILs service area that results in a partnership for transition or diversion services.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Objective Info #4.1.1: The IL Network will increase the knowledge of services provided by the CILs with state and local emergency officials by participating in IL Networks state or in county Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The FILC will host a workgroup to identify perpetual issues for Floridians with disabilities forced into institutional care during a disaster. FILC will work with the Governor's Office to fill the State Emergency Management ex officio position to the Council. The FILC will host a workgroup to identify perpetual issues for Floridians with disabilities Forced into institutional care during a disaster. CILs will advise emergency management, county officials, and community partners on communications with consumers with disabilities. This includes explaining the need for interpreters and captioning for PSAs, accessible Websites (keyboard functionality, captions, work w/ screen readers), and accessibility of documents and PSAs for people who are blind or have low vision. CILs will explore building relationships with local Housing offices, such as Ship and Housing Authority, as it relates to Goal#4. FILC will host IL Network daily IL Network daily calls

during a disaster as defined in goal and update the critical information requested by the CILS.FILC will continue to apply as the ESF-15 applicant for the CILs to assist with securing additional funds for the impacted CILs.FILC will activate and deploy satellite phones pre-disaster and when needed.FILC will host the IL State booth and participate in the Governor's Hurricane Conference.FILC will host a post-disaster IL Network, state, and national stakeholders meeting to review actions, barriers, and opportunities after a disaster as defined in Goal #4.

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #5: To improve affordable and accessible housing options for people with disabilities.

Objective #5.1: Individuals with disabilities have access to integrated, affordable, and accessible housing within the community of their choice.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #5.1.1: CILs identify a Continuum of Care (CoC) organization in their service area to position the CIL for future funding housing opportunities.CILs identify local organization(s) that have received funding for Permanent Housing and- /or Rapid Rehousing services within their community.CILs advocate for increased access of at-risk persons with disabilities to Mainstream Section Vouchers via their local Housing Authorities.FILC Housing Workgroup will explore training options for CILs to increase knowledge and improve resource options to affordable housing stock.FILC Housing Workgroup will continue to work with the governor-appointed Accessible Housing Building Commissioner on ways to improve Florida Building Codes.FILC Housing Workgroup will explore options for CILs to increase the accessibility of low-income eligible, affordable housing stock in their community by providing SHIP-funded accessibility home modifications via their local municipalities.CILs identify local SHIP funds for barrier removal and increase home access.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Objective Info #5.1.1: CILs will increase awareness of housing accessibility issues to businesses, housing providers, developers, etc.CILs advocate for improved service delivery to vulnerable and at-risk persons with disabilities.CILs consider a waitlist MOUs with Property Management Companies to provide immediate housing options pending availability.FILC will provide the recommended trainings/presentations per the Housing Workgroup and forward the opportunity to the CILs.The Housing workgroup will identify one unique alternative housing option.The Housing Workgroup will prepare a fact sheet on accessible housing opportunities.

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #6: Individuals with disabilities have access to participate in their community.

Objective #6.1: Individuals with disabilities will have access to accessible voting.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #6.1.1: CILs will provide opportunities for voter education and accessibility voting.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Objective Info #6.1.1: CILs identify partners to ensure access to voting is available for individuals with disabilities.

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #6.2: Individuals with disabilities will have opportunities to accessible activities in their

community.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #6.2.1: CILs will advocate for equal access to beaches and recreational activities for Floridians with disabilities.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Objective Info #6.2.1: CILs will identify opportunities to increase equal access for people with disabilities by advocating with local municipalities, Parks and Recreation and State Parks. CILs will identify partners who can advance equal access to recreational opportunities for Floridians with disabilities. FILC will include data collected on the dashboard.

Geographic Scope: Statewide

1.4 - EVALUATION

The Florida Independent Living Council provides the following approach in providing evaluation and analysis of the State Plan for Independent Living:

Progress:

The Florida Independent Living Council SPIL Committee reviews each of the Centers for Independent Living and the Council's response to the quarterly SPIL report as required in the contract with the Designated State Entity. The evaluation is a survey tool with questions for the indicators and activities in each of the SPIL Goals. At the beginning of a new SPIL or any SPIL amendment FILC staff provide the survey question to the CILs so they may update the report in their software. FILC staff sends quarterly survey links assigned to each CIL and forwards the completed survey to the CIL. The CIL and FILC are required to attach the SPIL Report at the end of each quarter with their invoice to VR (DSE) to receive payment. Both FILC and the CILs evaluation is reviewed by the SPIL Committee quarterly and then presented by the SPIL Committee Chair to the Florida State Independent Living Council semi-annually. An annual SPIL summary report will accompany the final numbers of the Federal Program Performance Report and be presented to the Florida Independent Living Council and the Centers for Independent Living. The SPIL Summary Report will be posted on the Florida Independent Living Council's website for public review. Evaluation findings will be used to discuss revision improvements or record effectiveness.

Implementation Plan:

The completion of the State Plan evaluation is performed by the Florida Independent Living Council staff and reported to the Florida Independent Living Council and the Centers for Independent Living on an annual basis. An annual summary report will be included on the Florida Independent Living Council website. Information and data on participation, resources, and activities will also be provided to the State Plan for Independent Living partners in the Independent Living Network.

Consumer Satisfaction Plan:

Consumer satisfaction measures input from consumers about benefits received from provider services. The evaluation of consumer satisfaction with Centers for Independent Living on a statewide basis is included in the Quarterly SPIL Report. The Florida Independent Living Council worked with the Designated State Entity, Florida's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Centers for Independent Living on five agreed-upon consumer satisfaction questions.

Each provider may develop its own survey instrument and procedure. However, at a minimum, the survey instrument must use a Likert scale and include the following statements:

While in this program, I reached my plan goal in a time that was good.

While in this program, the tools I received helped me make my own choices.

*Because of this program, my quality of life is better.
 Because of this program, I can live more independently.*

1.5 - PART I: FINANCIAL PLAN

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

Fiscal Year(s): 2025
 October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025

Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$0	\$0	\$1215415	\$0	\$0	\$1215415
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$0	\$4814331	\$0		\$4814331
						\$6029746
Other Federal Funds						
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$410820	\$0	\$0	\$76000		\$486820
Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$3472193	\$0		\$3472193
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
						\$3959013
Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$121541	\$0	\$0	\$121541
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$900000	\$0	\$0	\$900000
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						\$1021541
TOTAL	\$410820	\$0	\$10523480	\$76000	\$0	\$11010300

Fiscal Year(s): 2026
 October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026

Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$0	\$0	\$1215415	\$0	\$0	\$1215415
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$0	\$4814331	\$0		\$4814331
						\$6029746
Other Federal Funds						
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$410820	\$0	\$0	\$76000		\$486820

Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$3472193	\$0		\$3472193
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
						\$3959013
Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$121541	\$0	\$0	\$121541
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$900000	\$0	\$0	\$900000
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						\$1021541
TOTAL	\$410820	\$0	\$10523480	\$76000	\$0	\$11010300

Fiscal Year(s): 2027

October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027

Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$0	\$0	\$1215415	\$0	\$0	\$1215415
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$0	\$4814331	\$0		\$4814331
						\$6029746
Other Federal Funds						
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$410820	\$0	\$0	\$76000		\$486820
Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$3472193	\$0		\$3472193
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
						\$3959013
Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$121541	\$0	\$0	\$121541
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$900000	\$0	\$0	\$900000
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						\$1021541
TOTAL	\$410820	\$0	\$10523480	\$76000	\$0	\$11010300

1.5.2 - PART II: FINANCIAL PLANNING NARRATIVE

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

As a result of the amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, CILs were required to select one agency to administer all Part B funds and to serve as DSE for Florida. Through a vote and as

required by Rehabilitation Act, as amended, CILs chose the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) as the State's DSE. The state and federal funding distribution point at which all Florida CILs have achieved the minimum funding level unless otherwise is directed by state budget proviso.

FILC hired a consultant during the last SPIL to work with the CILs on the Funding Formula. The Minimum Funding Level for each current CIL is based on current funding, and includes Part B, SSA reimbursements and General Revenue dollars.

Any reductions in any source would be applied based on State guidelines or orders. For any new funding, where proviso language is not applied, the process is as follows:

- Calculate population % for each county by dividing county population by total population to get %
- Multiply population % by new funding from SSA, GR, or Part B dollars.

State General Revenue, Part B funds and Social Security Reimbursement funds over the base funding amount will be distributed as follows:

Any decreases from State General Revenue, Part B or Social Security Reimbursement will be determined by State directives. For 2024-27 Florida will maximize its funding resources to support the State Plan for Independent Living by using the following resources:

For FY 2024-2027, the Florida Independent Living Council, Inc. will be funded from one source: Title I, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Innovation and Expansion). The funds will support the Council's duties as outlined in Section 705, Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and complete the assigned State Plan for Independent Living objectives.

For FY 2024-2027, Centers for Independent Living will be funded from four sources

- These include Title VII, Part B; Title VII, Part C; Social Security Reimbursements; and State General Revenue. Funds provided to the Centers through contracts with the DSE may be used to complete their assigned State Plan for Independent Living Objectives. All funds provided by contract through the DSE are to be used to support the provision of independent living services for Floridians with significant disabilities.

FILC's contract amount with DOE/DVR provides \$410,820.00 of which the Council and DVR. Distributed in equal 4 equal quarterly installments of \$102,705.

Section 2: Scope, Extent and Arrangements of Services

2.1 - SERVICES

Services to be provided to persons with significant disabilities that promote full access to community life including geographic scope, determination of eligibility, and statewide reach.

Core Independent Living Services: Information and referral

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

Core Independent Living Services: IL skills training

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

Core Independent Living Services: Peer counseling

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

Core Independent Living Services: Individual and systems advocacy

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

Transition Services: Transition from nursing homes & other institutions

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

Transition Services: Diversion from institutions

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

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

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

Services related to securing housing or shelter, including services related to community group living, and supportive of the purposes of this Act and of the titles of this Act, and adaptive housing services (including appropriate accommodations to and modifications of any space used to serve, or occupied by, individuals with disabilities)

Note: CILs are not allowed to own or operate housing.

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

Rehabilitation technology

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

Mobility training

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Consumer information programs on rehabilitation and independent living services available under this Act, especially for minorities and other individuals with disabilities who have traditionally been unserved or underserved by programs under this Act

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

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

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

Provided using other funds?	Yes
Provided By	CIL

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

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

Physical rehabilitation

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

Therapeutic treatment

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

Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices

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

Individual and group social and recreational services

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

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

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

Services for children

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

Services under other Federal, State, or local programs designed to provide resources, training, counseling, or other assistance, of substantial benefit in enhancing the independence, productivity, and quality of life of individuals with disabilities

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2.1 - OPTIONAL MAP ATTACHMENT

Uploaded Document Name:

2.2 - OUTREACH TO UNSERVED AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

Florida is the third most populated state in the country at 22,610,726 and includes both dense urban populations and suburban areas. It ranks eighth as the most densely populated state in the country, with a population density of 353.4 people per sq. mile. It includes forests, beaches, swamp lands, rivers, canals, islands, bays,

farmland, small towns, large cities, and Native American reservations. The largest city in Florida is Jacksonville, with over 900,000 individuals in the area. The largest county by population is Miami-Dade County with over 2 million. The state is a north-south peninsula and bordering both the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. Florida is a diverse state with different racial and ethnic groups.

There are 67 counties in the state, and all are assigned geographically to a CIL; however, resources that limit the amount of outreach and service that can be provided in rural areas of the State currently are underserved. During recent hurricanes, the CILs provide statewide support through ongoing collaborations with state stakeholders. Additional funding secured during the hurricanes provides an opportunity to reach underserved populations.

Throughout the state, from county to county, there are varying levels of underserved and unserved groups of individuals with disabilities. Rural counties with under 100,000 residents are identified as underserved. The CILs work closely with other state agencies to identify the underserved populations.

Goal #2 provides actions for CILs to better establish their community's needs. This includes rural farming communities as the Florida AgrAbility program kicked off within the 2024 SPIL period. The Florida AgrAbility partners include the University of Florida, IFAS, and the CIL of North Central Florida. Recently, several farmers with disabilities impacted by Hurricane Ian were introduced to a CIL through the AgrAbility program. Other underserved populations include Youth, Veterans, low-income minorities, those living in rural areas, and displaced individuals due to the disasters. Challenges include being able to serve both rural areas and in densely populated ethnically diverse urban areas.

The Florida Independent Living Council will continue to work with the Centers for Independent Living to analyze data and determine the needs for the State Plan. The FILC has invested in a dashboard to assist in identifying unserved populations throughout the state. Developing a tool (dashboard) will allow a more strategic approach to identifying Floridians with disabilities that are unserved and develop the demographics for this population.

Centers for Independent Living are primarily responsible for outreach to individuals with significant disabilities. Centers depend upon the needs of their local community. CILs consider strategies for outreach that include the following:

- Make brochures and other information available in English, alternate formats, and high-concentration foreign languages such as Spanish and Creole to consumers directly and through county officials, disability organizations, refugee assistance organizations, and other local contacts in underserved counties or areas with other underserved groups.
- Communicate and provide culturally appropriate services for underserved groups.
- Advertise in publications serving ethnic, cultural, immigrant, and other communities identified by the Center as underserved.
- Work with community organizations serving those identified by the agency as underserved.
- Develop programs, advocacy efforts, and outreach that will target people identified as underserved for advocacy efforts.
- Partner with other organizations for office space or meeting space or open and support an office in an underserved area to coordinate work with consumers and others in that area.
- Recruit Board and staff members from identified underserved communities.
- Recruit and develop leadership by youth and other people with disabilities representing underserved groups within the center.
- Conduct outreach activities in nursing homes or other institutions serving individuals with significant disabilities.

At the state level, FILC will identify the best outreach strategies within the IL community and collaborate with respect to the various strategies and practices in identifying underserved groups and planning to meet their needs. The FILC will provide access to the Dashboard for CILs to

enhance their data availability. FILC shows this commitment through its efforts to recruit individuals from all areas of the State, with all types of disabilities, and from all significant minority populations within the State and support them for membership on the council and staff. FILC supports these through nomination and recommendation to the governor for FILC representatives.

Provision of materials in alternate formats and effort to accomplish activities in an accessible setting that meet standards of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, are examples of how the FILC and CILs make effort to reach and serve individuals with significant disabilities that remain unserved.

2.3 - COORDINATION

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

The FILC and CILs will continue to pursue and develop partnerships and collaborations with other providers of IL or closely related services at the Federal, State, county, municipal, and public/private sector levels. As the DSE, Vocational Rehabilitation, attend FILC Full Council quarterly meetings, held virtually or at a local CIL. The FILC also sits on the Florida Rehabilitation Council, The Florida Rehabilitation Council of the Blind, and the Florida Assistive Technology Program. Participation in the other State Councils provides increased collaboration and sharing of information for the IL programs across the state. FILC also reviews SPIL updates with the Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living, the DD Council, the Department of Health, the Access and Functional Needs, and the Florida AgrAbility Program.

Service provision priorities included in the State Plan for Independent Living include:

- Increase the independence and quality of life for youth with disabilities in Florida.
- All Floridians with disabilities will have access to adequately funded Centers for Independent Living (CILs) as well as other resources that support IL.
- All Floridians with disabilities can access qualified personal care services in their community.
- Disaster Preparedness/Response/Recovery Resulting in systemic change. People with disabilities will have equal access to the community resources, as a result of, but not limited to, disasters, natural (Example: hurricane or pandemic), human-made (Example: terrorism, civil unrest, or a mass shooting) or technological (Example: chemical releases, power outages, or mass cybersecurity breach).
- To improve affordable and accessible housing options for people with disabilities.
- Individuals with disabilities have access to participate in their community.

Section 3: Network of Centers

3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

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

3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

Caring & Sharing Center for Independent Living DBA Disability Achievement Center

Counties Served: Pasco, Pinellas

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: PHWF- Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: Oversight includes the grantor and the organization's board.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Pasco (Full Services)

Pinellas (Full Services)

Center for Independent Living in Central Florida, Inc.

Counties Served: DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Seminole

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

DeSoto (Full Services)

Hardee (Full Services)

Highlands (Full Services)

Orange (Full Services)

Osceola (Full Services)

Polk (Full Services)

Seminole (Full Services)

Center for Independent Living of Broward

Counties Served: Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: PHWF, CDC- oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.
State Funds
Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.
Other Non-Federal Funds
Oversight Process: Oversight includes the grantor and the organization's board.
Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP
SPIL Signatory: Yes
County Services
Broward (Full Services)
Charlotte (Full Services)
Collier (Limited Services)
Glades (Full Services)
Hendry (Full Services)
Lee (Full Services)
Center for Independent Living of Northwest Florida, Inc.
Counties Served: Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton
All Sources of Funding:
Title VII Chapter 1, Part B
Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.
Title VII Chapter 1, Part C
Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.
Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)
Oversight Process: PHWF- Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.
State Funds
Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.
Other Non-Federal Funds
Oversight Process: Oversight includes the grantor and the organization's board.
Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP
SPIL Signatory: Yes
County Services
Escambia (Full Services)
Okaloosa (Full Services)
Santa Rosa (Full Services)
Walton (Full Services)
CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING OF SOUTH FL, INC
Counties Served: Miami-Dade
All Sources of Funding:
Title VII Chapter 1, Part B
Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.
Title VII Chapter 1, Part C
Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.
Other Federal Funds - include examples (CDC, PHWF, etc.)
Oversight Process: PHWF- Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.
State Funds
Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting

and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: Oversight includes the grantor and the organization's board.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPII Signatory: Yes

County Services

Miami-Dade (Full Services)

Coalition For Independent Living Options, Inc.

Counties Served: Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, St. Lucie

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: CDC- Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPII Signatory: Yes

County Services

Martin (Full Services)

Okeechobee (Full Services)

Palm Beach (Limited Services)

St. Lucie (Full Services)

Disability Resource Center

Counties Served: Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Washington

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: Part C and CDC oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPII Signatory: Yes

County Services

Bay (Full Services)

Calhoun (Full Services)

Franklin (Full Services)

Gulf (Full Services)

Holmes (Full Services)

Jackson (Full Services)

Liberty (Full Services)

Washington (Full Services)

Disability Solutions for Independent Living, Inc

Counties Served: Flagler, Volusia

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Flagler (Full Services)

Volusia (Full Services)

KEYS ADVOCACY CENTER, INC.

Counties Served: Monroe

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Monroe (Full Services)

ODI/Independent Living Resource Center of NE Florida

Counties Served: Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, St. Johns

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: Oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Oversight Entity: DSE

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Baker (Full Services)

Clay (Full Services)

Duval (Full Services)

Nassau (Full Services)

St. Johns (Full Services)

Self Reliance, Inc.

Counties Served: Hillsborough

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: CDC oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring and the CIL board.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Hillsborough (Full Services)

Space Coast Center for Independent Living

Counties Served: Brevard, Indian River

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: PHWF oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Brevard (Full Services)

Indian River (Full Services)

Suncoast Center for Independent Living, Inc.

Counties Served: Manatee, Sarasota

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: PHWF Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Manatee (Full Services)

Sarasota (Full Services)

The Center for Independent Living of North Florida, Inc. DBA Ability1st

Counties Served: Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Gadsden (Full Services)

Jefferson (Full Services)

Leon (Full Services)

Madison (Full Services)

Taylor (Limited Services)

Wakulla (Limited Services)

TRANSITIONAL LIVING OF NORTH CENTRAL FL INC

Counties Served: Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lafayette, Lake, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Sumter, Suwannee, Union

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: As outlined in Section 4 of this report, the DSE monitors funding oversight through the state of Florida's contract laws. CIL submits annual PPR to ACL through the DSE and complies with monthly and quarterly activity reports submitted to the DSE.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

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

Oversight Process: Part C oversight includes the Federal funder and the organization's board.

State Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring.

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: All State funding oversight is regulated by the state of Florida through reporting and monitoring

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Alachua (Full Services)

Bradford (Full Services)

Citrus (Full Services)

Columbia (Full Services)

Dixie (Full Services)

Gilchrist (Full Services)

Hamilton (Full Services)

Hernando (Full Services)

Lafayette (Full Services)

Lake (Full Services)

Levy (Limited Services)

Marion (Full Services)

Putnam (Full Services)

Sumter (Full Services)

Suwannee (Full Services)

3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

CIL Network

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

3.2 - EXPANSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF NETWORK

Plan and priorities for use of funds, by funding source, including Part B funds, Part C funds, State funds, and other funds, whether current, increased, or one-time funding, and methodology for distribution of funds. Use of funds to build capacity of existing Centers, establish new Centers, and/or increase the statewide reach of the Network. (Follow the instructions in Title VII, Part C of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.)

Definition of served, unserved, and underserved.

In Goal #2, the Florida IL Network's priority is to have adequate resources to ensure all CILs have the capacity to provide the federally required core services and other IL services identified as essential to the communities they serve. All 67 counties in Florida are currently served by Centers.

Unserved and underserved groups or populations include individuals from racial and ethnic minority backgrounds, disadvantaged individuals, individuals with limited English proficiency, and individuals from underserved geographic areas such as farmers (rural or urban). The unserved and underserved groups are defined in detail in Section 2.2. The following chart provides a breakdown of Florida's rural counties as defined, population under 100,000.

The Florida CILs funding will be distributed in accordance with the SPIL in effect on the first day of the federal fiscal year unless an alternative is provided in the annual state General Appropriations Act. Minimum Funding Level: For each current CIL is based on the current funding, and includes Part B, SSA Reimbursements and General Revenue dollars.

Process for Distributing Funds Above the Minimum Funding Level

As a result of the amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, CILs were required to select one agency to administer all Part B funds and to serve as DSE for Florida. Through a vote and as required by the Rehabilitation Act, as amended, CILs chose the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) as the State's DSE. Until the amendments, the Division of Blind Services shared administrative duties with VR and a portion of Florida's Part B funds. As a result of the full amount of Part B being administered by VR CILs were engaged by the DSE for direction on how the additional funding would be distributed to CILs.

In 2021 an Amended Funding Formula was developed using State population. A percentage for each Florida county is determined by dividing the County population by the total State population. The total percentage population for each CIL service area is then multiplied by new funding and allocated to the CILs accordingly. The amendment will impact all new Part B, General Revenue, and Social Security funding unless otherwise noted in State Proviso language. The Amended Funding Formula will be applied to all 15 CILs. Population numbers for each County are based on the most current Census data available at the time contracts are awarded.

The Florida CILs have achieved the Minimum funding Level.

Revised Base Funding: The state and federal funding distribution point at which all Florida CILs have achieved the minimum funding level unless otherwise directed by state budget proviso. State General Revenue, Part B funds and Social Security Reimbursement funds over the base funding amount will be distributed as follows:

Any decreases from State General Revenue, Part B or Social Security Reimbursement will be determined by State directives.

Every CIL in Florida receives Part C funding and any new Part C funding will use the funding distribution currently in place for Part C. Part C COLA increases will not be included in the calculation of the Minimum Funding Level

If a Center for Independent Living funded by Title VII, Part B, or Part C should close or is no longer able to receive funding due to repeated audit findings and risk assessments; the Florida Independent Council, the IL Network, and the DSE will coordinate the distribution of funds previously allocated to the Center. Funds remaining available for use in the State, the areas, and populations previously served by the now-closed center will be given priority.

In the event a Center for Independent Living is closed due to repeated audit findings and risk assessments, the following process is as follows:

- The DSE will communicate with ACL about their intentions and provide guidance as needed.
- Communicate with the Center under investigation of the DSE's intentions and appeal process.
- Communicate with the IL Network (All executive directors and FILC leadership) about the actions to ensure transparency and options moving forward.
- Make necessary SPIL amendments with the existing CILS within the IL Network to ensure the continuation of services.
- Amend existing contracts for the identified Centers to expand their catchment area to cover services.
- Implement the new services area for the continuity of services.

The DSE will ensure that any State-awarded Title VII, Part B, Social Security Reimbursement and state general funds that are unspent at the time of the CIL closure will be utilized to serve persons with significant disabilities from the community the CIL served, to the maximum extent possible. The DSE will coordinate with the Florida Independent Living Council and the CILs to ensure the continued availability of IL services to the community and will identify and utilize the most efficient process allowed under the State and Federal guidelines to ensure the continuation of services in the affected community. The DSE will, after input from the FILC and the CILs, distribute funds available for IL services to the affected geographic area. Should the CIL close without any State awarded funds available, the DSE in conjunction with the Federal Administrator will solicit IL Network recommendations and identify the community as currently unserved by an existing CIL. The DSE will identify and utilize the most efficient process allowed under the State guidelines to ensure the continuation of services in the affected community. The IL network will refer any consumers to the most appropriate service provider. The most appropriate service provider is not assumed to be the nearest provider. Should any Title VII, Part B funds allotted for IL services for fiscal years covered by this SPIL not be fully expended for any reason, the FILC and the Florida CILs will provide input on an optimal use of those funds for established goals and objectives of the IL Network and/or the SPIL. Any other funds available to the DSE for IL services shall be used to continue the establishment of the statewide network of IL services provided by the Florida CILs.

New federal Part B funds distributed to the Florida DSE not anticipated in the description above will be divided among the existing Centers as negotiated between the Network of Centers and the Designated State Entity, in consultation with the Council. A description of the funding methodology can be found at www.rehabworks.org/IL (Description of CIL Funding Methodologies). All of the Florida CILs receives part C funding.

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

Priorities for establishment of new CIL(s).

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

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

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

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

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

Temporary Changes (if applicable) Other (if applicable)

Section 4: Designated State Entity

4.0 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

Florida Dept. of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will serve as the entity in Florida designated to receive, administer, and account for funds made available to the state under Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B of the Act on behalf of the State.

4.1 - DSE RESPONSIBILITIES

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

4.2 - ADMINISTRATION AND STAFFING: DSE ASSURANCES

Administrative and staffing support provided by the DSE.

The Florida DSE does not retain any of the Part B funding for administrative duties. VR staffing includes the Independent Living Program but has staff designated to support the IL program and meet contract administration and audit requirements paid through other sources, including program income.

DSE employees do not serve as staff to the SILC. However, the Independent Living Program Manager provides technical assistance to the SILC and the IL Network as directed by federal statute.

4.3 - STATE-IMPOSED REQUIREMENTS

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

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

The Centers and the Council shall comply with the applicable provisions of:

Section 215.97, Florida Statutes - This section of statute is the Florida Single Audit Act. The purpose of the act is to promote sound financial management, including effective internal controls, with respect to state financial assistance administered by non-state entities by establishing uniform state audit requirements for state financial assistance provided by state agencies to non-state entities to carry out state projects.

Section 112.061, Florida Statutes - This section establishes rates for travel reimbursement using funds that flow through the State Treasury.

Florida Department of Financial Services Reference Guide for State Expenditures - The Reference Guide for State Expenditures provides comprehensive information about appropriate expenditures using funds that flow through the State Treasury.

Section 286.011, Florida Statutes - This section of the statute is the Government in the Sunshine Act. It establishes open meeting and public records requirements for certain entities operating using state funding to carry out a public purpose, including the Centers and the Council.

Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, providing for public access to certain documents generated by the Council and through the DSE, documents generated by the Centers.

Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, governing appointment, and conditions of terms of appointed public officials, code of ethics and removal from office.

Chapters 413 and 435, Florida Statutes, related to background screening of certain independent living services providers, board members, executives, and volunteers.

State of Florida, Department of Education Contracted Terms and Conditions, Attachment C as represented in the valid, applicable, mutually signed and executed contract.

Notwithstanding the representations and citations in the above assurances, Florida's SILC assures that the SPIL was created and approved in compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 701, et seq.), as amended by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Pub. L. 113-128).

4.4 - GRANT PROCESS & DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

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

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

Process for soliciting proposals

The Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will follow the State of Florida's processes for grants and any rules, procedures and guidance provided by the federal administrator. In the event, the federal administrator requires that Part B funds be awarded based on a competitive process. If a new CIL is established through and federal award, that CIL would become automatically eligible to receive Part B funding. Under these circumstances, the DSE would look to the SPIL to provide direction on how the funds would be distributed.

Following the Amended Funding Formula and once GR, SSA and Part B amounts for all CILs are calculated, contracts outlining the use of the funds, as authorized by the 1973 Rehabilitation

Function as amended and Florida law governing the financial requirements, are created and the process to execute the contracts is completed.

Development of format for proposals

The Florida Vocational Rehabilitation Division reviews performance reports submitted by all CILs receiving funding through VR. The VR Division monitors monthly financial reports as well as monthly, quarterly, and annual individual program reports in accordance with contracted terms and conditions. Vocational Rehabilitation CIL and SILC contracts are evaluated on a yearly basis, based on federal and state requirements. The SILC contract moved to a quarterly distribution and provided appropriate autonomy.

Process for reviewing proposals and who reviewers will be

Each IL contract has a monitoring plan developed as a result of a calculated risk assessment with corresponding desk audits scheduled based on the contractor's risk assessment score and in accordance with state requirements.

Process for evaluating performance and compliance of grantees

The DSE incorporates language into grants issued to CILs regarding the determination of individuals eligibility based on federal regulations. The DSE ensures this specialization is met through DSE conducted Part B audits/ monitoring audits conducted by other entities contracted with the DSE.

If a CIL, through state-required auditing and investigations, was determined by the DSE as ineligible for state funding, the Florida Independent Council, the IL Network, and the DSE will coordinate on the distribution of funds previously allocated to the identified Center, as outlined in 3.2 of the SPIL.

4.5 - OVERSIGHT PROCESS FOR PART B FUNDS

The oversight process to be followed by the DSE.

The Florida Vocational Rehabilitation Division reviews performance reports submitted by all CILs receiving funding through VR. The VR Division monitors monthly financial reports as well as monthly, quarterly, and annual individual program reports in accordance with contracted terms and conditions. Vocational Rehabilitation CIL and SILC contracts are evaluated on a yearly basis, based on federal and state requirements. The SILC contract moved to a quarterly distribution and provided appropriate autonomy. Each IL contract has a monitoring plan developed as a result of a calculated risk assessment with corresponding desk audits scheduled based on the contractor's risk assessment score and in accordance with state requirements. The DSE incorporates language into grants issued to CILs regarding the determination of individuals eligibility based on federal regulations. The DSE ensures this specialization is met through DSE conducted Part B audits/monitoring audits conducted by other entities contracted with the DSE.

4.6 - 722 VS. 723 STATE

722 State

Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

5.1 - ESTABLISHMENT OF SILC

How the SILC is established and SILC autonomy is assured.

The Florida Independent Living Council (FILC) is a non-profit 501(c) (3) corporation, established in 1999 pursuant to Chapter 413, Florida Statutes. The Florida Independent Living Council is led by a Governor-appointed Council consisting of a majority of Members with disabilities who provide leadership and guidance over the organization's activities.

The FILC is tasked with developing and monitoring a multi-year plan that sets the parameters and establishes the goals for the provision of Independent Living Services in Florida. Other roles of the FILC are education of the public regarding disability-related topics, systems advocacy, resource development to carry out goals and activities established in the SPIL, and provision of technical assistance concerning the Independent Living philosophy and approach. As part of this effort, the FILC conducts several public hearings throughout the state to gather the input of individuals with disabilities, their families, older Americans, and human service providers.

The FILC collaborates with the 16 Florida Centers for Independent Living and other organizations listed as partners to develop the State Plan for Independent Living. The FILC collaborates with the Centers for Independent Living across the State, the only consumer-led organizations that serve Floridians with disabilities regardless of disability type, race, socioeconomic position, age, or gender. The Network of Centers for Independent Living is uniquely positioned to provide comprehensive, consumer-directed, and controlled planning for Independent Living goals and self-advocacy.

The FILC staff completes the organization's daily activities while upholding the principles of the Independent Living Movement: peer support, self-help, self-determination, equality, and positive systemic changes. The FILC has established fiscal policies and procedures that govern the expenditure of funds. Proper use of resources is captured in our quarterly reports to DSE (VR). FILC meetings are held both virtually and in person. All FILC meetings are in accessible venues, and materials comply with the ADA.

5.2 - SILC RESOURCE PLAN

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

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

The annual resource plan consists of the following funding resources:

- \$76,000. Per the YLF training from WIOA funds
- \$410,820. Per year contributed by VR from Title I Innovation and Expansion Funds
- Grant opportunities

FILC has developed a Dashboard to improve grant opportunities for both the CILs and FILC. The Dashboard currently assists FILC with tracking needs during hurricanes and will be used for supporting new resources. This opportunity was using the Hurricane Ian Funds to support a portion of the Dashboard initiatives.

The FILC hosts the Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) event at FSU and at the Capital. YLF is an opportunity for additional funding resources for the FILC while engaging Florida Youth. FILC includes a Youth Initiative staff member who works with the FILC Youth Committee and YLF. These funds support staff salaries assisting with YLF.

FILC hosts the Biannual IL Conference that may also provide sponsorship funding for the organization.

FILC continues to look for grant opportunities to partner with the CILs and other state stakeholders. The FILC staff positions include 3 full-time employees and one part-time employee. An Executive Director, Director of Youth Initiatives and Policy, Director of Analytics and Operations, and a part-time Admin. The SILC Resource Plan provides appropriate and adequate financial support for the

processes and personnel required for SPIL development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, as well as activities authorized in section 705(c) of the Rehabilitation Act, including the use of consultants or qualified experts when identified as necessary by the SPIL committee and approved by the SILC. The challenge is during the hurricanes, as the communication platform is provided by the FILC but operated by the Executive Director.

The Florida Vocational Rehabilitation has an IL Program Manager for internal VR demands. Process used to develop the Resource Plan.

The FILC delegates the responsibility to the FILC Executive Director to oversee the development of a draft budget, including the Resource Plan for conducting Rehabilitation Act Section 705 activities. The Executive Director and the Finance Committee lead in setting the budget and presenting the full Council, providing input, reviewing the draft, and ultimately approving the final budget. The FILC Executive Director is granted authority by the Council to approve day-to-day Resource Plan expenditures in keeping with the Code of Federal Regulations, the Rehabilitation Act, and the Florida state statutes provided in the DSE contracts. The FILC and the CILs are reimbursed monthly or quarterly, depending upon their contract agreement. CILs and the CILs are required to capture all activities of the organization and complete them.

Process for disbursement of funds to facilitate effective operations of SILC.

The Designated State Entity receives, disburses, and accounts for Resource Plan funds and expenditures on behalf of the SILC through the State Financial Management System. The FILC's annual allocations from various funding sources are identified in the SPIL.

The monthly report to VR provides the total minimum number of hours the FILC is open to the public and operational, and the CILs provide Independent Living Service hours. At the end of each Quarter, the FILC and the CILs must complete the SPIL quarterly Report to capture the organizations' work and attach it to the contractually required VR report. Both FILC and the CILs must turn in the SPIL quarterly report to receive payment.

Quarter 1: October - December

Quarter 2: January - March

Quarter 3: April - June

Quarter 4: July - September

To enhance compliance, FILC uses a payroll company and electronic time tracking, which allows us to better track staffing hours. FILC also runs all invoicing and bills through QuickBooks and has secured the services of a non-profit accountant.

FILC annually has a financial review from an independent accounting firm to ensure compliance.

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

No Part B is used for the SILC Resource.

5.3 - MAINTENANCE OF SILC

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

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

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

The SILC is established and operating

The DSE provides annual contract renewal that specifies the work of the FILC and captures the appropriate federal regulations. The IL Regulations §1329.12 (b)(2) provisions instruct the DSE to allocate the SILC the necessary and sufficient resources to fulfill its statutory duties and authorities. The roles and activities are also covered in state statutes and reflect federal law. The DSE provides the FILC with an update on the expenditure of the Part B funds as part of the FILC's monitoring of the implementation of the SPIL during the contract renewal. If the FILC requires additional support, the DSE has responded quickly. An example is the outcome of the FILC ED meeting with the VR Interim Director concerning the different CIL software being used and its impact on the SPIL results. VR provided a solution by agreeing to pay for the CILs who want to use one software, CILSuite Platinum. This is an example of the supportive efforts of the state and SILC. Appointments are made in a timely manner to keep the SILC in compliance with the Act

Interested Floridians are invited to apply and provide a letter of interest and a resume that describes their knowledge, experiences, and participation in activities, committees, and community organizations that promote the independent living philosophy. FILC includes the process of being a Council Member on the FILC website, and through an information packet for interested applicants. The Executive Committee will review applications from interested individuals and determine eligibility as described in WIOA. We also use an attribute document to score applicants. The Council votes on qualified applicants, and those approved are forwarded to the Governor's office for consideration. Individuals may also apply directly to the Governor's office. However, we have a communication packet for the Governor's Office and are always grateful for the opportunity to provide candidates support before the application is submitted. Members of FILC represent a broad range of disabilities and cultural and ethnic backgrounds, and they live in various locations across the state. The composition of FILC is eleven members, with a majority of members who are individuals with disabilities and not employed by the state or CIL. Ex-officio non-voting members: include the DSE and a member of a state agency that FILC finds relevant, such as Transportation. The state allows additional state agencies. The Council members, including members of the Executive Committee, will be elected in compliance with the FILC's bylaws. All council members serve (2) three-year terms as volunteers. FILC officers (Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Treasurer) are elected by council members to hold office for a term of one (2) years or until resignation or removal from office by action of the Council. Each officer shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office. All vacancies in the Council membership shall be filled in the same manner as the appointment process outlines. A new action was the FILC ED, and the current NOC created an NOC Position Description and Process. The CILs participated in providing the governor with two possible choices to consider. Any vacancy shall not affect the remaining members' power to execute the Council's duties. Filling Council openings is always a priority and represents ongoing efforts. FILC has a representative from the Council on the Florida Rehabilitation Council and a staff member on the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology and AgrAbility. The FILC ED provides Onboarding training for all new council members and includes documents from ILRU, the Assurances and Indicators, IL History, By-laws, and all policies. All policies are reviewed bi-annually and updated unless a new action must be captured, and the policy will be amended. The Executive Director works with the Chair and brings policy amendments to the Full Council for a vote.

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

The FILC is in good standing and autonomous in our state. Established in 1999 as a not-for-profit, it follows its organization's policies and state and federal requirements. The FILC's office is independent of any state office and is operated as such. In the ongoing spirit of collaboration, the FILC has included the DSE and other state agencies on IL Network calls.

FILC staff only report to the FILC Council and the Executive Director and not to any state agency. FILC's policies and Bylaws provide the framework for continued autonomy as a not-for-profit.

Staffing FILC is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit organization. FILC is an equal opportunity employer that does not discriminate. FILC is committed to employing competent individuals who can carry out the functions of the State Plan. All Florida and federal labor laws are followed. The FILC ED has prioritized hiring individuals with disabilities. The FILC Executive Director is employed by the FILC Council and is supervised by the FILC Chair. The Executive Director receives an annual review by the Executive Committee. At that review, goals and objectives are set for the following year. The Executive Director supervises other employees of FILC, including the Director of Public Policy and Youth Initiatives, the Director of Operations and Analytics, and PT Administrative staff. Also, the Executive Director ensures staff training opportunities are available and that the organization complies with all contracts.

The SILC has the autonomy necessary to fulfill its duties and authorities, including “[working] with CILs to coordinate services with public and private entities, . . . conducting resource development, and performing such other functions . . . as the [SILC] determines to be appropriate

The FILC works closely with the DSE and has followed the guidelines set forth by the SILC and DSE Indicators and Assurances. The CILs also collaborate with both the FILC and the DSE and are incredibly relevant to our citizens with disabilities. The DSE has provided a collaborative and supportive working relationship. FILC has created a dashboard that takes demographic data and GIS technology to support grant opportunities. During disasters, FILC has total autonomy to work on the SPIL with other state agencies and federal partners for and with the CILs. During disasters, FILC works with many different state and federal organizations, and all of the CILs with total autonomy. Necessary and sufficient resources are provided for the SILC Resource Plan to ensure the SILC has the capacity to fulfill its statutory duties and authorities

The process used to develop the Resource Plan was drafted and is ongoing. The committee members are the Chair, the Vice-Chair, the NOC Representative for FILC, and a FILC Ex-officio member. Once the draft was prepared, the committee met with the DSE to negotiate the amount of I&E funds and the specifics of the resource plan. The resource plan in the FILC included annual support for the CILs and FILCs database. The DSE would annually enter a contractual arrangement with FILC for payment distribution of the software. FILC would also receive support to host the IL Conference biannually. FILC will submit a quarterly report that provides the scope of work, budget, budget justifications, and required certifications to the DSE that complies with the activities and outputs contained in the SPIL. The DSE does not have the authority to question or change the scope of work as long as the activities comply with the SPIL, state contractual requirements, and Innovation and Expansion funding requirements. The contractual language will provide for FILC reimbursement quarterly. report program activities performed during the preceding quarter and identify expenses to be reimbursed through I&E funds. Also, the DSE and the Division of Blind Services support FILC in hosting YLF. This opportunity has allowed FILC to generate additional funding and grow staff.

Section 6: Legal Basis & Certifications

6.1 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

The state entity/agency designated to receive and distribute funding, as directed by the SPIL, under Title VII, Part B of the Act is Florida Dept. of Education.

Authorized representative of the DSE Victoria Gaitanis. Title: Acting Division Director.

6.2 - STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)

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

6.3 - CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CILS)

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

Caring & Sharing Center for Independent Living DBA Disability Achievement Center

Center for Independent Living in Central Florida, Inc.

Center for Independent Living of Broward

Center for Independent Living of Northwest Florida, Inc.

CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING OF SOUTH FL, INC

Coalition For Independent Living Options, Inc.

Disability Resource Center

Disability Solutions for Independent Living, Inc

KEYS ADVOCACY CENTER, INC.

ODI/Independent Living Resource Center of NE Florida

Self Reliance, Inc.

Space Coast Center for Independent Living

Suncoast Center for Independent Living, Inc.

The Center for Independent Living of North Florida, Inc. DBA Ability1st

TRANSITIONAL LIVING OF NORTH CENTRAL FL INC

6.4.A

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

Yes

6.4.B

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

Yes

6.4.C

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

Yes

Section 7: DSE Assurances

DSE ASSURANCES

Victoria Gaitanis acting on behalf of the DSE Florida Dept. of Education located at:

Street: 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1144

City: Tallahassee

State: Florida

Zip Code: 32399

7.1

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

7.2

The DSE will assure that the agency keeps appropriate records, in accordance with federal and state

law, and provides access to records by the federal funding agency upon request;

7.3

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

7.4

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

7.5

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

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

7.6

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

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

7.7

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

7.8

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

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

DSE SIGNATURE SECTION

Victoria Gaitanis

Name of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Acting Director Florida VR

Title of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Victoria Gaitanis

Electronic Signature

06/28/2024

Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

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

8.1 - SILC ASSURANCES

Robert Melia acting on behalf of the SILC Florida Statewide Independent Living Council located at:

Street: 1882 Capital Circle NE

City: Tallahassee

State: Florida

Zip Code: 32308

45 CFR 1329.14 assures that:

1. The SILC regularly (not less than annually) provides the appointing authority recommendations for eligible appointments;
2. The SILC is composed of the requisite members set forth in the Act;
3. The SILC terms of appointment adhere to the Act;
4. The SILC is not established as an entity within a State agency in accordance with 45 CFR Sec. 1329.14(b);
5. The SILC will make the determination of whether it wants to utilize DSE staff to carry out the functions of the SILC;
 - The SILC must inform the DSE if it chooses to utilize DSE staff;
 - The SILC assumes management and responsibility of such staff with regard to activities and functions performed for the SILC in accordance with the Act.
6. The SILC shall ensure all program activities are accessible to people with disabilities;
7. The State Plan shall provide assurances that the designated State entity, any other agency, office, or entity of the State will not interfere with operations of the SILC, except as provided by law and regulation and;
8. The SILC actively consults with unserved and underserved populations in urban and rural areas that include, indigenous populations as appropriate for State Plan development as described in Sec. 713(b)(7) the Act regarding Authorized Uses of Funds.

8.2 - INDICATORS OF MINIMUM COMPLIANCE

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

(a) STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL INDICATORS -

1. SILC written policies and procedures must include:
 - a. A method for recruiting members, reviewing applications, and regularly providing recommendations for eligible appointments to the appointing authority;
 - b. A method for identifying and resolving actual or potential disputes and conflicts of interest that are in compliance with State and federal law;

- c. A process to hold public meetings and meet regularly as prescribed in 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
 - d. A process and timelines for advance notice to the public of SILC meetings in compliance with State and federal law and 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
 - e. A process and timelines for advance notice to the public of SILC meetings in compliance with State and federal law and 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
 - i. "Executive Session" meetings should be rare and only take place to discuss confidential SILC issues such as but not limited to staffing.
 - ii. Agendas for "Executive Session" meetings must be made available to the public, although personal identifiable information regarding SILC staff shall not be included;
 - f. A process and timelines for the public to request reasonable accommodations to participate during a public Council meeting;
 - g. A method for developing, seeking and incorporating public input into, monitoring, reviewing and evaluating implementation of the State Plan as required in 45 CFR 1329.17; and
 - h. A process to verify centers for independent living are eligible to sign the State Plan in compliance with 45 CFR 1329.17(d)(2)(iii).
2. The SILC maintains regular communication with the appointing authority to ensure efficiency and timeliness of the appointment process.
3. The SILC maintains individual training plans for members that adhere to the SILC Training and Technical Assistance Center's SILC training curriculum.
4. The SILC receives public input into the development of the State Plan for Independent Living in accordance with 45 CFR 1329.17(f) ensuring:
- a. Adequate documentation of the State Plan development process, including but not limited to, a written process setting forth how input will be gathered from the state's centers for independent living and individuals with disabilities throughout the state, and the process for how the information collected is considered.
 - b. All meetings regarding State Plan development and review are open to the public and provides advance notice of such meetings in accordance with existing State and federal laws and 45 CFR 1329.17(f)(2)(i)-(ii);
 - c. Meetings seeking public input regarding the State Plan provides advance notice of such meetings in accordance with existing State and federal laws, and 45 CFR 1329.17(f)(2)(i);
 - d. Public meeting locations, where public input is being taken, are accessible to all people with disabilities, including, but not limited to:
 - i. proximity to public transportation,
 - ii. physical accessibility, and
 - iii. effective communication and accommodations that include auxiliary aids and services, necessary to make the meeting accessible to all people with disabilities.
 - e. Materials available electronically must be 508 compliant and, upon request, available in alternative and accessible format including other commonly spoken languages.
5. The SILC monitors, reviews and evaluates the State Plan in accordance with 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(2) ensuring:
- a. Timely identification of revisions needed due to any material change in State law, state organization, policy or agency operations that affect the administration of the State Plan approved by the Administration for Community Living.
6. The SILC State Plan resource plan includes:
- a. Sufficient funds received from:
 - i. Title VII, Part B funds;
 - ii. If the resource plan includes Title VII, Part B funds, the State Plan provides justification of the percentage of Part B funds to be used if the percentage exceeds 30 percent of Title VII, Part B funds received by the State;
 - iii. Funds for innovation and expansion activities under Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 721(a)(18), as applicable;

- iv. Other public and private sources.
- b. The funds needed to support:
 - i. Staff/personnel;
 - ii. Operating expenses;
 - iii. Council compensation and expenses;
 - iv. Meeting expenses including meeting space, alternate formats, interpreters, and other accommodations;
 - v. Resources to attend and/or secure training and conferences for staff and council members and;
 - vi. Other costs as appropriate.

SILC SIGNATURE SECTION

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

Robert Melia
 Name of SILC Chair
 Robert Melia
 Electronic Signature
 06/28/2024
 Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

Section 9: Signatures

SIGNATURES

The signatures below are of the SILC chairperson and at least 51 percent of the directors of the centers for independent living listed in section 6.3. These signatures indicate that the Florida Statewide Independent Living Council and the centers for independent living in the state agree with and intend to fully implement this SPIL's content. These signatures also indicate that this SPIL is complete and ready for submission to the Independent Living Administration, Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The effective date of this SPIL is 10/01/2024

SILC SIGNATURE SECTION

Robert Melia
 Name of SILC Chair
 Robert Melia
 Electronic Signature
 06/28/2024
 Date
 I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

CIL SIGNATURE SECTION

Center for Independent Living in Central Florida, Inc.
 Name of Center for Independent Living
 Elizabeth Howe
 Name of CIL Director
 Electronic Signature
 Date

Disability Resource Center Name of Center for Independent Living Robert Cox Name of CIL Director Robert C ox Electronic Signature 06/26/2024 Date
Disability Solutions for Independent Living, Inc Name of Center for Independent Living Ciawanda McDonald Name of CIL Director Ciawanda McDonald Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date
Center for Independent Living of Broward Name of Center for Independent Living Corey Hinds Name of CIL Director Corey Hinds Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date
The Center for Independent Living of North Florida, Inc. DBA Ability1st Name of Center for Independent Living Mandy Bianchi Name of CIL Director Mandy Bianchi Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date
TRANSITIONAL LIVING OF NORTH CENTRAL FL INC Name of Center for Independent Living Tony Delisle Name of CIL Director Tony Delisle Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date
Center for Independent Living of Northwest Florida, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living 1Carolyn Grawi Name of CIL Director Carolyn L. Grawi, MSW, LCSW, LMSW, ACSW, ADAC Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date

Self Reliance, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living Gary Martoccio Name of CIL Director Gary Martoccio Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date
Space Coast Center for Independent Living Name of Center for Independent Living Rosemary Miles Name of CIL Director Rosemary Miles Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date
Caring & Sharing Center for Independent Living DBA Disability Achievement Center Name of Center for Independent Living Nicole Reed Name of CIL Director Nicole Reed Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date
ODI/Independent Living Resource Center of NE Florida Name of Center for Independent Living Tyler Morris Name of CIL Director Tyler Morris Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date
CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING OF SOUTH FL, INC Name of Center for Independent Living Maria Rodriguez Name of CIL Director Maria Rodriguez Electronic Signature 06/27/2024 Date
Coalition For Independent Living Options, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living Dan Shorter Name of CIL Director Dan E. Shorter Electronic Signature 06/26/2024 Date

KEYS ADVOCACY CENTER, INC.
Name of Center for Independent Living
Lesly Quintanilla Lopez
Name of CIL Director
Lesly Quintanilla Lopez
Electronic Signature
06/27/2024
Date

Suncoast Center for Independent Living, Inc.
Name of Center for Independent Living
Harvey Brooks
Name of CIL Director
Harvey Brooks
Electronic Signature
06/28/2024
Date