

Reporting Instrument

OMB Approval No.: 0985-0043
Expiration Date: January 31, 2021

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

**SECTION 704
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT
For
STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES
PROGRAM**

(Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)

Part I

INSTRUMENT

**(To be completed by Designated State Units
And Statewide Independent Living Councils)**

Reporting Fiscal Year: 2020

State: ID

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 35 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefit (P.L. 105-220 Section 410 Workforce Investment Act). Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Rehabilitation Services Administration, LBJ Basement, Attention: Timothy Beatty, PCP Room 5057, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20202-2800 or email timothy.beatty@ed.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1820-0606. Chapter 1, Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act.

SUBPART I - ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Section A - Sources and Amounts of Funds and Resources

Sections 704(c) and 704(m)(3) and (4) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.35 and 364.36

Indicate amount received by the DSU as per each funding source. Enter "0" for none.

Item 1 - All Federal Funds Received

(A) Title VII, Ch. 1, Part B	\$338717.00
(B) Title VII, Ch. 1, Part C - For 723 states Only	\$0.00
(C) Title VII, Ch. 2	\$225000.00
(D) Other Federal Funds	\$99500.00
Subtotal - All Federal Funds	\$663217.00

Item 2 - Other Government Funds

(E) State Government Funds	\$240091.00
(F) Local Government Funds	\$0.00
Subtotal - State and Local Government Funds	\$240091.00

Item 3 - Private Resources

(G) Fees for Service (program income, etc.)	\$0.00
(H) Other resources	\$15054.00
Subtotal - Private Resources	\$15054.00

Item 4 - Total Income

Total income = (A)+(B)+(C)+(D)+(E)+(F)+(G)+(H)	\$918362.00
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Item 5 - Pass Through Funds

Amount of other government funds received as pass through funds to consumers (include funds, received on behalf of consumers, that are subsequently passed on to consumers, e.g., personal assistance services, representative payee funds, Medicaid funds, etc.)	\$0.00
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Item 6 - Net Operating Resources

Total Income (Section 4) <minus> amount paid out to Consumers (Section 5) = Net Operating Resources	\$918362.00
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Section B - Distribution of Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B Funds

What Activities were Conducted with Part B Funds?	Expenditures of Part B Funds for Services by DSU Staff	Expenditures for Services Rendered By Grant or Contract
(1) Provided resources to the SILC to carry out its functions	\$0.00	\$113442.00
(2) Provided IL services to individuals with significant disabilities	\$0.00	\$164567.00

What Activities were Conducted with Part B Funds?	Expenditures of Part B Funds for Services by DSU Staff	Expenditures for Services Rendered By Grant or Contract
(3) Demonstrated ways to expand and improve IL services	\$0.00	\$0.00
(4) Supported the general operation of CILs that are in compliance with the standards and assurances set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 725 of the Act	\$0.00	\$167945.00
(5) Supported activities to increase capacity to develop approaches or systems for providing IL services	\$0.00	\$0.00
(6) Conducted studies and analyses, gathered information, developed model policies, and presented findings in order to enhance IL services	\$0.00	\$0.00
(7) Provided training regarding the IL philosophy	\$0.00	\$0.00
(8) Provided outreach to unserved or underserved populations, including minority groups and urban and rural populations	\$0.00	\$0.00
Totals	\$0.00	\$445954.00

Section C - Grants or Contracts Used to Distribute Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B Funds

Sections 704(f) and 713 of the Act; 34 CFR 364.43, and 34 CFR 365 Subpart C

Enter the requested information for all DSU grants or contracts, funded at least in part by Part B funds, in the chart below. If a column is not applicable to a particular grant or contract, enter "N/A." If there were no non-Part B funds provided to this grantee or contractor for the purpose listed, enter "\$0" in that column. Add more rows as necessary.

Name of Grantee or Contractor	Use of Funds (based on the activities listed in Subpart I, Section B)	Amount of Part B Funds	Amount of Non-Part B Funds	Consumer Eligibility Determined By DSU or Provider	CSRs Kept With DSU or Provider
Idaho SILC	Res plan systemic undeserved outreach education	\$113442.00	\$228800.00	N/A	N/A
DAC - NW	Statewide education outreach resource development	\$56770.00	\$1882.00	N/A	N/A
LINC	General CIL operations	\$60367.00	\$7527.00	N/A	N/A
LIFE	General CIL operations	\$50808.00	\$5645.00	N/A	N/A
ICBVI	Direct IL services outreach education	\$164567.00	\$11291.00	Provider	Provider
Total Amount of Grants and Contracts		\$445954.00	\$255145.00		

Section D - Grants or Contracts for Purposes Other than Providing IL Services or For the General Operation of Centers

Section 713 of the Act; 34 CFR 365.1 and 34 CFR 365.20

Describe the objectives, activities and results for each Part B grant or contract awarded for purposes other than IL services or the general operation of centers.

SILC activities:

Note: All SILC in-person activities, including Council meetings, SPIL development Public meetings, workshops, outreach and technical assistance transitioned to web-based, email and telephone technologies in mid-March 2020 due to the Coronavirus health emergency.

Goal Name: Advocacy

Goal Description: Idahoans with disabilities receive necessary supports and services to become more independent in their community of choice.

Objective 1.1: Emergency Preparedness: State and local emergency officials include individuals with disabilities and address their unique needs in the emergency planning processes.

Activities and Results:

The SILC's Blue Folder emergency preparation project packages easy to use forms that help people with disabilities, families and providers prepare for an emergency expanded in 2020 due to increased need related to the Coronavirus health emergency. SILC, CIL staff and other partner organizations review the information in the folders, help people complete the information, prepare a go bag for emergencies and learn how they can become involved in local planning. Project, publications and workshops bring the IL message to urban and frontier communities, reaching more people in regions that may be difficult for the Centers to access.

Additionally, these projects have increased local partnerships between Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD), County emergency planners, CILs and other organizations serving low income and rural constituents. Our partnerships provide additional funding streams and resources to engage with communities as people with disabilities prepare themselves and help their neighbors. SILC Emergency projects are funded with some Part B funds combined with more substantial state fund dollars. The SILC negotiated with the Idaho Office of Emergency Management (IOEM) to provide supplies for 200 "starter" go-bags (\$3000 value) for dissemination to workshop participants who complete evaluations.

The SILC trained 195 people from July 1, 2019 - March 15, 2020, including 30 transition age youth, on emergency preparation to help them prepare for a personal or regional emergency. 56% of participants completed pre- and post-surveys with approximately 50% indicating that knew more about completing a personal emergency plan and would take action to create a plan. The SILC also trained approximately 40 county and Tribal emergency managers at the Idaho Emergency Managers Conference on the importance of including the disability community in planning to ensure integration in local emergency planning.

The Idaho Inclusive Emergency Coalition (IIEC) met bi-monthly by phone from July 1, 2019 - March 15, 2020. The IIEC is an Idaho SILC ad hoc committee. Prior to March 2020, it had about 10 consistent participants, including the Red Cross, county emergency managers and people with disabilities. The group is directed by the concerns of people with disabilities and the majority of participants are people with disabilities. Prior to the Coronavirus Health Emergency, the IIEC had some difficulty determining its mission and how to be most helpful to agencies and Idahoans with disabilities. SILC staff and several IIEC participants met with local emergency managers on April 18 to discuss Access and Functional Needs (AFN). On April 31, the SILC through the mechanism of the IIEC, began hosting weekly AFN web-based meetings in coordination with local emergency managers and the IOEM. These meetings continued through the end of May when it was determined by the SILC that true AFN was a function of the IEOM or local managers, not the SILC or IIEC as we were not inclusive of all populations who should be included in AFN. The IIEC pivoted to host virtual meetings twice during June and July, ultimately meeting once a month with weekly subcommittee meetings focused on housing, transition and home modification; Home and Community Based Services (HCBS), Mental

Health response; and caregiver (paid and unpaid) shortages. Use of these subcommittees and proven invaluable as they set quick response goals, complete sustainable materials and projects and move on the next issue area. Engagement is increased substantially with 25 consistent participants, most of whom have disabilities.

Objective 1.2.a. Participation on committees and boards

Staff from each of the three Idaho Centers for Independent Living - Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC), Living Independently for Everyone (LIFE) and Disability Action Center-Northwest (DAC-NW); and the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI); and the Idaho State Independent Living Council (SILC) will advocate in their communities, with local and state governments, healthcare providers and other private organizations to ensure compliance and provide education for housing, transportation, and community access.

Benchmark - Met

LINC, DAC-NW, LIFE, Idaho SILC and ICBVI each participate in a minimum of three local, regional or state boards, committees and councils with a minimum of three meetings per quarter. Total: 15 per quarter, 60 per year see community activities for more information.

1.2.b. Provide disability/Independent Living education, training and support to stakeholders (family and private/public care providers and service professionals)

Benchmark - Met

One educational workshop or training per quarter, per agency: Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC), Living Independently for Everyone (LIFE) and Disability Action Center-Northwest (DAC-NW); the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI); and the Idaho State Independent Living Council (SILC). Total 5 per quarter, 25 per year.

Activities quickly shifted to web-based training activities in mid-March and were in full swing by early summer. The Idaho IL Network provided well over 30 workshops and trainings during FFY2020.

1.3: Financial independence: Promote financial literacy, ABLE and other savings program accounts, and health care options, including the Medicaid for Workers with Disabilities program, information to service providers, community organizations and Idahoans with disabilities.

Benchmark - Met

The Idaho SILC provided two financial independence/ABLE information workshops prior to the COVID-19 health emergency. Given more immediate priorities of meeting individual's needs during the health emergency, workshops were suspended in mid-March in preference for one-one-one technical assistance. Requests for individual technical assistance related to ABLE and Medicaid for Workers with Disabilities increased substantially when people received CARES Act stimulus checks that pushed them over resource limits.

To reach underserved populations, the SILC provides IL publications related to financial literacy and ABLE savings accounts are available in English, Spanish, braille and plain text. Other language translation is available on request. Materials are developed by SILC staff, translated, printed and disseminated using Part B and State General Funds.

Goal Name: Network Support, Capacity and Sustainability

Objective - 2.1: Address Part C funding inequities

Benchmark - In progress

Objective - 2.2 Resource Development: The three Idaho Centers: Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC), Living Independently for Everyone (LIFE and

Disability Action Center-Northwest (DAC-NW) and the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI) will explore other options for funding streams to enhance providing independent living services to the citizens of Idaho.

Benchmark - In progress

Expansion of CAREs Act funding to share statewide resources between CILs and the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Vision Impaired (ICBVI did not receive CAREs Act funds). One Center successfully applied for Reeves Ramp grants for Northern Idaho residents. Another Center has decided to reopen a Representative Payee program.

Benchmark - Met

Objective - 2.2.a. Community outreach and education to promote Home Community Based Services (HCBS).

Centers and ICBVI frequently (4+ times annually) meet with Nursing home and other facility staff to inform them about community supports and services available. This activity has increased since mid-March as people sought to transition out of facilities and facilities look for alternatives for community living, largely due to the COVID-19 health emergency.

Objective - 2.3.a. The CIL Network supports a regional statewide IL conference.

Centers initially opted to return the conference to the Boise area to coincide with the 30th Anniversary Celebrations hosted by NW-ADA - Idaho Center in collaboration with more than 18 state and local sponsors. Once it became apparent that no in-person conference would be possible, LINC, the ILC coordinating the conference shifted to an on-line (virtual) platform. Participation increased with 121 registrants, more than 50% completed conference evaluations, 97% of whom indicated they learned something new about IL.

Benchmark: Met

Goal Name: Community Living

Objective - 3.1: Provide Independent Living services to people with disabilities to increase community access, targeting rural and otherwise underserved populations.

3.1.a Provide independent living training to people with disabilities, including mobility, adaptive communication, community access (public/private transit, safe pedestrian travel), activities of daily living and accessing community leisure and recreational opportunities. Benchmark to increase served consumers by 2.5% annually.

Benchmark: Unmet due to decrease in requested services during initial phase of the COVID-19 health emergency, i.e.: people were afraid to have people in their homes and not going out due to recommendations to stay home.

3.2.a Youth Engagement: Youth (14-26) with disabilities will have access to the Independent Living services they need provided by the Centers for Independent Living and other providers.

Benchmark: in progress - organizations regrouped from in-person youth outreach to provide on-line games, support groups and other activities.

3.3.a. Centers will coordinate activities and training for community connections meetings/peer support groups; they may employ, through a stipend or other mechanism, a leader with a disability for necessary coordination activities.

Benchmark: Met

Section E - Monitoring Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B Funds

34 CFR 80.40(a)

Provide a summary of the program or fiscal review, evaluation and monitoring conducted by the state of any of the grantees/contractors receiving Part B funds during the reporting year.

The SILC Executive Director (E.D.) and fiscal specialist review all accounts weekly. Further, the SILC financial specialist works closely with the DSE, the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (IDVR), fiscal specialist who is assigned to our grants to ensure accurate and timely processing of SILC activities. The SILC has an internal accounting process through required state tracking systems.

The Idaho SILC, the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI), LINC, LIFE and DAC- NW forward all receipts to the DSE for evaluation of expenses prior to reimbursement to ensure that expenses are directly related to Title VII, Part B. The process for the SILC and ICBVI differs somewhat from the process followed by the CILs. As state agencies/entities, we use the state financial accounting systems for billing and reimbursement from the DSE.

IDVR/DSE also has an MOU with the SILC: IDVR provides \$99,500 in Innovation and Expansion funds to support the SILC fiscal specialist and office management. The fiscal specialist is well versed in GAAP and state accounting MIS. The fiscal specialist is housed in the Idaho SILC office and is an employee of the Idaho SILC.

The SILC is subject to an annual audit which is conducted by an external CPA as required by state law. Idaho SILC's SFY 17 - 20 audits reported no findings.

The following explanation applies to both Section 2. Distribution of Title VII... and Section 3. Grants or Contracts Used to Distribute.

The PPR for FFY 2020 has expenditures from two grants - 1901IDILSG and 2001IDILSG. The amounts reported in FFY20 for Section 2 and 3 do not agree with the NOA for grant 2001IDILSG. This occurs because IDVR met the match requirement for the grant 1901IDILSG in the first Federal year (FFY19) of the award and has carry-over that IDVR expended in FFY20. Distributed funds do not match the funds received because IDVR expends funds prior to seeking reimbursement so expenditures (distributions) always equal or exceed the funds received.

IDVR (the DSE) involves SILC and the CILs and other interested parties in producing the SPIL which defines the percentages of the IL grants that the SILC and the CILs will receive. IDVR enters agreements with dollar amounts assigned so that each group knows the exact amount that they will receive from the grant. IDVR has made it clear that we meet match in the beginning of a grant so we

will always have carry-over, if needed, to use the grant funds. In FFY19 and FFY20 the original awards did not get fully spent within the original grant years but IDVR communicated with SILC and CILs to continue using their assigned FFY19 funds within the IL19 carry-over period of performance. IDVR also let SILC and CILs know to use their FFY20 funds through the extended IL20 carry-over year. The SILC and CILs do not have administrative issues that caused underspending they simply needed more time to effectively use the grants.

Section F - Administrative Support Services and Staffing

Section 704(c)(2) and 704 (m)(2) and (4) of the Act; CFR 364.22(a)(2) and 34 CFR 364.31

Item 1 - Administrative Support Services

Describe any administrative support services, including staffing, provided by the DSU to the Part B Program.

Grant monitoring and reimbursement occur through state required tracking systems. The DSE does not provide day-to-day operational support to any Part B recipient.

The SILC fiscal specialist is paid for through I&E funds and serves under the direction of the SILC ED. The DSE has no authority over any SILC staff related to hiring/retaining SILC employees.

The DSE did not charge the 5% fee allowed under the grant in FFY2020.

Item 2 - Staffing

Enter requested staff information for the DSU and service providers listed in Section C, above (excluding Part C funded CILs)

Type of Staff	Total Number of FTEs	FTEs filled by Individuals with Disabilities
Decision-Making Staff	2	2
Other Staff	2	1

Section G - For Section 723 States ONLY

Section 723 of the Act, 34 CFR Part 366, Subpart D

Item 2 - Administrative Support Services

Section 704(c)(2) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.22(a)(2)

Item 3 - Monitoring and Onsite Compliance Reviews

Section 723(g), (h), and (i); 34 CFR 366.38, 366.40 - 46

Item 4 - Updates or Issues

SUBPART II - NUMBER AND TYPES OF INDIVIDUALS WITH SIGNIFICANT DISABILITIES RECEIVING SERVICES

Section 704(m)(4) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.53

In this section, provide data from all service providers (DSU, grantees, contractors) who received Part B funds and who were listed in Subpart I, Section C of this report, except for the centers that receive Part C funds. Part C centers will provide this data themselves on their annual 704 Reports, Part II.

Section A - Number of Consumers Served During the Reporting Year

Include Consumer Service Records (CSRs) for all consumers served during the year.

	# of CSRs
(1) Enter the number of active CSRs carried over from September 30 of the preceding reporting year	75
(2) Enter the number of CSRs started since October 1 of the reporting year	13
(3) Add lines (1) and (2) to get the <i>total number of consumers served</i>	88

Section B - Number of CSRs Closed by September 30 of the Reporting Year

Include the number of consumer records closed out of the active CSR files during the reporting year because the individual has

	# of CSRs
(1) Moved	31
(2) Withdrawn	31
(3) Died	31
(4) Complete Goals	31
(5) Other	31
(6) Add lines (1) + (2) + (3) + (4) + (5) to get <i>total CSRs closed</i>	31

Section C - Number of CSRs Active on September 30 of the Reporting Year

Indicate the number of CSRs active on September 30th of the reporting year.

	# of CSRs
Section A(3) <minus> Section (B)(6) = Section C	57

Section D - IL Plans and Waivers

Indicate the number of consumers in each category below.

	# of Consumers
(1) Number of consumers who signed a waiver	79
(2) Number of consumers with whom an ILP was developed	9
(3) <i>Total number of consumers served during the reporting year</i>	88

Section E - Age

Indicate the number of consumers in each category below.

	# of Consumers
(1) Under 5 years old	0
(2) Ages 5 - 19	8
(3) Ages 20 - 24	2
(4) Ages 25 - 59	77
(5) Age 60 and Older	1
(6) Age unavailable	0
(7) <i>Total number of consumers served by age</i>	88

Section F - Sex

Indicate the number of consumers in each category below.

	# of Consumers
(1) Number of Females served	52
(2) Number of Males served	36
(3) <i>Total number of consumers served by sex</i>	88

Section G - Race And Ethnicity

Indicate the number of consumers in each category below. ***Each consumer may be counted under ONLY ONE of the following categories in the 704 Report, even if the consumer reported more than one race and/or Hispanic/Latino ethnicity).***

**This section reflects a new OMB directive.
Please refer to the Instructions before completing.**

	# of Consumers
(1) American Indian or Alaska Native	0
(2) Asian	0
(3) Black or African American	2
(4) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
(5) White	76
(6) Hispanic/Latino of any race or Hispanic/Latino only	8
(7) Two or more races	0
(8) Race and ethnicity unknown	2
(9) <i>Total number of consumers served by race/ethnicity</i>	88

Section H - Disability

Indicate the number of consumers in each category below.

	# of Consumers
(1) Cognitive	0
(2) Mental/Emotional	0
(3) Physical	0
(4) Hearing	0

	# of Consumers
(5) Vision	88
(6) Multiple Disabilities	0
(7) Other	0
(8) <i>Total number of consumers served by by disability</i>	88

SUBPART III - INDIVIDUAL SERVICES AND ACHIEVEMENTS FUNDED THROUGH TITLE VII, CHAPTER 1, PART B FUNDS

Sections 13 and 704(m)(4); 34 CFR 364.53; Government Performance Results Act (GPRA) Performance Measures

Subpart III contains new data requests. Please refer to the Instructions before completing.

Section A - Individual Services and Achievements

For the reporting year, indicate in the chart below how many consumers requested and received each of the following IL services. Include all consumers who were provided services during the reporting year through Part B funds, either directly by DSU staff or via grants or contracts with other providers. Do not include consumers who were served by any centers that received Part C funds during the reporting year.

Services	Consumers Requesting Services	Consumers Receiving Services
Advocacy/Legal Services	1	1
Assistive Technology	13	10
Children's Services	0	0
Communication Services	14	10
Counseling and related services	2	0
Family Services	0	0
Housing, Home Modification, and Shelter Services	1	1
IL Skills Training and Life Skills Training	24	20
Information and Referral Services	14	11
Mental Restoration Services	0	0
Mobility training	14	9
Peer Counseling Services	5	5
Personal Assistance Services	1	1
Physical Restoration Services	0	0
Preventive Services	0	0
Prostheses, Orthotics, and other appliances	2	2
Recreational Services	4	3
Rehabilitation Technology Services	11	7
Therapeutic Treatment	0	0
Transportation Services	4	2
Youth/Transition Services	0	0
Vocational Services	1	0
Other	4	4
Totals	115	86

Section B - Increased Independence and Community Integration

Item 1 - Goals Related to Increased Independence in a Significant Life Area

Indicate the number of consumers who set goals related to the following significant life areas, the number whose goals are still in progress, and the number who achieved their goals as a result of the provision of IL services.

Significant Life Area	Goals Set	Goals Achieved	In Progress
Self-Advocacy/Self-Empowerment	10	5	5
Communication	25	5	20
Mobility/Transportation	45	12	33
Community-Based Living	11	3	8
Educational	7	2	5
Vocational	0	0	0
Self-Care	23	6	17
Information Access/Technology	31	11	20
Personal Resource Management	5	1	4
Relocation from a Nursing Home or Institution to Community-Based Living	0	0	0
Community/Social Participation	4	0	4
Other	31	16	15
Totals	192	61	131

Item 2 - Improved Access To Transportation, Health Care and Assistive Technology

(A) Table

In column one, indicate the number of consumers who required access to previously unavailable transportation, health care services, or assistive technology during the reporting year. Of the consumers listed in column one, indicate in column two, the number of consumers who, as a result of the provision of IL services (including the four core services), achieved access to previously unavailable transportation, health care services, or assistive technology during the reporting year. In column three, list the number of consumers whose access to transportation, health care services or assistive technology is still in progress at the end of the reporting year.

Areas	# of Consumers Requiring Access	# of Consumers Achieving Access	# of Consumers Whose Access is in Progress
(A) Transportation	17	14	3
(B) Health Care Services	12	9	3
(C) Assistive Technology	25	21	4

Note: For most IL services, a consumer's access to previously unavailable transportation, health care and assistive technology is documented through his or her CSR. In some instances, consumers may achieve an outcome solely through information and referral (I&R) services. To document these instances as successful outcomes, providers are not required to create CSRs for these consumers but must be able to document that follow-up contacts with these consumers showed access to previously unavailable transportation, health care and assistive technology.

(B) I&R Information

To inform ACL how many service providers engage in I&R follow-up contacts regarding access to transportation, health care services or assistive technology, please indicate the following:

The service provider did **X** / did not ___ engage in follow-up contacts with I & R recipients to document access gained to previously unavailable transportation, health care or assistive technology.

Section C - Additional Information Concerning Individual Services or Achievements

Please provide any additional description or explanation concerning individual services or achievements reported in subpart III, including outstanding success stories and/or major obstacles encountered.

COVID-19 has presented all agencies and organizations with challenges and hopefully some success stories the last 9 months, and the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI) is no exception. This year we have had to think outside of the box in order to assist our clients with training and providing other Independent Living services more so than in years past. Our Rehabilitation Teachers (RT's) have utilized Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Facetime, Skype, email and phones to provide remote training during FFY2020. We have also, when the state has been in stage 3 and stage 4 protocols, met with clients face to face in their homes, outside and in residential facilities to provide instruction as well as meeting with clients in our offices, adhering to proper guidelines and precautions at all times.

The story I would like to share is that of an individual who was opened during COVID and still has an open case because he has identified Independent Living (IL) goals that he would like to work towards and achieve. My hope is to show the challenges and ingenuity of our staff in order to provide quality customer service and enhance the independence of this individual during this challenging time.

John Doe contacted our office at the end of March 2020 right after staff started telecommuting from home. He had been struggling with diabetes and depression for a number of years and was on dialysis. His condition got to the point where he was unable to work and had to quit his job. He was not interested in the vocational services our agency provides so he was referred to our IL program. At that time he was just seeking assistance in getting signed up with the Talking Book program so he could read his gardening books.

During the initial call our RT discussed the IL program and services that he may be interested in. He was surprised by the amount of information that he received as well as the possible opportunities that he may pursue through the program. He decided that he would like to apply for services as well as get signed up for the Talking Book program.

The RT took an application for both the IL program as well as the Talking Book program over the phone waiving his signature temporarily until he was able to sign it at a later date. She sent John a smart lux electronic magnifier to assist him with written correspondence, to independently administer his own medication and perform other tasks where he would need to see things to be more independent such as his thermostat, books and magazines, mail, etc. When John received the device, the RT provided training over the phone so that he could use it appropriately. During this call staff indicated that she would send a large print calendar since this was an issue that he was having as well.

A follow up meeting was to take place to start working on better access to his computer where he could navigate needed sites so he could follow up on his finances, communicate with family and friends, and many other reasons for which we all utilize computers for our personal needs. They would participate via Zoom for this and future trainings.

During the course of their work together John had goals of utilizing his iPhone, using Voiceover, magnification training on a MAC PC, and we provided a 22" CCTV. The majority of this training occurred over Zoom. The RT had to be very creative in order to present the training in ways that were understandable and had to troubleshoot issues, which if she were present face to face, with John it would have been much easier.

When our state was in Stage 3 protocols, John and the RT were able to meet some over the summer in person where they worked on basic Orientation and Mobility skills including sighted guide techniques. For some of this training, as well as the training over Zoom, John's spouse also attended so that she would be better able to assist him if, and when, needed.

Given the client's previous medical conditions it was important to follow protocols and guidelines as strictly as possible to limit any exposure since John is in the high-risk category if he were to contract COVID-19.

During their interactions outside John described issues with glare. The RT and John discussed different options and through informed choice John decided on a pair of amber filters that he felt would work best for him. Though on a limited income he was willing to purchase a \$30.00 pair of Cocoon filters which he felt good about since he was contributing to his own success.

As COVID numbers have increased in the state and colder weather has affected John's physical well-being he has decided to postpone further instruction at this time but will start back up when he is feeling better, probably after the start of the new year.

Recently, John indicated that he was extremely pleased and thankful for contacting ICBVI, meeting the RT he has worked with, and is feeling much more independent and hopeful for his future. He looks forward to the time where he is able to work with the RT again face to face, participate in the local peer support group, and continue to further increase his independence.

SUBPART IV - COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND COORDINATION

Section 704(i), (l), and (m)(4) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.26, 364.27, and 364.32

Section A - Community Activities

Item 1 - Community Activities Table

In the table below, summarize the community activities involving the DSU, SILC and CILs in the Statewide Network of Centers (excluding Part C fund recipients) during the reporting year. For each activity, identify the primary disability issue(s) addressed as well as the type of activity conducted. Indicate the entity(ies) primarily involved and the time spent. Describe the primary objective(s) and outcome(s) for each activity. Add more rows as necessary.

Subpart IV contains new data requests. Please refer to the Instructions before completing.

Issue Area	Activity Type	Primary Entity	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcome(s)
Housing	Community Systems	SILC	140.00	Retain and increase accessible/affordable housing options statewide.	Increased community awareness about loss of affordable accessible housing due to development. Issue grew expansively due to health emergency and evictions.
Health Care Rationing	Healthcare systems	SILC	300.00	Ensure state Crisis Standards of Care (CSC) and Vaccination plan adhere to state and federal disability rights laws.	CSC and vaccination plan consider and apply the ADA, Affordable Care Act, Section 504 and applicable state laws to all state emergency plans and response.
Independent Living	Financial Planning	SILC	200.00	Provide information and TA regarding opening ABLE accounts in other state programs.	Increased savings access through 17 workshops to 95 people and provided technical assistance (TA) to 78 people opening accounts.

Issue Area	Activity Type	Primary Entity	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcome(s)
Community Access	ADA, Fair Housing Act (FHA) and Rehab Act (504/508) committees	SILC, CILs, ICBVI, DSE	238.00	Increase policy makers' understanding of access issues. Improve access.	Via county, city and statewide activities, dozens of pedestrian, parking, transportation and web access issues have been resolved pedestrian access in multiple metro and rural areas.
Youth	Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) cancelled due to COVID-19	SILC, CILs, ISDE	100.00	Youth leadership development through the Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) in collaboration with the ID Department of Education, Centers and other partners.	15 applications approved; 8 pending as event was cancelled due to COVID-19. YLF included 3 alumni applications for counseling positions. Rural outreach and recruiting was highly successful thru 400 transition educators during special ed. conference.
Independent Living	Health Fairs	ICBVI	94.00	Provide education, outreach and develop partnerships with local residents, agencies and organizations.	Increased individual awareness as well as developed partnerships within communities.
Independent Living	Financial planning	SILC	100.00	Provide information and TA regarding opening ABLE accounts in other state programs.	Increased savings access through 3 workshops to 43 people & TA to 54 people opening accounts.
Community Access	Community access workshops	ICBVI	22.00	Walkability audits in local communities and the new State of Idaho, Chinden business campus.	Bring awareness to civic leaders of accessibility issues and improve access, especially for people who are blind or low vision.
Community Living	Outreach through media and communications	DAC-NW	1592.00	Provide public information through social media and monthly Independent Living (IL) newsletter.	Idaho IL Social media 8% increase to 5724 followers across six social media platforms and more than 20% increase in newsletter subscriptions (1147).

Issue Area	Activity Type	Primary Entity	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcome(s)
Community Living	(virtual) Statewide, Regional IL conference	LINC	370.00	Provide regional state IL conference for people with disabilities and CIL staff enrichment.	Conference shifted to virtual platform due to the COVID-19 Health Emergency -- 121 participants in virtual statewide conference with three tracks: IL, Youth and Business. 97.4 survey respondents indicated learning something new about IL.
Emergency Preparation	Emergency Preparation Workshops and Technical assistance (TA)	SILC	40.00	Increase personal awareness, understanding & preparation for people with disabilities in all phases of disaster.	Presented to 94 people on developing personal preparedness plans. Participants are better prepared for a personal or community wide emergency or disaster.
Emergency Planning	Community systems and technical assistance	SILC	210.00	Disability inclusion is built into all aspects of emergency management.	-Hosted 21 Idaho Inclusive Emergency Coalition (IIEC) and Access and Functional Needs (AFN) meetings - Increased participation of people with disabilities - Formed 4 subcommittees to tackle issues identified by the IIEC for additional work.
Community Living	One on one communication	ICBVI	180.00	Provide education and outreach	Educate k-12 teachers, parents and providers about Blind and visually impaired (BVI) issues and increase expectations for those with visual impairments; thus proving outcomes for students.

Issue Area	Activity Type	Primary Entity	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcome(s)
Independent Living	One on one communication	ICBVI	30.00	Provide education outreach and partnering to medical providers.	Work with physicians, and clinics in local areas to provide education of BVI services throughout the state thus providing a resource for providers and the people who see them, especially in rural, underserved communities.

Item 2 - Description of Community Activities

For the community activities mentioned above, provide any additional details such as the role of the DSU, SILC, CIL, and/or consumers, names of any partner organizations and further descriptions of the specific activities, services and benefits.

The SILC worked with a coalition that included the Idaho American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the Intermountain Fair Housing Council, the state Protection and Advocacy system, the International Rescue Committee and the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities to educate policy makers about the expedited the eviction process which would eliminate due process, disproportionately harming people with disabilities. We anticipated its return during the Spring 2020 session. The session was disrupted due to the COVID-19 health emergency and legislation did not move forward. The SILC and our partners continue to engage in housing issues made worse during the pandemic. There has been a marked increase in people being evicted from skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and Residential Assisted Living Facilities (RALFs). The SILC and CILs are working to help families and individuals address these issues with help from the appropriate organizations.

The Idaho SILC began rural outreach for the 2020 Idaho Youth Leadership Forum (IYLF) in partnership with the Idaho Department of Education, the Idaho Department of Labor, the Network of Centers and others in the fall of 2019. The one-week leadership camp held at Boise State University was officially cancelled in early May 2020 due to the health emergency. Recruitment was up to 15 successful applicants (we had 12 in 2019) and another 8 in process when the camp was cancelled. Due to funding shifts, it is unlikely that the SILC will host future YLFs, though the Network is examining the feasibility of regional camps in the future.

In collaboration with the Consortium of Idahoans with Disabilities (CID), SILC staff and Council members, CILs, the DSE and ICBVI participate in Fred Riggers - Disability Awareness Day at the Capitol during the Legislative session. Policy makers and community members are encouraged to attend the event, which included Capitol tours, CID member information booths, a photo booth and an advocacy lifetime achievement award to an outstanding Idaho Advocate. The 2020 recipient was the recently retired LINC executive director. Disability Awareness Day was held early in the session, prior to the statewide shutdown.

The SILC and CILs work with the Idaho Volunteers Active in Disaster (VOAD) which includes the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities of Idaho and multiple other faith-based organizations, HOPE Animal Assisted Crisis Response Team, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, local emergency managers, the Idaho Office of Emergency Management, the VA and other Veteran's groups throughout the year,

attending annual training events and the provision of disability access/awareness training during such events.

The Idaho Inclusive Emergency Coalition (IIEC) met bi-monthly by phone from July 1, 2019 - March 15, 2020. The IIEC is an Idaho SILC ad hoc committee. Prior to the Pandemic, it had about 12 consistent participants, including the Red Cross, county emergency managers and people with disabilities. The group is directed by the concerns of people with disabilities and the majority of participants are people with disabilities.

Prior to the Coronavirus Health Emergency, the IIEC had some difficulty determining its mission and how to be most helpful to agencies and Idahoans with disabilities. However, once it became apparent that the state would shut down due to the health emergency, SILC staff, the IL Network and several IIEC participants met with local emergency managers on April 18 to discuss Access and Functional Needs (AFN). On April 31, the SILC through the mechanism of the IIEC, began hosting weekly AFN web-based meetings in coordination with local emergency managers and the IOEM. These meetings continued through the end of May when it was determined by the SILC that true AFN was a function of the IEOM or local managers, not the SILC or IIEC as we were not inclusive of all populations who should be included in AFN. The IIEC pivoted to host virtual meetings twice during June and July, ultimately meeting once a month with weekly subcommittee meetings focused on housing, transition and home modification; Home and Community Based Services (HCBS), Mental Health response; and caregiver (paid and unpaid) shortages. Use of these subcommittees and proven invaluable as they set quick response goals, complete sustainable materials and projects and move on the next issue area. Engagement is increased substantially with 25 consistent participants, most of whom have disabilities.

Section B - Working Relationships Among Various Entities

Describe DSU and SILC activities to maximize the cooperation, coordination, and working relationships among the independent living program, the SILC, and CILs; and the DSU, other state agencies represented on the SILC, other councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues, and other public and private entities. Describe the expected or actual outcomes of these activities.

- The Administrator of the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (the DSE) serves as an ex-officio member of the Idaho SILC.
- The Idaho SILC Executive Director (E.D.) serves on the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC).
- The Center Director and IL coordinator from Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC), and the IL coordinator for DAC-NW also serve on the SILC.
- The IL coordinator from the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI) is an ex-officio member of the SILC.
- Center Directors from DAC-NW and LIFE, and the ICBVI Administrator frequently attend SILC meetings as invited guests.
- The Deputy Administrator, Medicaid Operations, the Administrator of the Idaho Commission on Aging also serve as ex-officio Council members.

Exchanges between the organizations and constituents named above, provide opportunities to learn more about what each organization does and how we may best support each other, thereby improving services and opportunities to our constituents. All the above-mentioned administrators and directors participate in statewide assessment planning as well as SPIL planning meetings.

Other administrators from the Department of Health and Welfare/Medicaid programs frequently attend

Council meetings as guests as their availability allows. Such participation provides DHW administrator's with information and perspectives that they might not otherwise have in order to enhance community living for people with disabilities.

The DSE Administrator serves on the Idaho Workforce Development Council (WDC) as a voting member as required under WIOA. The DSE Administrator is the chair of the One Stop Committee for the WDC. Such involvement ensures that employment of people with disabilities is considered beneficial for business and industry.

The Directors or other agency staff of the above-named organizations are active members in Consortium of Idahoans with Disabilities (CID) - a 30-member organization that sponsors Fred Riggers - Disability Awareness Day at the Idaho State Capitol. This event provides an introduction for many people with disabilities and their families to the legislative process and the statehouse. It also provides an opportunity for legislators to see what we're doing and to meet the people impacted by the advancement (or loss) of services and supports in the community. The CID works throughout the year to systemically improve services for people with disabilities, develop position statements and educate policy makers. The SILC E.D. serves on the CID executive board.

The exponential loss of affordable and accessible housing in recent years disproportionately impacts people with disabilities, families and care providers (workforce) across our state. The SILC E.D., through the direction of the Council and our priorities, works on housing issues across the Idaho on a nearly daily basis. The SILC E.D. is the Vice-Chair of the governing board for the Intermountain Fair Housing Council (IFHC). The SILC E.D. participates in monthly Idaho Asset Building Network meetings which work to address housing shortages across our state through positive, systemic change at the federal level. Such partnerships help us have a better understanding of housing needs, specific locations where there are housing shortages and to bring awareness about areas of disability discrimination in housing. As mentioned previously, housing issues have only grown during the COVID-19 health emergency.

The SILC E.D. and the IDVR Administrator are members of the Boise City Mayor's committee on ADA parking; The SILC E.D., the Director of the Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, staff from ICBVI, LINC and the Idaho Commission on Aging serve on the Ada County Highway District ADA Advisory Committee and have worked extensively to address access issues and ADA transition planning, including improved pedestrian ramps, safe bike paths and auditory signals.

The SILC Program Specialist works extensively with ICBVI, the CILs, Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), the Idaho Office of Emergency Management, the FEMA Region X Regional Disability Integration Specialist and local emergency planners regarding emergency mitigation, planning and recovery. The Program Specialist coordinates the Idaho Inclusive Emergency Coalition (IIEC). The IIEC is made up of statewide representatives, the majority of whom have a disability, as well as representatives from the Red Cross and other volunteer organizations, County Emergency coordinators and Federal Emergency Management Agency staff. The group meets monthly to increase local participation in preparedness projects and activities. The Program Specialist also works with the above groups, providing training to ensure that the disability community is not forgotten in an emergency. Work within emergency preparedness builds relationships and inclusion in all aspects of emergency planning. It is through these relationships that we have been able to more quickly respond to issues related to the health emergency.

The SILC E.D. was appointed to the State of Idaho Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SIDMAC) in late March 2020. This gubernatorial appointed committee developed the state Crisis Standards of Care. When it became apparent that Idaho did not have a CSC, much less a plan to include disabled and older people in the triage process, the SILC E.D. pushed for inclusion of a disability voice on the committee. As a result of twice weekly meetings, much correspondence and phone calls, people with

disabilities and older Idahoans are represented on the CSC. Idahoans with disabilities will receive accommodations using their own baseline during medical evaluations, using a modified SOFA score, keep their own ventilators (which will not be reallocated) and receive accommodations related to communication during all phases of evaluation. The SIDMAC is made up of medical professional representing the entire state. While many initially were clinical and used the medical model of disability in the beginning, most care around and the CSC is as inclusive as it can be under extreme circumstances.

In August of 2020, the SILC E.D. was appointed to the State Vaccine Advisory committee to determine how vaccines would be distributed and to what populations. The Director was also appointed to a state Parks access committee in response to overuse and access during the health emergency. The three committees meeting on-going into 2021.

SUBPART IV - STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)

Section 705 of the Act; 34 CFR 364.21

Section A - Composition and Appointment

Item 1 - Current SILC Composition

In the chart below, provide the requested information for each SILC member. The category in which the member was appointed can be described, for example, as ex-officio state agency representative, other state agency representative, center representative, person with a disability not employed by a center or state agency, section 121 funded project director, parent of person with a disability, community advocate, other service provider, etc. Include current vacancies, along with the corresponding appointment category for each. Add more rows as necessary.

Name of SILC member	Employed by CIL, State Agency or Neither	Appointment Category	Voting or Non-Voting	Term Start Date	Term End Date
ANGELA MACDONALD	Neither	Person with a disability, Regi	Voting	08/04/2016	05/28/2022
ERIC BJORK	State Agency	Parent advocate, region 4 (wor	Voting	03/27/2015	05/28/2021
MOLLY POLLASTRINI	CIL	CIL representative, region 2	Voting	08/04/2016	05/28/2022
MELVA HEINRICH	CIL	CIL representative, region 5	Voting	01/15/2014	05/28/2021
JANE DONNELLAN	State Agency	Ex-officio , DSE	Non-Voting	03/27/2015	05/28/2021
MAX HUDSON	Neither	Youth with a Disability, at la	Voting	08/04/2016	05/28/2022
DENISE MYLER	Neither	Person with a disability, regi	Voting	08/04/2016	05/28/2022
JUDY TAYLOR	State Agency	Ex-officio, Commission on Agin	Non-Voting	08/01/2018	05/28/2024
SEAN BURLILLE	Neither	Person with a disability, at l	Voting	08/01/2018	05/28/2024
STEVE ARCHABAL	State Agency	Ex-officio, Commission for the	Non-Voting	08/08/2018	05/28/2024
CANDY HARRIS	Neither	Person with a disability, regi	Voting	02/01/2017	05/28/2023
CHRISTINA CERNANSKY	Neither	Person with a disability, regi	Voting	10/01/2019	05/28/2022
JEREMY MAXAND	CIL	CIL director, region 4	Voting	10/01/2020	05/28/2023
CLAIR WAREHAM	Neither	Youth with a disability, regio	Voting	09/18/2020	05/28/2023
TARA ADAMS	Neither	Person with a disability at la	Voting	12/11/2020	05/28/2023
ERIC KIMES	Neither	Person with a disability, regi	Voting	12/11/2020	05/28/2023

Name of SILC member	Employed by CIL, State Agency or Neither	Appointment Category	Voting or Non-Voting	Term Start Date	Term End Date
BETH KRIETE	State Agency	Ex-officio	Non-Voting	11/18/2015	05/28/2022
SHILOH BLACKBURN	Neither	Person with a disability, regi	Non-Voting	05/12/2019	05/28/2025

Item 2 - SILC Composition Requirements

Please provide the information requested in the chart below. Include any current vacancies in a particular appointment category.

SILC Composition	# of SILC members
(A) How many members are on the SILC?	18
(B) How many members of the SILC are individuals with disabilities not employed by a state agency or a center for independent living?	10
(C) How many members of the SILC are voting members?	14
(D) How many of the voting members of the SILC are individuals with disabilities not employed by a state agency or a center for independent living?	10

Section B - SILC Membership Qualifications

Section 705(b)(4) of the Act; 34 CFR 364.21(c)

Item 1 - Statewide Representation

Describe how the SILC is composed of members who provide statewide representation.

The Idaho SILC follows the State Department of Health and Welfare boundaries. These boundaries divide Idaho's 44 counties into seven regions. Ideally, each region is represented on the SILC by at least one voting member with a disability who is not employed by a Center or the state. Additionally, two of the CILs are represented: Disability Action Center-Northwest (DAC- NW) to the north currently has one appointed staff member; and Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC) in Southwestern and South-central Idaho include appointments a Center Director and the IL coordinator. Representation comes from mostly rural parts of the state and Idaho's urban area, the Treasure Valley, which includes Caldwell, Nampa and Boise.

There is currently one at large seat open from an otherwise marginalized population such as immigrant or Native American community member. The individual representing Region V recently moved to Region four, thus we are again in search of representation for that area. Additionally, the CIL Director from LIFE, Mandy Greaser, who was a Council member recently resigned her position and her SILC membership. The position of CIL director was quickly filled with the remaining CIL director from LINC, Jeremy Maxand, who lives in the state (the director from DAC-NW lives in Washington and is not eligible to serve on the SILC as per state law).

Our appointment process in cooperation with the Governor's office was successfully stream-lined during the six months of the year, ensuring that we can maintain our statutory composition commitment.

The SILC requires all members be at least 18 years of age. There is no age requirement for

Community members who participate in SILC ad hoc committees.

Item 2 - Broad Range of Individuals with Disabilities from Diverse Backgrounds

Describe how the SILC members represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities from diverse backgrounds.

The Idaho SILC is comprised of people across the disability spectrum, including people from the Deaf community; an individual who is blind; people with mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities and people with mobility impairments or combinations of such. We have representatives LBGQTQ+ community and two young adult/transition age youth representatives. We are actively seeking representatives from the Hispanic, immigrant and Native American communities for regional or at large positions.

The Idaho Inclusive Emergency Coalition (IIEC) is a broadly inclusive SILC ad hoc committee that includes people from across the state and disability spectrum. Members include some Council members, advocates from other state and community organizations, such as the DD Council, Caregivers Alliance and emergency managers.

We continue to make inroads with immigrant populations and the Tribes. This process is slow and on-going.

Above indicates 14 voting members, ten of whom are people with disabilities who do not work for a CIL or the state. We have two at large youth with disabilities positions on the Council, both of which are filled. The Council may also elect to add other at-large seats to ensure cross disability representation. Specific at-large seats are not added into our by-laws. The Council values the input of new members, especially young adults and those from communities otherwise not well represented.

Item 3 - Knowledgeable about IL

Describe how SILC members are knowledgeable about centers for independent living and independent living services.

Council applicants are initially referred to through the Centers or other disability organizations and stakeholder groups. Most frequently, applicants have received services from a CIL or other disability organization which promotes disability rights or participated in an IL event.

Applications include a resume (or similar document explaining interest and experience). Upon review, the membership committee recommends an interview to be conducted by the membership chair(s) to learn more about the applicant's experience and understanding of IL. Upon final review by the committee, a recommendation to the full Council. Upon successful Council approval, applicant's complete paperwork for a Gubernatorial appointment.

New Council members are provided with a Council orientation including, an in-depth workshop on general and Idaho specific disability/Independent Living history, and an introduction into IL philosophy

within the context of the SILC. These introductory workshops are provided by members of the executive committee and SILC staff. Public notice is provided for the orientation and current members and the public are invited to participate.

During our two-day Council meetings (twice a year) most of day two is dedicated to training on topics requested by Council members: 2020 topics included: COVID-19 updates and information, Voting and facility rights, sheltered workshops, Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waivers, affordable/accessible housing options, sections of the SILC member handbook, how to work with policy makers as education, not lobbying. Most of these trainings are provided by staff from outside agencies who are subject matter experts.

Council members are also encouraged and supported to provide training during Council meetings and to provide workshops at area conferences and events, and at national, state, regional IL and other conferences.

With the advent of virtual conferences, more Council members were able to participate in national and regional conferences and events, thus increasing their understanding of IL on a larger scale. The SILC generally sends 3-10 Council members to local, state and national training as resources allow. In 2020, more than 10 Council members participated in at least six local, state, regional and national conferences, expanding knowledge of IL.

Section C - SILC Staffing and Support

Item 1 - SILC Staff

Please provide the name and contact information for the SILC executive director. Indicate the number and titles of any other SILC staff, if applicable. Also indicate whether any SILC staff is also a state agency employee.

Mel Leviton, FTE Executive Director 120 South Cole Road Boise, Idaho 83709
208.334.3800 mel.leviton@silc.idaho.gov

One Administrative Assistant, FTE
One Program Specialist/Planner, FTE
One Financial Specialist, FTE
Total of four (4) employees

The Idaho SILC is a governmental entity, yet not a state agency. The SILC does not operate from within another state agency or organization. The Idaho SILC is not a 501c3. Idaho SILC staff are state employees, receiving state benefits such as health insurance, public retirement, vacation and sick leave. SILC staff, except for the executive director (E.D.), are protected by state employee human resources department guidelines. The E.D. serves at the will of the Council with no such assurances for employment or opportunity for interdepartmental transfer. The SILC was able to reorganize staffing positions through approval from the Governor's office, the Division of Financial Services and the Department of Human Resources during FFY2020. Thus, we are able to direct more resources toward program and systemic activities and better retain well trained, qualified staff.

Item 2 - SILC Support

Describe the administrative support services provided by the DSU, if any.

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (IDVR) - the DSE - disburses Title 7, Part B funds on a reimbursement basis. IDVR reviews invoices submitted for reimbursement. IDVR staff respond to questions or concerns related to allowable expenses and accounting questions.

The IDVR administrator provides access to the PPR for the DSE fiscal staff and Idaho Commission for the Blind and Vision Impaired staff to enter the appropriate sections of the PPR. IDVR fiscal staff enters DSE data prior to submission. The IDVR administrator reviews the PPR prior to submission.

The DSE determined in 2019 that it is not cost effective to charge sub-recipients the 5% administrative fee. Thus, in 2020 and continuing through the 2021-2023 SPIL, the DSE will not charge the 5% administrative fee.

Section D - SILC Duties

Section 705(c); 34 CFR 364.21(g)

Item 1 - SILC Duties

Provide a summary of SILC activities conducted during the reporting year related to the SILC's duties listed below:

(A) State Plan Development

Describe any activities related to the joint development of the state plan. Include any activities in preparation for developing the state plan, such as needs assessments, evaluations of consumer satisfaction, hearings and forums.

Joint Development Process: Institutional memory suggests that the funding formula for the Idaho State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) has been as follows: 39% to the Idaho State Independent Living Council (SILC); 45% to the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Vision Impaired (ICBVI); and 16% to Disability Action Center-Northwest (DAC-NW) - for as long as anyone can remember.

Two Idaho Centers have historically participated in SPIL development, but have not received Part B funds. When developing the 2017-2019 SPIL, all partners agreed not to change the funding formula, given we were still learning the impact of the Workforce Opportunity and Investment Act (WIOA). Idaho had two Designated State Units, ICBVI and the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (IDVR) prior to WIOA. Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC) and Life, a Center for Independent Living, have not received any Part B funding in a previous Idaho SPILs. The Idaho SILC designated the nine percent above the 30% allowed under WIOA in the 2017-2019 SPIL to visit underserved areas; help pay expenses for language interpreters (ASL and Spanish) and the translation of documents, primarily into Spanish, as requested by the Centers; and to develop and print marketing information for all the Centers to use when sharing information about the services they provide.

The three Idaho Centers, the Idaho SILC, ICBVI and the DSE, IDVR, began preliminary work on what we thought would be the 2020-23 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) in the fall of 2017. Everyone agreed that funding inequities in both Part C and Part B had to be addressed in the next SPIL, though we were by no means in agreement as to how that should look. There was agreement that the SPIL should address the statewide needs of Idahoans across disabilities and lifespan; and that all partners would work toward greater participation in the upcoming statewide assessment planned for the fall of 2018. In March of 2018 the Idaho SILC executive committee reviewed the process for the statewide assessment, followed by an April review by the full SILC, including the three Center Directors, ICBVI and IDVR. The SPIL planning team was officially formed during the April Council meeting. It included the following: the three Center Directors, the Idaho SILC Chair, the SILC executive director, several other SILC members, and the DSE and ICBVI administrators. Over the course of the next nine months, the team met more than 20 times, including a small resource sub-committee. All meetings were posted in compliance with Idaho's public meeting law, held in accessible locations and included ASL interpreters. At the team's request, and upon approval of the Council in July 2018, the SILC hired a facilitator to continue resource development and SPIL planning.

The statewide assessment was conducted September 7 - November 7, 2018, beginning at the state Regional Independent Living Conference in Boise. The SILC, in coordination with the three Centers, conducted 17 community meetings, hearing from 270 people across Idaho, including many of our most rural counties, a Spanish language meeting; and three transition high schools, including one on the Nez Perce Reservation. Electronic surveys were posted on the SILC and Center websites in both English and Spanish. SILC and Center staff helped many survey participants complete hard copy surveys that were also disseminated in large print and braille.

SILC staff then entered returned hard copy surveys into the electronic survey for a total of 320 completed surveys from across Idaho. Areas of greatest need were consistent across the state: affordable, accessible, safe housing; private and public transportation; healthcare, including mental healthcare; and community access and public safety. People in most of the communities we visited also expressed the desire to meet in peer support groups and learn how to advocate locally and at the state level for the concerns expressed above. Many people who completed electronic surveys, and some who participated in community meetings, expressed concern that older blind services provided by ICBVI would be lost should ICBVI lose any Part B funding to Centers in the new SPIL.

When the Council, including the three Center Directors, ICBVI and the DSE met for the quarterly meeting in October 2018 and learned more about options related to the next SPIL as presented by ACL and the progress of the statewide assessment, all parties agreed the best course would be to amend and extend the 2017-2019 SPIL for substantial and material changes for 2020.

The 2020 SPIL was again amended in response to shifting needs related to the COVID-19 health emergency. A series of public meetings were held to discuss reallocation of Part B funds from one Center (DAC-NW) to the other two (LINC and LIFE). All parties agreed and there were no additional public comments. The 2021-23 SPIL was submitted in June 2020, approved by ACL and implemented October 1, 2021.

(B) Monitor, Review and Evaluate the Implementation of the State Plan

Describe any activities related to the monitoring, review and evaluation of the implementation of the

state plan.

The Planning Committee, Executive Committee and SILC staff have continued to develop an on-line survey to increase participation and ease quarterly reporting for Council members and Part B subrecipients. The 2020 bridge SPIL allowed planners to develop questions best suited to match the SPIL and provide meaningful information to the Council. Surveys are sent out during the first week of the following quarter. The SPIL is reviewed and monitored first by the planning committee chair within the executive committee and the SILC E.D., then during each SILC Quarterly Business Meeting. Goals and objectives are reviewed for activity updates and review of success/barriers by the germane committees during the quarterly committee meetings.

The SILC executive director, SILC chair and the planning committee chair work together prior to quarterly meetings to determine if additional information is needed to provide a complete review and report out to the Council and partners. Partner agencies participate on planning committees as do ex-officio members. The SILC E.D. reviews progress with the Council at quarterly business meetings. The SILC E.D. also reviews internal progress monthly.

Idaho SILC staff monitored the extended and amended 2017-19 SPIL for the 2020 bridge year monthly, followed by quarterly reviews conducted by the planning committee: then the full SILC during Council meetings. The SILC meets at least quarterly to review, monitor and potentially revise the SPIL as needs warrant. Expectations met or exceeded within the goals. Some activities have been modified based on resources and response to the health emergency.

The Council and Part B subrecipients pivoted in April to amend the 2020 SPIL in response to the COVID-19 health emergency. Youth activities were redirected from YLF toward local virtual youth activities and part B funding was reallocated from DAC and directed toward the other two CILs.

(C) Coordination With Other Disability Councils

Describe the SILC's coordination of activities with the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) established under section 105, if the state has such a Council, or the commission described in section 101(a)(21)(A), if the state has such a commission, and councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues under other Federal law. Please state whether the SILC has at least one representative serving as a member of the SRC and whether the SILC has any members serving on other councils, boards or commissions in the state.

- The SILC Executive Director serves as the representative on the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC). The IDVR/DSE Administrator and the SILC Executive Director regularly attend SRC & SILC meetings. Further, the IDVR Administrator maintains a seat on the Idaho Workforce Development Council.
- The policy committee chair participates on the following: the Idaho Caregivers Alliance, the Idaho Electronic Visit Verification - Policy and Operations Workgroup (EVV-POW), the Idaho Inclusive Emergency Coalition, the NCIL EVV Task Force and National Quality Forum - Person-Centered Planning (NFP-PCP) workgroup.
- Another council member serves as the treasurer on Disability Rights Idaho Board, attending quarterly meetings. She is also the Vice President of the Boise Low Vision Support Group. Another serves on the Idaho Association for the Deaf board.
- Several Council members are also members of local community groups, including faith based and

political organizations. Council members are committed to highlighting the need for meeting space access and disability issues within these forums.

- CIL Directors and several staff serve on a variety of local, regional and state boards and committees to elevate the issues and concerns of the disability community.

(D) Public Meeting Requirements

Describe how the SILC has ensured that all regularly scheduled meetings and other public hearings and forums hosted by the SILC are open to the public and sufficient advance notice is provided.

The Idaho SILC held quarterly council meetings, quarterly executive committee meetings (one month prior to Council meetings) and other meetings, such as SPIL development, special meetings (to address the health emergency) statewide assessment and resource development meetings as needed. Quarterly meetings are scheduled annually during the summer meeting and posted on our website as soon as dates and locations are confirmed. The Notice of scheduled SILC meetings, including agendas are emailed to stakeholders, Council members and other community groups a minimum of 3 - 5 days in advance of public meetings, though generally two weeks prior at the request of Council members. Visitors on the SILC website and Facebook page can also view meeting Notices. All meetings and agendas are posted on our website, Facebook page and exterior doorway at least 24 hours in advance of meetings in compliance with Idaho's Public Meetings laws, with a stated goal of providing notice 72 hours in advance when possible. Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings, except executive sessions that address human resource issues.

Meetings moved to on-line formats beginning in late March. Initially ASL was included along with captioning. However, due to broadband access, we were told that ASL was not working and that captioning would suffice. We are unable to address statewide broadband deficiencies. Meeting materials are mailed out to Council members who prefer hard copy documents.

The Council voted to change two-day meetings to spring and fall instead of winter and summer due to difficulty working around the legislative session. However, meetings remain virtual events and will be one day only, for 4-7 hours for the foreseeable future. Materials are provided in large print and plain text on request, though generally all materials are copied to this format in case needed. ASL will likely resume when in-person meetings return.

Item 2 - Other Activities

Describe any other SILC activities funded by non-Part B funds.

The SILC uses state general funds to provide our match for Title 7 Part B and support program staffing and Title 1, Innovation and Expansion funds, which helps offset administrative costs.

Additionally, the SILC maintains a small, unrestricted fund in which donations and deposits accumulate and support activities such as extra ASL interpreters for community events, supplies for youth activities and other activities the Council deems appropriate. This fund allowed us to pilot emergency

preparedness activities and staffing during the first nine months of FFY17 when we secured state general funds for the position.

The program specialist position is largely supported through state general funds. These funds fully support 1 FTE Program Specialist who provides emergency preparedness and recovery education and trainings, technical assistance in opening ABLE accounts in other state programs (Idaho doesn't have an ABLE program) and financial literacy education.

Activities under these two programs are generally funded by state funds only, though there is often overlap with youth activities funded under Title 7 Part B funds. Part B funds are also used to support publications in languages other than English. These activities, funded by the state provide other avenues for the SILC to take the IL message and resource information to our frontier communities. State General funds are used to support SILC operations, conferences and other community events and activities above Part B allocated resources.

The Idaho SILC Executive Director may also use state general funds or unrestricted funds if there is concern about an activity falling within federal grant requirements. An example would be activity in which unrestricted resources are used to purchase food for groups meeting for a short period of time, but over the dinner hour.

Section E - Training and Technical Assistance Needs

Section 721(b)(3) of the Act

Please identify the SILC's training and technical assistance needs. The needs identified in this chart will guide the priorities set by ACL for the training and technical assistance provided to CILs and SILCs.

Training And Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs --- Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
<p>Advocacy/Leadership Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Overview Community/Grassroots Organizing Individual Empowerment Systems Advocacy Legislative Process <p>Applicable Laws</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General overview and promulgation of various disability laws Americans with Disabilities Act Air-Carrier's Access Act Fair Housing Act Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act Medicaid/Medicare/PAS/waivers/long-term care Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended Social Security Act Workforce Investment Act of 1998 Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 	5

SUBPART VI - SPIL COMPARISON AND UPDATES, OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES OF THE REPORTING YEAR

Section 704(m)(4) of the Act; 34 CFR 76.140

Section A - Comparison of Reporting Year Activities with the SPIL

Item 1 - Progress in Achieving Objectives and Goals

Describe progress made in achieving the objectives and goals outlined in the most recently approved SPIL. Discuss goals achieved and/or in progress as well as barriers encountered.

* Advocacy: Idahoans with disabilities receive necessary supports and services to become more independent in their community of choice.

There is a SPIL activity within the goal of advocacy related to advocating on the state a local level requiring that individuals with disabilities be included in disability planning, including exercises. All SPIL activities around emergency planning and response have built over time and this year our partnerships have been put to the test. Because of relationships built over time, Centers the SILC and other partners were at the front of inclusive activities in response to the COVID-19 health emergency. Through early work with the IIEC, partnerships that included Centers, Aging Agencies and the state food bank coordinated to get food in the hands of the people who need it, including in many areas, making weekly door drops and check ins for people who could not safely shop. Because these groups had already had experience working together, they were able to quickly shift and get the work done. Additionally, due to early relationships with regional health districts, Centers and the SILC have been able to get accurate information out to consumers, families and the community at large about the importance of staying at home, social distancing and wearing the right mask that fits properly.

Benchmarks achieved.

* Network Support, Capacity and Sustainability: The Independent Living Network operates effectively, is adequately funded and has the capacity to expand.

Support Regional IL conference: the conference was initially slated for eastern Idaho in 2020; then moved to Boise to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the ADA celebrations, in partnership with the NW-ADA - Idaho Center. When it became apparent that all in-person activities would be cancelled due to the COVID-19 health emergency, the CILs, NW-ADA - Idaho Center quickly pivoted to long-term, virtual events. The IL conference provided outreach and IL education via a virtual conference with 121 registrants, hosting three tracks: Independent Living, Youth and Business. While the virtual event made it possible for some to attend, due to lack of broadband, technology or basic support, others were unable to participate. CIL staff and partners learned more about holding virtual events, supported their constituents and increased staff and consumer base knowledge of IL.

Benchmarks achieved.

Centers coordinated with statewide partners, including the Idaho Assistive Technology Project and other Part B subrecipients to get technology and internet access into the hands of people in rural areas and nursing homes and other congregate settings. This particular activity was funded through CAREs

Act funding that the Centers received and extended into the broader disability community, statewide, to reach underserved areas. Due to the many projects the partners have worked on over the years, relationships were in the ready to respond quickly to the on-going crisis while making the most of limited resources. Given that ICBVI has faced a reduction in Part-B funding, it is significant that the CILs were able to step up and provide valuable resources to underserved populations in remote areas of the state.

The SILC secured approximately \$3000 of goods from the Idaho Office of Emergency Management to provide starter "go bags" for people who attend emergency preparedness workshops and complete a workshop evaluation.

The SPIL partners met in late March and early April to reallocate Part B funds to Centers that do not receive equitable Part C funding. The SPIL was amended and approved by ACL in May.

Benchmark in progress.

* Community Living: Idahoans with disabilities receive the community-based supports they need to live in the community with greater independence.

SILC staff and several Council members met with and provided information to policy makers on impacts to people with disabilities due to Medicaid service restrictions and proposed cuts, as well as providing information on potential Medicaid expansion impacts on people with disabilities who are in the coverage gap. SILC staff and several Council members provided detailed written and verbal input on Medicaid rule changes: potential Medicaid restrictions, non-emergency medical transport (NEMT). Several Council members provided written testimony as private citizens against legislation potentially harmful toward the disability community. SILC staff and Council members supported partner agencies and organizations' efforts toward greater community inclusion for people with disabilities, across lifespan.

Benchmarks achieved.

Additional information:

1. Support the Centers for Independent Living and advocate for Independent Living services provided through state and federal programs.
2. Conduct training to people with disabilities and stakeholders on Independent Living (IL) philosophy and work to expand and improve IL services.
3. Collaborate with disability service agencies/organizations and other stakeholders; advocating for expanded and improved Independent Living opportunities and services for Idahoans with disabilities across.

* The Idaho SILC, DSE and other grant partners worked together to complete and submit to ACL the process outlined in the SPIL regarding the distribution and reallocation of Part B funds for FFY2020.

* The SILC, DSE and other Part B subrecipients met and amended the 2020 SPIL in April to respond to the COVID-19 health emergency, reallocating funds from one center to the other two, underfunded Centers.

* SILC staff and Council planning committee refined the data collection process for Council members, Part B subrecipients and partners during the year. Identified targets were refined and perfected through a quarterly electronic survey.

* The SILC E.D. provided in-depth, written input on Home and Community Based (HCBS) waiver rule changes, including electronic visit verification (EVV); drafted written input for the Governor's office and legislators against legislation potentially harmful toward the disability community (extended employment services - sheltered workshops).

* The Council supported partner agencies and organizations efforts toward greater community inclusion for Idahoans with disabilities.

- * SILC members and staff continued participation and leadership in regional/local work- groups focused on employment, housing, medical transportation barriers and service animals, working toward viable solutions.
- * SILC staff continued collaboration with the Idaho Health Department, the Idaho Office of Emergency Management, local emergency managers, local and regional VOAD, Region X FEMA, the State of Idaho Disaster Medical Advisory Committee, the COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee and other community partners and workgroups in emergency management, preparedness and response activities.
- * SILC staff provided workshops and support for Council members, CIL staff and participants, and community groups about how to participate in grassroots advocacy in support of IL.
- * SILC staff provided training about the difference between lobbying and education with policy makers. We continue to revisit the concept that activity done in the name of Idaho SILC must be educational in form, function and content. Council members are provided information on how to do so related to topics of interest or concern. Council members are also provided with information and training about how they may testify and provide written comment on a number of issues of their choosing as private citizens.

Item 2 - SPIL Information Updates

If applicable, describe any changes to the information contained in the SPIL that occurred during the reporting year, including the placement, legal status, membership or autonomy of the SILC; the SILC resource plan, the design of the statewide network of centers; and the DSU administration of the SILS program.

N/A

Section B - Significant Activities and Accomplishments

If applicable, describe any significant activities and accomplishments achieved by the DSU and SILC not included elsewhere in the report, e.g. brief summaries of innovative practices, improved service delivery to consumers, etc.

The DSE and the SILC continue to work together to find innovative ways to reach our most underserved areas. We consider opportunities to aid in contracts between the DSE and the CILs as they are presented. We're generally well informed of the other's efforts and how we may assist each other in our common goals of independent living for Idahoans with disabilities. We often consult each other as issues arise, addressing our concerns with other disability service organizations, as well as with state and congressional policy makers.

The Idaho SILC E.D. meets with our liaison within the Office of the Governor on a monthly basis.

Section C - Substantial Challenges

If applicable, describe any substantial problems encountered by the DSU and SILC, not included elsewhere in this report, and discuss resolutions/attempted resolutions, e.g., difficulty in outreach efforts; disagreements between the SILC and the DSU; complications recruiting SILC members; complications working with other state agencies or organizations within the state.

N/A

Section D - Additional Information

Include any additional information, suggestions, comments or explanations not included elsewhere in the report.

No additional information.

SUBPART VII - SIGNATURES

Please sign and print the names, titles and telephone numbers of the DSU directors(s) and SILC chairperson.

SIGNATURE OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

DATE

NAME AND TITLE OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

PHONE NUMBER

SIGNATURE OF DSU DIRECTOR

DATE

NAME AND TITLE OF DSU DIRECTOR

PHONE NUMBER