

SILC Executive Director Report

June 9, 2023

2024 Gap Year SPIL

Michigan's 2024 gap year SPIL is due to ACL on June 30, 2023. After meeting with ACL and ILRU, it was determined that the proposed changes constitute technical amendments and do not warrant a 30-day public hearing. Jan and I facilitated negotiations for a PASREP deal between MRS leadership and CIL leadership that resulted in MRS funding PASREP for one more fiscal year while the CILs approach the state legislature for a new appropriation for the program. In exchange, the CILs have removed the PASREP narrative from the 2024 SPIL and MRS has agreed to lift all program restrictions in 2024.

The 2024 SPIL changes that you are being asked to approve are a change to the PASREP funding amount and allowing SILC to negotiate up to \$45,000 in SILC's budget to support the 2024 Youth Leadership Forum.

2023 1st – 2nd Quarter Meetings/Trainings

So far in the first half of the year, I have participated in the following trainings and meetings:

- Peer to Peer Interactive Workshop for CILs and SILCs
- Two SILC Speak Peer Discussions facilitated by ILRU
- Region V Quarterly Peer meeting
- Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services Quarterly meeting
- Two meetings with Dr. Fayana Richards regarding the MPHI Grant
- APRIL Disaster & Emergency Preparedness and Response Committee
- APRIL Rural Conversation Series
- MDCR and Stakeholder meeting regarding Dynamic Character Legislation
- ILRU IL-NET National T&TA Center Designated State Entity (DSE) Peer Discussion
- Conducted SILC's first Facebook Live event interview with musician Gaelynn Lea
- Disability Inclusion Series Conference Call
- Innovations in Inclusive Emergency Management FEMA/NACDD Webinar
- Michigan House DHHS Subcommittee Hearing
- DD Council Program Committee - MYLF Discussion
- OILP Quarterly Connection, April 2023
- NASILC Advocacy Meeting
- Understanding Autism: A Personal Experience
- Detroit Disability Power: Statewide Disability Landscape and Power Analysis
- DD Council Community Alliance Summit
- SILC & General Motors Introduction Conference Call
- Disability Rights Michigan Voting Advocacy Conference Call
- Region V SILC Directors Peer meeting
- NASILC Board Meeting
- Presented on SILC during DNMM's Annual Board Meeting in Midland

2024 – 2026 SPIL Writing Team

ACL announced late last year that a 4th year will be added to our current SPIL making the next SPIL due to ACL in June 2024. As such, the SPIL writing team began public meetings again to work on the 2024 SPIL and reviewed responses to SILC's community needs assessment survey which gathers public input into the next SPIL. We will be holding virtual town halls via Zoom

during the summer and the team will reconvene in August 2023. In the interim, the team will receive monthly SILC IL community needs assessment survey response updates. So far, we have received 101 survey responses. The survey is being promoted through SILC's social media channels and by other partners including the CILs.

CIL Director Meetings

Quarterly meetings with the CIL directors have been scheduled where we share collaborative updates. I met with them again on April 21, 2023. The "Lunch and Learn" meeting series with each CIL director at their CIL have been completed with relationships strengthened. These meetings were designed to learn more about each unique CIL and how SILC can better partner with them.

Statewide Outreach Services

We are making great progress with statewide outreach as we promote Independent Living and the CILs across the state through our monthly newsletter, online blog, and weekly social media posts. We also have one summertime inclusive community arts event that will take place in Madison Heights in partnerships with the City of Madison Heights, Michigan Statewide Independent Living Council and Disability Network Eastern Michigan. In recognition of Disability Pride Month and the 33rd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Madison Heights has issued a Call for Entries for a large-scale art piece and entries for a gallery exhibit celebrating disability rights. The winning artist will develop an engaging, large-scale art concept relevant to disability pride and/or rights and will outline a process by which members of the local community can participate in the actual creation of the work onsite at the Madison Heights Civic Center Park (360 W. 13 Mile Road) on Saturday, July 22, 2023. The art piece will ultimately be placed in the Madison Heights Library upon completion. Artists were invited to submit works to be considered for display during an exhibit that runs from July 1 - July 31, 2023, at the Madison Heights Civic Center located at 240 W. 13 Mile Road.

Appointments

I continue to be in contact with the Office of Appointments regarding new applications for SILC membership and continued recruitment efforts when I visited each CIL.

SILC Strategic Planning

SILC wrapped up the strategic planning process in August 2021 which resulted in updated vision and mission statements. SMART goals have been created for strategic plan goals that align with our current SPIL. After the Council held our annual retreat at the end of August 2022, it was decided that the balance of strategic plan goals will be aligned with SILC goals created in the next SPIL. A SILC goal writing team has met several times to develop SPIL goals specific to Council activity. The life areas that have been selected based on community needs assessment survey responses are mental health, direct care workers, housing, transportation, and the aging blind population.

Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services (MCRS)

I continue to represent SILC on the MCRS. MCRS's mission is to improve public Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services delivered by the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) and Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS).

Michigan Vaccine Partners

I continue representing SILC at the Michigan Vaccine Partners meetings where we discuss strategy and long-term advocacy around vaccine access for people with disabilities.