

# State Plan For Independent Living (SPIL)

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

Part B - INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

Part C - Centers for Independent Living

State: Kentucky

FISCAL YEARS: 2025-2027

Effective Date: 10/01/2024

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The Independent Living (IL) network in Kentucky, consisting of the state's Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), seeks to empower all Kentuckians with disabilities to live independently, direct their own lives, and participate fully in their communities. This State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) establishes five (5) goals with the following objectives for fiscal years 2025-2027, covering the dates from October 1, 2024-September 30, 2027. The IL Network has introduced new goals and expanded on some previous goals for this SPIL. There are new changes and additions in other sections, outlined below.

The goals for the next three (3) years focus on: (1) advocacy to promote the inclusion, integration, and equity of all individuals with disabilities in Kentucky; (2) equal access to emergency and disaster resources and involvement in emergency planning; (3) capacity building for the SILC; (4) outreach and partnership development; and (5) improved and expanded youth IL services and youth transition services. These goals, their related objectives, the evaluation plan, and the financial plan are detailed in Section 1.

The scope of services provided, outreach related to unserved and underserved populations, coordination of services, and cooperation among programs and organizations to support inclusive community living are described in Section 2.

A detailed explanation of the expansion of the network, minimum funding levels for CILs, and distribution of funds are included in Section 3. Two counties have been added to the service area of the disABILITY Resource Center (dRC) in Hazard, KY to include Breathitt and Knott counties. These are previously unserved counties.

Section 4 represents the Designated State Entity's (DSE) response to their administrative responsibilities related to the SPIL. This section has no substantive changes.

The Statewide Independent Living Council's (SILC) establishment, autonomy, resource plan, appointment process, and staffing are detailed in Section 5.

Section 6 provides legal certifications for the identified entities involved with the authorities and responsibilities of the SPIL.

Section 7 identifies the DSE assurances and expresses the administrative role and responsibilities of the DSE.

Section 8 provides the SILC Assurances and Indicators of minimum compliance, detailing the functions, authorities, and requirements for operating as a SILC.

# Section 1: Mission, Goals, Objectives, and Activities

## 1.1 - MISSION

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Mission of the Independent Living Network and the SPIL

The mission of the Kentucky SILC is "To empower all Kentuckians with disabilities to live independently, direct their own lives, and participate fully in their communities."

## 1.2 - GOALS

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Goals of the SPIL

Goal #1: The Kentucky IL Network will promote and advocate for the inclusion, integration, and equity of all individuals with disabilities across the state and greater society.

Goal #2: Kentuckians with disabilities will have equal access to emergency and disaster community resources and will be actively involved in emergency planning across the state.

Goal #3: The SILC will build its capacity to carry out its federally mandated duties and authorities.

Goal #4: The IL Network will continue to reach out to Kentuckians with disabilities, partner organizations, and community groups to share information about Independent Living services offered by the Centers for Independent Living and how to access them.

Goal #5: The Kentucky Independent Living Network will improve and expand youth transition services and opportunities across the state.

## 1.3 - OBJECTIVES

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

Goal #1: The Kentucky IL Network will promote and advocate for the inclusion, integration, and equity of all individuals with disabilities across the state and greater society.

Objective #1.1: The Kentucky IL Network will advocate for accessible, reliable transportation options across the state, including both urban and rural areas of the state. Transportation includes but is not limited to, public transportation, paratransit, medical transportation, independent transportation, and transportation from family and friends.

### **Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #1.1.1: There will be an annual increase of 5% in the number of city council or mayor's commission meetings attended. A baseline number will be established during fiscal year 2025.

Indicator #1.1.2: There will be an annual increase of 5% in the number of disability sensitivity and awareness trainings presented to local transportation providers. A baseline number will be established during fiscal year 2025.

Indicator #1.1.3: The IL Network will develop a statewide IL transportation training for CIL Consumers which will include geographically specific information for each CIL.

Indicator #1.1.4: CIL staff and SILC members will meet with the Kentucky Department of Transportation.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #1.1.1: Activities: The SILC will develop an ad hoc transportation committee. This committee will review all transportation plans in each CIL service area and identify needs in each area. Target Date: 09/30/2025 CIL staff and SILC members will attend city council meetings, mayor's commission meetings, or other similar meetings to educate and advocate for transportation options available to individuals with disabilities. CILs and SILC members will report the number of meetings attended at least quarterly. Target Date: Ongoing The CILs and the SILC will develop a statewide training that can be presented to transportation providers on disability sensitivity and awareness. Target Date: 09/30/2025 The CILs and the SILC will develop a statewide IL transportation training for consumers that will include geographically specific information. Target Date: 09/30/2026 Reporting Guidelines: The Transportation Committee will write a brief report with their findings after the review of transportation plans that will be presented to the full SILC Board at the October 2025 SILC meeting. CILs will submit a written quarterly report that will include the number of meetings attended. A statewide training for transportation providers will be written and available for the CILs and SILC to utilize by 09/30/2025. A statewide transportation training will be written and available for the CILs to utilize for consumer training by 09/30/2026.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #1.2: The Kentucky Independent Living Network will expand its capacity for providing the 5 core services.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #1.2.1: The CILs will report quarterly on the number of consumers served by each CIL and the number of services provided.

Indicator #1.2.2: The CILs will create at least one written consumer success story each quarter.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #1.2.1: Activities: The CILs will all provide the five core services. Target Date: Ongoing The CILs will write at least one consumer success story and present it at each quarterly SILC meeting. Target Date: Ongoing Reporting Guidelines: The number of services provided to consumers will be reported at each quarterly SILC meeting in the CILs' quarterly SILC report. Each CIL will submit at least one consumer success story with their quarterly report to the SILC.

**Geographic Scope:** County (Allen, Anderson, Ballard, Barren, Bell, Bourbon, Boyle, Breathitt, Bullitt, Butler, Calloway, Carlisle, Clark, Edmonson, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Garrard, Graves, Harlan, Harrison, Hart, Henry, Hickman, Jefferson, Jessamine, Knott, Leslie, Letcher, Lincoln, Logan, McCracken, Madison, Marshall, Mercer, Metcalfe, Monroe, Nicholas, Oldham, Perry, Powell, Scott, Shelby, Simpson, Spencer, Trimble, Warren, Woodford)

Objective #1.3: The IL Network will host an annual Advocacy Summit that will focus on topics relevant to individuals with disabilities, CIL teams, the SILC, and other community partners.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #1.3.1: The annual Advocacy Summit will be held once a year and will focus on the needs for advocacy for the state IL Network.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #1.3.1: Activities: The SILC and CILs will work together to plan an annual Advocacy Summit for CILs, statewide partners, and self-advocates. Target Date: 09/30/2027  
Reporting Guidelines: The SILC and CILs will put together a brief report following the Advocacy Summit that will include information such as number of attendees, presentations and training provided, and any advocacy action steps identified. Attendees will be asked to complete a survey regarding the Summit, action steps, and any improvements.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #2: Kentuckians with disabilities will have equal access to emergency and disaster community resources and will be actively involved in emergency planning across the state.

Objective #2.1: The IL Network will increase its ability to prepare Kentuckians with disabilities for disasters and will have a coordinated response when a disaster occurs.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #2.1.1: The IL Network's emergency plan will be updated and exercised annually.

Indicator #2.1.2: The CILs will collaborate with local emergency management, Red Cross, Local Health Departments, and other local organizations by 5% on the completion of this plan. A baseline will be established during the fiscal year 2025.

Indicator #2.1.3: Each CIL office will document an emergency plan for each office location.

Indicator #2.1.4: The SILC will add an ex officio member to the SILC Board that will be a representative of a state emergency agency.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #2.1.1: Activities: CILs and the SILC will attend statewide emergency planning meetings such as the Kentucky Access and Functional Needs Collaborative or other statewide emergency planning coalitions. Target Date: Ongoing  
CILs will meet with their local emergency management teams to develop relationships and advocate for the needs of individuals with disabilities in their service areas. Target Date: Ongoing  
The CILs will work together to develop a statewide emergency preparedness training to share with consumers and community partners. Target Date: 09/30/2026  
The CILs will provide their emergency plans to the SILC annually. Target Date: Annually by September 30th.  
The SILC will partner with a state agency to develop a new ex officio emergency planning/management position. Target Date: 09/30/2027  
Reporting Guidelines: The IL Network's Emergency Plan will be available electronically or as a hard copy for all members of the Network. The plan will be updated at least annually.  
The CILs will report the number of meetings with local emergency management, Red Cross, and other local organizations quarterly to the SILC.  
The CILs will provide a copy of their individual emergency plans to the SILC annually by September 30th and the SILC will maintain records of these plans.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #3: The SILC will build its capacity to carry out its federally mandated duties and authorities.

Objective #3.1: The SILC will review current business controls and develop a business continuity plan.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #3.1.1: The SILC will have a written business continuity plan by 09/30/2026.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #3.1.1: Activities: The SILC will develop and approve a business continuity plan after completing any needed training or research. Target Date: 09/30/2026 Reporting Guidelines: The business continuity plan will be completed and available for SILC members by 09/30/2026.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #3.2: The SILC member orientation will be reviewed, improved, and updated to better educate and empower all SILC members.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #3.2.1: The SILC will update and develop a new SILC member orientation by 01/31/2025 and will be implemented with all new SILC members by 04/30/2025.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #3.2.1: Activities: The SILC will conduct a brief survey of current SILC members to identify training needs, gaps of knowledge, and best preferred training format. Target Date: 10/31/2024 The SILC Executive Director, along with the help of the SILC members, will develop a new SILC member orientation. Target Date: 12/31/2024 The SILC will review the new training at the January 2025 meeting, and it will be implemented fully by 04/30/2025. Reporting Guidelines: The SILC member orientation will be completed by 12/31/2024 and will be implemented by 04/30/2025. SILC member orientation and continued training will be recorded and tracked within the SPIL tracking tool.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #3.3: The SILC will increase its capacity to develop and provide programs.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #3.3.1: The SILC will participate in resource development activities.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #3.3.1: Activities: The SILC will apply for at least 2 grants per year that will increase the IL Network's capacity or allow the SILC to provide new programs in the state. Target Date: Ongoing The SILC will advocate for funding through various sources including state funding, federal funding, grant opportunities, and other resource development activities. Target Date: Ongoing Reporting Guidelines: The SILC Executive Director will track the grants applied for on the SPIL tracking tool. This will include which grant was completed, when it was submitted, how much funding was requested, if the grant was received, and how much funding was approved, if applicable. SILC members will report on any meetings with legislators or state partners at quarterly SILC meetings. This will be tracked using the SPIL tracking tool. Any increase in funding will be recorded as well.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #4: The IL Network will continue to reach out to Kentuckians with disabilities, partner organizations, and community groups to share information about Independent Living services offered by the Centers for Independent Living and how to access them.

Objective #4.1: CILs and the SILC will attend and/or present at disability-related statewide conferences, council meetings, outreach events, etc.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #4.1.1: The IL Network will increase the number of events attended and presentations made by 5% annually. A baseline number will be established during fiscal year 2025.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #4.1.1: Activities: CIL staff and SILC members will attend statewide disability related statewide conferences. Target Date: Ongoing. CIL staff and SILC members will present at state conferences, council meetings, and other group meetings. Target Date: Ongoing. The CILs and SILC will share outreach materials such as brochures, business cards, infographics, etc. at various events and meetings. Target Date: Ongoing. CIL staff and SILC members will participate in state councils and attend council meetings such as Statewide Council on Vocational Rehabilitation, (SCVR), Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities (CCDD), the Human Development Institute (HDI), and more. Target Date: Ongoing. Reporting Guidelines: CIL staff will report how many statewide conferences are attended each quarter in the SILC quarterly report. The number of presentations made at conferences, council meetings, and other groups will be reported quarterly at the SILC meetings.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #4.2: The IL Network will maintain partnerships and develop new partnerships with organizations across the state to advocate for access to resources and services for individuals with disabilities.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #4.2.1: The CILs and SILC will increase collaboration with partners across the state by 10% annually. A baseline number will be established during fiscal year 2025.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #4.2.1: Activities: The CILs and SILC will meet with partner organizations to develop new partnerships and maintain existing partnerships. Target Date: Ongoing. Reporting Guidelines: The CILs and SILC will report on the number of partnership meetings attended at each quarterly SILC meeting, including a list of ongoing partnerships.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Goal #5: The Kentucky Independent Living Network will improve and expand youth transition services and opportunities across the state.

Objective #5.1: The Kentucky IL Network will increase access to youth transition services across the state for individuals with disabilities post-school-age 24.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #5.1.1: The number of youth transition services will increase 5% each year. A baseline number of services will be tracked and developed during fiscal year 2025.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #5.1.1: Activities: The CILs will provide youth transition services to individuals post-school- to age 24. Target Date: Ongoing. CIL staff and SILC members will attend youth transition fairs across the state to share information about the IL Network and the five core services. Target Date: Ongoing. The CILs will partner with agencies and schools that work with youth with disabilities. Target Date: Ongoing. Reporting Guidelines: The CILs will report how many youth transition services they have provided in each SILC quarterly report. The number of youth transition fairs attended, and

number of attendees will be reported in each SILC quarterly report. The CILs will include agencies and schools that work with youth with disabilities in their partnerships lists within each SILC quarterly report with a note that they work with youth.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #5.2: The Kentucky IL Network will increase access to IL services for students age 14-post-school.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #5.2.1: The CILs will provide the 5 core services to students and partner with local schools to reach more students and families.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #5.2.1: Activities: The CILs and SILC will participate in the Kentucky Transitions 360 Cadre and future services. Target Date: Ongoing The CILs will partner with local schools to provide the 5 core IL services to students with disabilities. Target Date: Ongoing The CILs and SILC will connect students to local resources such as the Office for Vocational Rehabilitation, Area Development Districts (ADDs), and other relevant local resources. Target Date: Ongoing The IL Network will educate families and students about the IL Philosophy and IL services. Target Date: Ongoing Reporting Guidelines: The SILC and CILs will report quarterly on the Kentucky Transitions 360 project including Cadre meetings attended and number of services provided through this program. The CILs will include the number of 5 core services provided to students with disabilities in each SILC quarterly report. The SILC and CILs will report quarterly on meetings with students and their families about the IL philosophy and the 5 core services.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

Objective #5.3: The SILC will facilitate the development of a statewide youth advisory council that will be composed of youth with disabilities ages 14-24. The goal of this Youth Council is to promote self-advocacy and provide information and training to participants about relevant disability and transition resources in Kentucky. The Youth Advisory Council will also prioritize opportunities for participants to share their experiences and insights with the CILs, SILC, and other statewide councils and agencies.

**Measurable Indicators:**

Indicator #5.3.1: A Youth Advisory Council will be developed that consists of youth with disabilities ages 14-24.

**Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):**

Objective Info #5.3.1: Activities: The SILC will hire one FTE (full time equivalent) staff person that will work to develop and provide ongoing support to the youth advisory council and its participants. The staff person will report directly to the SILC Executive Director. This staff person will be responsible for attending outreach events to promote the youth advisory council and transition resources in Kentucky, scheduling trainings for the council participants, partnering with other statewide agencies that provide services to youth with disabilities, and maintaining accurate data for reporting purposes. Target Date: 03/31/2025 The CILs will assist any youth that identifies a need for the 5 core services. Target Date: Ongoing The SILC will partner with the Department of Education and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for guidance and support for this project. Target Date: Ongoing The SILC will partner with other state councils and committees to provide training and partnership opportunities for the youth participants. Target Date: Ongoing Trainings for the youth

will be planned throughout the year that will focus on topics such as self-advocacy, national and state transition resources, disability rights, and more. Trainings may be done by CILs, local agencies, national technical assistance agencies, and more. Target Date: Ongoing Reporting Guidelines: The SILC will receive a quarterly update from the Youth Advisory Council staff person at each SILC meeting about the development and progress of the youth advisory council. The CILs will report quarterly the number of youth transition services provided through this group.

**Geographic Scope:** Statewide

## 1.4 - EVALUATION

The CILs will submit quarterly reports to the SILC that include updates on their SPIL-related activities. Data reported will include:

- 1.1: The number of city council or mayor's commission meetings attended.
- 1.2: The number of disability sensitivity and awareness trainings provided to local transportation providers.
- 1.5: The number of consumers served by each CIL and the number of services provided.
- 1.6: A narrative of at least one consumer success story.
- 2.2: The number of meetings with emergency management, Red Cross, and other emergency/disaster related organizations.
- 4.1: The number of events attended and/or presentations made at statewide conferences or disability related events.
- 4.2: The number of meetings attended with partner agencies.
- 5.1: The number of youth transition services provided to consumers post school-age 24.
- 5.2: The number of IL services provided to students age 14-post-school.

The SILC has a SPIL Committee that will assist in evaluating the SPIL. This Committee will assist the SILC Director in developing a SPIL tracking instrument that will track the progress of each SPIL goal and objective. This will be reported to the SILC at each quarterly meeting. Recommendations, discussion, and feedback will be reviewed at committee and full SILC meetings.

Each CIL will complete an annual survey regarding SPIL objectives and send it to the SILC. The SILC will also complete an annual survey regarding SPIL objectives, the needs of individuals across the state, and consumer satisfaction. The SILC will compile information from these reports, along with its own assigned activities, into a project management software application. These results will be reviewed by the SILC's State Plan Committee, presented to the SILC at a public meeting, and a narrative summary of these results will be included in the annual Program Performance Report.

## 1.5 - PART I: FINANCIAL PLAN

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

Fiscal Year(s): 2025 - 2027

October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2027

| Sources           | Projected Funding Amounts and Uses |             |                        |                       |                                  |          |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------|
|                   | SILC Resource Plan                 | IL Services | General CIL Operations | Other SPIL Activities | Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs | TOTAL    |
| Title VII Funds   |                                    |             |                        |                       |                                  |          |
| Chapter 1, Part B | \$25368                            | \$0         | \$322692               | \$0                   | \$19337                          | \$367397 |

|   |                 |                 |                  |            |                |                  |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------|----------------|------------------|
| Chapter 1, Part C                                     | \$0             | \$0             | \$1117812        | \$0        |                | \$1117812        |
|   |                 |                 |                  |            |                | \$1485209        |
| Other Federal Funds                                   |                 |                 |                  |            |                |                  |
| Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion) | \$65000         | \$0             | \$0              | \$0        |                | \$65000          |
| Social Security Reimbursement                         | \$0             | \$0             | \$0              | \$0        |                | \$0              |
| Other   | \$0             | \$140000        | \$0              | \$0        |                | \$140000         |
|   |                 |                 |                  |            |                | \$205000         |
| Non-Federal Funds                                     |                 |                 |                  |            |                |                  |
| Part B State Match                                    | \$38673         | \$0             | \$0              | \$0        | \$0            | \$38673          |
| Other State Match for Funds in SPIL                   | \$0             | \$0             | \$0              | \$0        | \$0            | \$0              |
| State Funds   | \$0             | \$75000         | \$0              | \$0        | \$0            | \$75000          |
| Other   | \$0             | \$0             | \$0              | \$0        | \$0            | \$0              |
|   |                 |                 |                  |            |                | \$113673         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$129041</b> | <b>\$215000</b> | <b>\$1440504</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$19337</b> | <b>\$1803882</b> |

## 1.5.2 - PART II: FINANCIAL PLANNING NARRATIVE

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

The Kentucky CILs and the Kentucky SILC coordinate this financial plan to help meet the needs of Kentuckians with disabilities. Since only 49 of Kentucky's 120 counties, or about half of the state's population with disabilities, are located within CIL service areas, the unmet needs far exceed the available resources. This is further explained in Section 2.2.

The financial plan provides funds to the CILs and SILC to accomplish the goals identified in this SPIL. All Chapter 1, Title VII, Part C funds shall be awarded for the direct provision of IL service and the general operation of the CILs. Part B funds awarded under contract by the DSE shall be utilized for the general operation of the CILs and the SILC and the enhancement and expansion or initiation of other independent living services as determined by the SILC. The Innovation and Expansion funds come to the SILC for support of SILC operations through a contract with the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Part C funds are distributed directly by ACL to the Center for Accessible Living (CAL) in Louisville and Murray (\$838,925) and disAbility Resource Center in Hazard (\$278,887). Part B funds (\$348,060 plus the state match of \$38,673) are distributed through a contract with the DSE to two Part B Centers, the Center for Accessible Living in Bowling Green (\$161,346) and Independence Place in Lexington (\$161,346). Twelve percent of the Part B award (\$44,705) will go to support SILC operations and five percent (\$19,337) will be retained by the DSE.

Carryover funding from the Part B grant (unspent, unexpired funds) will be distributed to all of the Kentucky Centers for Independent Living the following year. This includes the Center for Accessible Living (Louisville/Murray), Center for Accessible Living (Bowling Green), disAbility Resource Center, and Independence Place. Carryover funds can be distributed over two years if they have not expired and are available. These funds will be used to provide core services to underserved or unserved populations in the Centers' service areas.

The CIL directors and representatives of the SILC discussed and came to an agreement about funding distributions. This proposal was discussed by the full SILC and was approved. The SILC notifies the DSE of the amounts to be included in the contract with the CILs regarding the Part B

funding.

Review Status: Approved

## Section 2: Scope, Extent and Arrangements of Services

### 2.1 - SERVICES

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

Core Independent Living Services: Information and referral

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

Core Independent Living Services: IL skills training

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

Core Independent Living Services: Peer counseling

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

Core Independent Living Services: Individual and systems advocacy

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

Transition Services: Transition from nursing homes & other institutions

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

Transition Services: Diversion from institutions

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Is this service being provided? | Yes |
|---------------------------------|-----|

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

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

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

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

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

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

Rehabilitation technology

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

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

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

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

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | No  |
| Provided using other funds?                       | Yes |
| Provided By                                       | DSE |

Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation opportunities,

and accessible transportation and other support services

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

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

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

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

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

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

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

Individual and group social and recreational services

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Is this service being provided?                   | Yes |
| Provided using Title VII, Chapter 1 Part B funds? | Yes |
| Provided using other funds?                       | No  |
| Provided By                                       | CIL |

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

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

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Provided By | CIL |
|-------------|-----|

Services for children

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 2.1 - OPTIONAL MAP ATTACHMENT

Uploaded Document Name:

## 2.2 - OUTREACH TO UNSERVED AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

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We define unserved/underserved populations by county within each CIL service area.

Unserved populations live in counties that are not in the service areas of a CIL. Seventy-one of Kentucky's 120 counties are unserved by CILs, with a disability population of 377,727 (US Census and Kentucky Department of Public Health). These counties are home to 44% of the state's population, and range from urban counties like Kenton, part of the Cincinnati (Ohio) metro area with over 169,000 people, to rural Robertson County with only 2,200 inhabitants.

Underserved populations live in counties that are a part of a CIL service area but that have three or fewer CIL consumers each year.

The CILs in Kentucky tend to have large service areas and focus most of their activities in one or two core areas each. This means that some counties in CIL service areas are underserved, with between 0 and 3 consumers each. The following counties are in CIL service areas but are considered underserved by this definition: Monroe, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Metcalfe, Anderson, Garrard, Jessamine, Harrison, Nicholas, Bourbon, Clark, Mercer, Estill, Powell, Boyle, Lincoln. Most of the underserved counties have rural populations, with some smaller cities and towns included.

Other underserved groups in Kentucky include people with disabilities in various other populations such as, but not limited to, the unhoused, African Americans, and ethnic minorities such as Hispanic and Middle Eastern populations. Each Center for Independent Living has identified underserved groups within their own communities.

Outreach to the unserved and underserved areas of Kentucky will take place using these strategies:

- Each of Kentucky's Centers for Independent Living answers Information and Referral calls from any county in Kentucky, whether the caller lives in a service area. The CIL helps connect people to available services. Moreover, a partner CIL across the state line of Ohio, the Center for Independent Living Options (CILO), answers Information and Referral calls from the Northern Kentucky (metro Cincinnati) area, even though they do not offer regular core services in the state.
- SPIL Goal #4 directly applies to this outreach to the underserved and unserved: "The IL Network will continue to reach out to Kentuckians with disabilities, partner organizations, and community groups to share information about Independent Living services offered by the Centers for Independent Living and how to access them." As we seek to fulfill this goal through collaboration and partnership with other agencies, more people with disabilities across the state will benefit.
- The SILC and CILs' outreach efforts include, but are not limited to, presentations, agency contacts, websites, public service announcements, exhibits/displays, conferences, social media, printed materials, community events, virtual meetings and workshops, and peer support groups. Each CIL will use outreach materials designed specifically for their targeted individuals who meet the criteria of unserved/underserved.
- The CIL in Hazard, the disAbility Resource Center, will now serve an additional two counties, Breathitt and Knott, that have previously been unserved counties.
- Goal 5 of the SPIL "The Kentucky Independent Living Network will improve and expand youth transition services and opportunities across the state." This goal will focus on serving more youth and young adults with disabilities.

## 2.3 - COORDINATION

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

Increased collaboration between the SILC, CILs, and other disability organizations is part of Goal #4 for this SPIL period. Some examples of this are as follows:

- A SILC member currently serves on the State Council for Vocational Rehabilitation (SCVR) and the SILC Executive Director will attend SCVR meetings. The SCVR staff will attend SILC meetings.

- *Ex officio* members of the SILC include members representing the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Department of Aging and Independent Living. In Goal 2, it is stated that an additional *ex officio* member from emergency management will be added to the SILC. The *ex officio* members help keep the IL Network informed of relevant programs happening in their agencies and take information from the IL network back to the state.
- A CIL staff member serves on the state palliative care subcommittee.
- A CIL staff member serves on the Kentucky Consumer Advisory Council through the Human Development Institute.
- The Centers for Independent Living have a representative elected by them on the SILC, and other CIL Executive Directors attend all SILC meetings and participate in SILC activities and committees.
- A representative from the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities (CCDD) attends all SILC meetings and a SILC member or the SILC Executive Director attends all CCDD meetings.
- The SILC provides opportunities at each meeting for these parties and other interested individuals to share information about upcoming events and activities.
- SILC members and CIL staff participate on a variety of councils, commissions, and boards.
- The SILC Executive Director, individual SILC members, and CIL staff are involved in the 874K Coalition. This statewide group conducts an annual rally held at the state capital to educate and advocate for individuals with disabilities, families, providers, and advocates. Legislators are invited and educated on the current needs of their constituents.
- Social media platforms are used to distribute information about various disability related events and issues in the state. The SILC and CILs share each other's posts to spread information to all followers.
- The SILC Executive Director will identify potential partner groups and visit them or meet virtually all throughout the year.
- disAbility Resource Center collaborates with Centers for Independent Living in Tennessee.
- The Center for Independent Living Options (CILO), a CIL in Southern Ohio, provides housing and I/R services in Northern Kentucky. CILO attends all SILC meetings and shares information and resources with the SILC.
- The SILC and CILs are partnering with the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) to participate in a Disability Innovation Fund (DIF) grant project.

Review Status: Approved

## Section 3: Network of Centers

### 3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

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

### 3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

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Center for Accessible Living, Inc.

Counties Served: Allen, Ballard, Barren, Bullitt, Butler, Calloway, Carlisle, Edmonson, Fulton, Graves, Hart, Henry, Hickman, Jefferson, Logan, Marshall, McCracken, Metcalfe, Monroe, Oldham, Shelby, Simpson, Spencer, Trimble, Warren

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: Quarterly reports to SILC. Monthly reports with invoices to DSE (DAIL). CAL

sends PPR annually to ACL, the SILC, and DAIL.

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Submits PPR to ACL/OILP and the SILC

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPII Signatory: Yes

County Services

Allen (Full Services)

Ballard (Full Services)

Barren (Full Services)

Bullitt (Full Services)

Butler (Full Services)

Calloway (Full Services)

Carlisle (Full Services)

Edmonson (Full Services)

Fulton (Full Services)

Graves (Full Services)

Hart (Full Services)

Henry (Full Services)

Hickman (Full Services)

Jefferson (Full Services)

Logan (Full Services)

Marshall (Full Services)

McCracken (Full Services)

Metcalf (Full Services)

Monroe (Full Services)

Oldham (Full Services)

Shelby (Full Services)

Simpson (Full Services)

Spencer (Full Services)

Trimble (Full Services)

Warren (Full Services)

disABILITYResource Center

Counties Served: Bell, Breathitt, Harlan, Knott, Leslie, Letcher, Perry

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: Submits PPR to ACL/OILP and the SILC

Oversight Entity: ACL/OILP

SPII Signatory: Yes

County Services

Bell (Full Services)

Breathitt (Full Services)

Harlan (Full Services)

Knott (Full Services)

Leslie (Full Services)

Letcher (Full Services)

Perry (Full Services)

Independence Place

Counties Served: Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Nicholas, Powell, Scott, Woodford

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: Quarterly reports to the SILC. Monthly reports with invoices to DSE (DAIL). Submission of PPR annually to the SILC and DAIL for the state Part B PPR.

State Funds

Oversight Process: The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities provides oversight. Independence Place submits monthly data and invoices to the Department.

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Anderson (Full Services)

Bourbon (Full Services)

Boyle (Full Services)

Clark (Full Services)

Estill (Full Services)

Fayette (Full Services)

Franklin (Full Services)

Garrard (Full Services)

Harrison (Full Services)

Jessamine (Full Services)

Lincoln (Full Services)

Madison (Full Services)

Mercer (Full Services)

Nicholas (Full Services)

Powell (Full Services)

Scott (Full Services)

Woodford (Full Services)

### 3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

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CIL Network

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

There are four Centers for Independent Living in Kentucky and one satellite office: (1) Center for Accessible Living in Louisville, which has a satellite office in Murray and is a Part C Center; (2) Center for Accessible Living in Bowling Green, which is a Part B Center operated by the Center for Accessible Living in Louisville; (3) disAbility Resource Center in Hazard is a Part C Center; and (4) Independence Place, Inc in Lexington, a Part B Center.

The Center for Independent Living Options in Cincinnati, Ohio also provides limited programs in Northern Kentucky, including the 5 core services, but does not utilize federal funds for these programs, instead utilizing discretionary funds.

### 3.2 - EXPANSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF NETWORK

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

Definition of served, unserved, and underserved.

We define unserved/underserved populations by county within each CIL service area. Unserved populations live in counties that are not in the service areas of a CIL. Seventy-one of Kentucky's 120 counties are unserved by CILs, with a disability population of 377,727 (US Census and Kentucky Department of Public Health). These counties are home to 44% of the state's population, and range from urban counties like Kenton, part of the Cincinnati (Ohio) metro area with over 169,000 people, to rural Robertson County with only 2,200 inhabitants.

Underserved populations live in counties that are a part of a CIL service area but that have three or fewer CIL consumers each year.

The CILs in Kentucky tend to have large service areas and focus most of their activities in one or two core areas each. This means that some counties in CIL service areas are underserved, with between 0 and 3 consumers each. The following counties are in CIL service areas but are considered underserved by this definition: Monroe, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Metcalfe, Anderson, Garrard, Jessamine, Harrison, Nicholas, Bourbon, Clark, Mercer, Estill, Powell, Boyle, Lincoln. Most of the underserved counties have rural populations, with some smaller cities and towns included.

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

The minimum funding level for a Center for Independent Living will be based on the funding formula described within this section of the SPIL. Each CIL will be considered funded at the minimum level once they reach at least \$4/individual with a disability within the service area.

Priorities for establishment of new CIL(s).

Expansion of the network will be possible once CAL-Bowling Green and Independence Place reach at least \$4/person with a disability in their service areas. The priority for a new CIL with a minimum funding of \$4/person with a disability is the Northern Kentucky area, including Boone, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen and Pendleton counties. The minimum amount of funding to serve these counties with \$4/person with a disability is \$242,640. A second area of priority is Eastern Kentucky including counties surrounding the service area of disABILITY Resource Center. Centers for Independent Living may submit a formal request for consideration of changes to existing service areas. The changes can be made applicable to any Part C or Part B Center in the state. The Center will prepare and submit the request to the SILC, including the following information:

- Counties and areas that will be expanded and/or adjusted;
- Confirmation that the CIL's Board of Directors authorized the requested change;
- Description of how the service area change will impact the CIL and the disability community of the area;
- Date of when the service area change would become effective upon approval.

Upon receiving the request, the SILC will prepare a summary analysis of the changes including how it impacts Section 3.1 (Existing Centers) and 3.2 (Expansion and Adjustment of the Network). After the summary is created, it will be posted for a 30-day period to receive public input. Summary of public input will be distributed to all Centers for Independent Living and the Council Members of the SILC. CILs will submit their approval or rejection of the request to the SILC. In a public meeting, the SILC will discuss the public comments, review the CILs responses, and if all parties agree the change can become approved. If the change follows the existing plan, since the public will be given the opportunity to comment on the expansion or adjustment, a SPIL Amendment will not be needed at that time. The technical amendment to Section 3.1-Existing Centers, will be submitted to ACL. If there is disagreement to the proposed amendment, the Center will be notified of the reasons that the proposed changes were not agreed upon.

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

closes.

Should a Part C funded Center for Independent Living either relinquish or have its award terminated, and after collaboration with the Administration on Community Living, the first priority will be to guarantee the continuation of services covering the service area vacated by the Part C CIL that relinquished or had its federal award terminated. Until the RFP process has taken place, in the interim, the remaining funding dollars could go to any interested, established Part C CIL participating with the SPIL to continue IL Services in the area covered by the Part C CIL whose funds were relinquished or removed and/or closed.

In the event a Title VII Part C funded CIL should close or forfeit/lose funding, the Kentucky IL Network will formally submit a recommendation to the Administration for Community Living on the most effective use of the funding to achieve the goals of this plan within thirty (30) days of being made aware of the loss of funds. The recommendations will be made from the following options:

- Reissuing a new grant competition for the same territory;
- Issuing a new competition for a new grant in a similar region with possible additions or reductions of counties based on the award amount.

In the event a Title VII Part B funded Center should close or forfeit/lose funding, the Kentucky IL Network will formally submit a recommendation to the Department of Aging and Independent Living on the most effective use of the funding to achieve the goals of this plan within thirty (30) days of being made aware of the loss of funds. The recommendations will be made from the following options:

- Reissuing a new grant competition for the same territory;
- Issuing a new competition for a new grant in a similar region with possible additions or reductions of counties based on the award amount.

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

In recent years, the Kentucky Independent Living (IL) Network has requested no-cost extensions for Part B funding due to several factors. These include reduced spending during the COVID-19 pandemic, changes in status and leadership within the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), and leadership transitions at the Part B Centers for Independent Living (CILs).

Currently, 71 of Kentucky's 120 counties are unserved by a Center for Independent Living (CIL). To address these service gaps and the issues with Part B funding, the SILC, the Designated State Entity (DSE), and the CILs have collaboratively developed the following plan:

Unused Part B funding from previous fiscal years will be allocated to support CIL services in the unserved counties. CILs will be invited to propose which counties they can serve. This will allow for the expansion of services to ensure statewide CIL coverage in Kentucky. This decision follows survey responses and statewide stakeholder input while developing this SPIL. Stakeholders and SILC members have expressed a need for services in these unserved counties, specifically in Northern Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky. The IL Network will also work in collaboration with the DSE to utilize data to assist in identifying areas of need across the state.

To ensure the sustainability of these efforts, the Commissioner of the Department of Aging and Independent Living (DAAIL) will collaborate with the CILs to advocate to the state legislature to secure ongoing funding for CIL services across the state. This will involve advocating for the inclusion of CIL services as a dedicated item in the state budget.

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

*Additional Part B Funding or State Funding:*

It is a Kentucky priority to support the needs of existing Centers in their efforts to establish an

effective statewide IL Network. We acknowledge that most of our Kentucky CILs are underfunded for their existing service areas and that the state has many unserved people with disabilities who live outside of them. Should additional Part B funding or State funding become available, the SILC and the directors of the Kentucky CILs will work together to develop the specific financial plan, keeping in mind these priorities:

- We want to use more Part B or State funds to reach our funding formula's goals. To reach the goal of the funding formula, Center for Accessible Living Bowling Green and Independence Place would receive at a minimum, \$4/person with a disability in their service area. Once these funding levels are reached, the disAbility Resource Center would become a regular recipient of Part B funding.
- If Part B funding is increased, there is a priority for the SILC to receive up to 30% of the Part B grant, as needed. If the State provides additional SILC funding or the Part B award is increased, the SILC funds will be used for staffing and programming.
- A third goal is for all Centers for Independent Living in Kentucky to receive a portion of the Part B grant should additional funding be secured. This would be determined by a collaborative process between the SILC and CILs and provide a proportional distribution of Part B funding throughout the network.

#### *Additional Part C Funding:*

Should new Part C grants/funds become available for Kentucky, the Kentucky IL Network, including all Center for Independent Living Directors, support the funds going to the Central Kentucky counties, including Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Nicholas, Powell, Scott and Woodford. This area includes the second largest city in the state and the state capital.

Once the CIL and SILC funding has been solidified as defined in the proposed funding formula, the Kentucky Independent Living Network would like to open a new Center for Independent Living in an unserved area of the state. When notification of additional funding is received by any party, the SILC, the CILs, and the DSE will initiate a collaborative process including a needs assessment and application process. This process will ensure that the new CIL is located in a community of need, that the requirements of the SPIL are maintained, and that the DSE will continue to fulfill its duties as defined in the Rehabilitation Act, as amended. Based on stakeholder surveys, and input from the CILs and SILC, it has been determined that the area of greatest need in the state is Northern Kentucky.

#### *Additional One-Time Funding:*

In the event one-time state or federal funding becomes available to the Kentucky IL Network, it will be distributed as follows:

- Special or Dedicated Purpose: If funds have a specified project or purpose, to the best extent possible, the CIL Directors and the SILC Chair will have a collaborative discussion to decide about distributing the funds for the dedicated purpose.
- One-time Federal Title VII Funding: If funds come to Kentucky that are deemed one-time and not sustainable to fund a Center for Independent Living long-term, the funds will be distributed as closely as possible in accordance to the priorities and funding formula listed in this plan.
- One-time State funds: Depending on the nature of the State funds and any restrictions, the distribution will follow one of the two methods outlined above.
- Any Part B carryover funds will be equally distributed to all Kentucky Centers for Independent Living participating in the SPIL.

#### *Plan for one-time funding and/or temporary changes to Center service areas and/or funding levels.*

If one-time state or federal funding becomes available to the Kentucky IL Network, it will be distributed as follows:

- Special or Dedicated Purpose-If funds made available have a specified project or purpose, to the best extent possible, the funds will be distributed competitively based upon Centers submitting a proposal that includes their ability to expend the funds for the dedicated purpose.

- One-Time Federal Title VII Funding-If funds come to Kentucky that are deemed one-time and not sustainable to fund a Center for Independent Living long-term, the funds will be distributed as best as possible in accordance with the Formula for Distribution in this section of the Plan.
- One-Time State funds-Depending on the nature of the state funds and any restrictions, the distribution will be following one of the two methods outlined above.

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

If Part B funding via the ILSG NoA is reduced, the current Part B recipients will have their awards reduced by the same percentage as the total grant reduction.

If Part C funding is reduced and drops below 70% of their total funding for a SPIL participating CIL, the Part B funds could be used (if available) to bring the CIL up to the minimum funding. In this event, a special meeting of the SPIL committee will be called to determine funding strategies.

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

disAbility Resource Center (dRC) will begin serving an additional two counties beginning on October 1, 2024, when this state plan takes effect. dRC will serve Breathitt and Knott Counties in addition to Perry, Letcher, Harlan, Bell and Leslie Counties. Breathitt and Knott border Perry and Letcher Counties. Breathitt County has the highest disability population rate of all 120 Kentucky Counties. Both Knott and Breathitt County have been unserved by a Center for Independent Living, and this will allow more individuals to receive the five core services. At this time, there will be no funding changes although dRC is adding two counties to their service area.

Temporary Changes (if applicable) Other (if applicable)

Review Status: Approved

## Section 4: Designated State Entity

### 4.0 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

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Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services will serve as the entity in Kentucky designated to receive, administer, and account for funds made available to the state under Title VII, Chapter 1, Part B of the Act on behalf of the State.

### 4.1 - DSE RESPONSIBILITIES

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

## 4.2 - ADMINISTRATION AND STAFFING: DSE ASSURANCES

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Administrative and staffing support provided by the DSE.

No more than five (5) percent of the Part B appropriation will be used on administrative costs.

No DSE employees will serve as staff to the SILC, therefore, there will not be a conflict of interest in staffing and administration by the DSE.

The SILC is responsible for hiring, supervising, and removing the Coordinator or Executive Director. At the time of the implementation of this Plan, the SILC Executive Director is a full-time employee of Kentucky SILC, Inc. The Executive Director is responsible for hiring, evaluating, and supervising other staff (if additional staff is deemed necessary with Council approval). The Executive Director has the responsibility of managing the day-to-day operations including carrying out the policies and goals of the SILC.

The DSE provides assistance with coordination of reporting requirements and SPIL plan development, reporting on CIL oversight, and distributing and tracking grant funds. The DSE *ex-officio* SILC member participates in SILC and SILC committee meetings and works closely with the SILC Executive Director to ensure all federal and state requirements are met. In-kind resources are offered to CILs depending upon need and availability.

## 4.3 - STATE-IMPOSED REQUIREMENTS

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

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

Council members are limited to a \$100 per meeting honorarium up to a \$600 annual limit by state law.

Non-profit agencies (Centers for Independent Living) are required to complete an annual filing with the Kentucky Secretary of State's Office to file copies of their IRS 990 form with the Attorney General's Office.

## 4.4 - GRANT PROCESS & DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

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

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

Process for soliciting proposals

Continuation of Funding-CILs that are eligible for funding receive contracts in the amounts consistent with the amounts determined by the SPIL. The DSE contracts with each Part B funded CIL on a two-year contract basis. Before the start of the contract, the DSE notifies the CIL of the contract and the funding amount. The CILs review the contract and sign it before the start of the contract. A delivery order is then sent to each CIL. Each CIL submits a budget to the DSE based on the funding amount listed in the delivery order. CILs then submit monthly reports and invoices to the DSE.

New Awards-New awards for CILs will be determined based on the process outlined in Section 3.2 of this Plan. The DSE follows the Commonwealth of Kentucky's established procedures for awarding grants.

Development of format for proposals

If a new award were to be issued to an organization wanting to receive funding as a CIL, the DSE

and SILC would partner on developing a proposal that would follow Section 3.2 of this plan.  
Process for reviewing proposals and who reviewers will be

The DSE and SILC will partner to develop a review committee. The review committee will focus on the proposal's focus on the Independent Living philosophy, the provision of the 5 core services, and following the federal regulations in Section 725 of the Rehabilitation Act.  
Process for evaluating performance and compliance of grantees

The DSE monitors the monthly invoices and reports provided by the CILs and conducts annual monitoring of Part B funds to the CILs. The DSE also reviews the compliance of the CILs through the annual submission of the Program Performance Report.

## 4.5 - OVERSIGHT PROCESS FOR PART B FUNDS

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The oversight process to be followed by the DSE.

Part C funding (alone or in combination with Part B or other funds) oversight by ACL; Title VII, Part C funds are administrated and monitored directly through ACL, with no involvement by the DSE. Kentucky Department of Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) monitors monthly financial reports as well as quarterly and annual individual program performance reports submitted by all CILs receiving funding through the SILC. Staff of the DSE monitors program reports and reviews financial invoices. Program staff of the DSE uses a monitoring instrument developed with input from the Part B CILs. Monitoring can also include site visits that are scheduled in advance.

## 4.6 - 722 VS. 723 STATE

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722 State

Review Status: Approved

# Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

## 5.1 - ESTABLISHMENT OF SILC

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How the SILC is established and SILC autonomy is assured.

The Kentucky Statewide Independent Living Council (KY SILC) is federally mandated and funded under the Rehabilitation Act, 1992 Amendment, Title VII. The KY SILC is not established as an entity within any State agency, including the DSE, and is independent of the DSE and all other State agencies. The KY SILC was established by the Executive Order of the Governor and affirmed by the 1994 General Assembly. It is now attached to the Department for Aging and Independent Living for fiscal purposes only. The Kentucky SILC applied to the IRS for 501(c)(3) non-profit status in September 2022 and was awarded that designation in February 2023. The KY SILC is now a grant subrecipient of the DSE and has a contract for funding through DAIL.

## 5.2 - SILC RESOURCE PLAN

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

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

The Kentucky SILC Resource Plan includes:

- \$44,705 Part B funds;
- \$65,000 Innovation & Expansion funds; and
- In-kind support from the DSE.

The Resource Plan supports the management and operation of the SILC, including but not limited to, one full-time employee, maintaining 501(c)(3) status, contractual services necessary to meet the designated duties and authorities of a SILC, board training and development, travel costs, and reasonable accommodations for members and staff. A contract has been established with the DSE and the DSE will continue providing in-kind support as appropriate. A new contract has also been established between the SILC and OVR to receive the Innovation and Expansion funds.

Process used to develop the Resource Plan.

The Kentucky SILC Resource Plan was developed by the SPIL Committee of the SILC, along with the directors of the Kentucky Centers for Independent Living. It was approved by the SILC and signed off on by signatories of this State Plan.

The funds are used to cover all expenses associated with SILC activities and meetings necessary to carry out the functions of the SILC during this State Plan. These expenses include: reimbursements for SILC member travel, attendant/child care expenses, an honorarium up to \$100 for six times during one year, the salary of a full-time Executive Director, and other programs and expenses that support the State Plan as determined by the SILC.

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

When this Plan goes into effect, the SILC will be an autonomous nonprofit agency. The SILC has a contract with the DSE and must submit monthly invoices to DAIL as a grant sub-recipient. The SILC now manages its own funds and pays its own bills. The SILC and the DSE have a Memorandum of Agreement to define the responsibilities of each party, ensure timeliness and efficiency of financial activities, prevent undue hardship on the SILC, and ensure uninterrupted operations and effectiveness of the SILC.

The SILC is also developing a contract and Memorandum of Agreement with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to directly receive the Innovation and Expansion Funds. This will define the responsibilities of each party, ensure timeliness and efficiency of financial activities, define reporting and invoicing procedures, and ensure uninterrupted operations and effectiveness of the SILC.

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

## 5.3 - MAINTENANCE OF SILC

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

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

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

The SILC is established and operating

The SILC is a federally mandated agency under the Rehabilitation Act, 1992 Amendment, Title VII and was established by the Executive Order of the Governor and affirmed by the 1994 General Assembly. The Kentucky SILC is now a nonprofit agency operating independently of the DSE. The DSE provides ongoing support and communication to the SILC Executive Director and SILC Board. Appointments are made in a timely manner to keep the SILC in compliance with the Act

Members of the SILC are appointed by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. When vacancies arise, the SILC Nominating Committee recruits applicants while keeping in mind compliance with federal and state requirements:

- To provide statewide representation;
- To represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities from diverse backgrounds;
- To consist of people who are knowledgeable about Centers for Independent Living and independent living services;
- To have a majority of the council be persons with disabilities;
- To have a majority of the council not employed by any State agency or Center for Independent Living;
- To have a maximum of 16 members.

Interested individuals submit an application to the Nominating Committee, which makes a recommendation to the full SILC. The SILC forwards applications for all approved potential members to the Department of Aging and Independent Living (the DSE). The DAIL Commissioner sends them to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services Secretary, who passes them to the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions for appointment. There is ongoing communication between the Governor's Office and the DSE and the DSE and the SILC to ensure timeliness and compliance for SILC appointments.

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

The Kentucky SILC is a non-profit agency that operates independently of all state agencies. The SILC Executive Director is managed, supervised, and evaluated by the appointed SILC members, particularly by the Council Chair. Any other potential SILC employees will be managed, supervised and evaluated by the Executive Director in accordance with the SILC By-Laws and Policies. The SILC By-Laws and Policy documents are approved and periodically reviewed by the SILC. The SILC has the autonomy necessary to fulfill its duties and authorities, including “[working] with CILs to coordinate services with public and private entities, . . . conducting resource development, and performing such other functions . . . as the [SILC] determines to be appropriate

As a nonprofit agency, the SILC has the autonomy necessary to fulfill its duties and authorities. The Kentucky SILC operates under the authority of its approved policies, ensuring that the SILC has the autonomy to operate and conduct its required duties and granted authorities. These documents include:

- SILC By-Laws
- Member Policies and Procedures
- Fiscal Policies and Procedures
- Personnel Policies and Procedures

Necessary and sufficient resources are provided for the SILC Resource Plan to ensure the SILC has the capacity to fulfill its statutory duties and authorities

The DSE and SILC have collaborated to ensure that sufficient resources have been allocated to the SILC on an ongoing basis. Please see Section 5.2 for details on the Resource Plan.

Review Status: Approved

## Section 6: Legal Basis & Certifications

### 6.1 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

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The state entity/agency designated to receive and distribute funding, as directed by the SPIL, under Title VII, Part B of the Act is Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services.  
Authorized representative of the DSE Victoria Elridge. Title: Commissioner .

### 6.2 - STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)

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

### 6.3 - CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CILS)

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The Centers for Independent Living (CILs) eligible to sign the SPIL, a minimum of 51% whom must sign prior to submission, are:  
Center for Accessible Living, Inc.  
disABILITYResource Center  
Independence Place

#### 6.4.A

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

#### 6.4.B

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

#### 6.4.C

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

Review Status: Approved

## Section 7: DSE Assurances

### DSE ASSURANCES

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Victoria Elridge acting on behalf of the DSE Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services located at:  
Street: 275 E Main Street  
City: Frankfort  
State: KY  
Zip Code: 40621

## 7.1

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

## 7.2

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The DSE will assure that the agency keeps appropriate records, in accordance with federal and state law, and provides access to records by the federal funding agency upon request;

## 7.3

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

## 7.4

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

## 7.5

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

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

## 7.6

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

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

## 7.7

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

## 7.8

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

1. When the reimbursement method is used, the DSE must make a payment within 30 calendar days after receipt of the billing, unless the agency or pass-through entity reasonably believes the request to be improper;
2. When necessary, the DSE will advance payments to Part B funded SILCs and CILs to cover its estimated disbursement needs for an initial period generally geared to the mutually agreed upon disbursing cycle; and
3. The DSE will accept requests for advance payments and reimbursements at least monthly when

electronic fund transfers are not used, and as often as necessary when electronic fund transfers are used, in accordance with the provisions of the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (15 U.S.C. 1693-1693r).

## DSE SIGNATURE SECTION

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Victoria Elridge

Name of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Commissioner

Title of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Victoria L. Elridge

Electronic Signature

06/25/2024

Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

Review Status: Approved

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

## 8.1 - SILC ASSURANCES

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Grace Jeter acting on behalf of the SILC Kentucky Statewide Independent Living Council located at:

Street: 120 North Mill Street Suite 201

City: Lexington

State: Kentucky

Zip Code: 40507

45 CFR 1329.14 assures that:

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

## 8.2 - INDICATORS OF MINIMUM COMPLIANCE

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

### (a) STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL INDICATORS -

1. SILC written policies and procedures must include:
  - a. A method for recruiting members, reviewing applications, and regularly providing recommendations for eligible appointments to the appointing authority;
  - b. A method for identifying and resolving actual or potential disputes and conflicts of interest that are in compliance with State and federal law;
  - c. A process to hold public meetings and meet regularly as prescribed in 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
  - d. A process and timelines for advance notice to the public of SILC meetings in compliance with State and federal law and 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
  - e. A process and timelines for advance notice to the public of SILC meetings in compliance with State and federal law and 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(3);
    - i. "Executive Session" meetings should be rare and only take place to discuss confidential SILC issues such as but not limited to staffing.
    - ii. Agendas for "Executive Session" meetings must be made available to the public, although personal identifiable information regarding SILC staff shall not be included;
  - f. A process and timelines for the public to request reasonable accommodations to participate during a public Council meeting;
  - g. A method for developing, seeking and incorporating public input into, monitoring, reviewing and evaluating implementation of the State Plan as required in 45 CFR 1329.17; and
  - h. A process to verify centers for independent living are eligible to sign the State Plan in compliance with 45 CFR 1329.17(d)(2)(iii).
2. The SILC maintains regular communication with the appointing authority to ensure efficiency and timeliness of the appointment process.
3. The SILC maintains individual training plans for members that adhere to the SILC Training and Technical Assistance Center's SILC training curriculum.
4. The SILC receives public input into the development of the State Plan for Independent Living in accordance with 45 CFR 1329.17(f) ensuring:
  - a. Adequate documentation of the State Plan development process, including but not limited to, a written process setting forth how input will be gathered from the state's centers for independent living and individuals with disabilities throughout the state, and the process for how the information collected is considered.
  - b. All meetings regarding State Plan development and review are open to the public and provides advance notice of such meetings in accordance with existing State and federal laws and 45 CFR 1329.17(f)(2)(i)-(ii);
  - c. Meetings seeking public input regarding the State Plan provides advance notice of such meetings in accordance with existing State and federal laws, and 45 CFR 1329.17(f)(2)(i);
  - d. Public meeting locations, where public input is being taken, are accessible to all people with disabilities, including, but not limited to:
    - i. proximity to public transportation,
    - ii. physical accessibility, and
    - iii. effective communication and accommodations that include auxiliary aids and services, necessary to make the meeting accessible to all people with disabilities.
  - e. Materials available electronically must be 508 compliant and, upon request, available in alternative and accessible format including other commonly spoken languages.
5. The SILC monitors, reviews and evaluates the State Plan in accordance with 45 CFR

1329.15(a)(2) ensuring:

a. Timely identification of revisions needed due to any material change in State law, state organization, policy or agency operations that affect the administration of the State Plan approved by the Administration for Community Living.

6. The SILC State Plan resource plan includes:

a. Sufficient funds received from:

i. Title VII, Part B funds;

ii. If the resource plan includes Title VII, Part B funds, the State Plan provides justification of the percentage of Part B funds to be used if the percentage exceeds 30 percent of Title VII, Part B funds received by the State;

iii. Funds for innovation and expansion activities under Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 721(a)(18), as applicable;

iv. Other public and private sources.

b. The funds needed to support:

i. Staff/personnel;

ii. Operating expenses;

iii. Council compensation and expenses;

iv. Meeting expenses including meeting space, alternate formats, interpreters, and other accommodations;

v. Resources to attend and/or secure training and conferences for staff and council members and;

vi. Other costs as appropriate.

## SILC SIGNATURE SECTION

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

Grace Jeter

Name of SILC Chair

Grace Jeter

Electronic Signature

06/17/2024

Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

Review Status: Approved

## Section 9: Signatures

### SIGNATURES

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

SILC SIGNATURE SECTION

Grace Jeter  
Name of SILC Chair  
Grace Jeter  
Electronic Signature  
06/17/2024  
Date  
I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

CIL SIGNATURE SECTION

Center for Accessible Living, Inc.  
Name of Center for Independent Living  
Amanda Mobley  
Name of CIL Director  
Amanda R Mobley  
Electronic Signature  
06/18/2024  
Date

disABILITYResource Center  
Name of Center for Independent Living  
Katherine Moore  
Name of CIL Director  
Katherine Moore  
Electronic Signature  
06/20/2024  
Date

Independence Place  
Name of Center for Independent Living  
Sierra Potter  
Name of CIL Director  
Sierra Potter  
Electronic Signature  
06/20/2024  
Date

Review Status: Approved