

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: Kansas

FISCAL YEARS: 2025-2027

Effective Date: 10/01/2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mission, goals, objectives and Indicators of the Kansas 3 year Statewide Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) for 2025 - 2027 are defined in Section 1 of the State Plan. The mission of the KS IL Network, and the SPIL, is to ensure the development of integrated, accessible and inclusive communities that provide opportunities across the state of Kansas for all people with disabilities. The SPIL contains three goals to achieve progress toward the mission:

- An increased number of individuals with disabilities in KS will be empowered to achieve their independent living goals through the provision of quality services by the IL Network.
- CILs are a resource for disabled Kansans responding to access barriers and discrimination that prevent community integration, access, and equality of opportunity in all areas of community life.
- Disabled Kansans have resources and knowledge that prepares them in the event of a disaster or emergency.

The SPIL contains objectives and Indicators directed towards the achievement of these goals. The Kansas CIL Network utilizes knowledgeable and experienced staff to reach and assist as many disabled Kansans as possible. The advocacy and peer support allows a truly integrated and community approach to enhance Independent Living.

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 expansion of the network, minimum funding levels for CILs, and distribution of funds is included in Section 3.

Section 4 represents the Designated State Entity's (DSE) response to their administrative responsibilities related to the SPIL.

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 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

Mission of the Independent Living Network and the SPIL

- Mission:

To ensure the development of integrated, accessible and inclusive communities that provide opportunities across the state of Kansas for all people with disabilities.

1.2 - GOALS

Goals of the SPIL

Goal #1: Goal 1: : An increased number of individuals with disabilities in KS will be empowered to achieve their independent living goals through the provision of quality services by the IL Network.

Goal #2: Goal 2: CILs are a resource for disabled Kansans responding to access barriers and discrimination that prevent community integration, access, and equality of opportunity in all areas of community life.

Goal #3: Goal 3: Disabled Kansans have resources and knowledge that prepares them in the event of a disaster or emergency.

1.3 - OBJECTIVES

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

Goal #1: Goal 1: : An increased number of individuals with disabilities in KS will be empowered to achieve their independent living goals through the provision of quality services by the IL Network.

Objective #1.1: Objective 1: CILs increase the number of persons served by 1,000 with an emphasis on the unserved, underserved populations. (ref. 2.2 Outreach Definitions)

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #1.1.1: 1.1: CIL staff establish and continue contact with local community partners that are minority focused to educate on CIL services and encourage referrals.

Indicator #1.1.2: 1.2: CIL staff support youth with disabilities as they transition from high school and pursue their educational and vocational goals. CILS will collaborate with youth and family focused organizations, e.g., the youth mentoring service provider, Special Education Cooperatives, schools, etc. to increase independent living opportunities for young people with disabilities.

Indicator #1.1.3: 1.3: CIL staff support individuals with disabilities in their pursuit of competitive, integrated employment through Employment First initiative, STEPS, WORK, Pre-ETS and other applicable programs.

Indicator #1.1.4: 1.4: CIL staff provide outreach and support to individuals on the HCBS waitlists including education on the option to self-direct their services.

Indicator #1.1.5: 1.5: CILs, as cross disability organizations, establish and continue contact with appropriate community organizations. Specific outreach to the mental health community, the blind or low vision community, the deaf and hard of hearing community, and the cognitive disability community.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #1.2: Objective 2: CILs infuse consumer feedback to direct and improve service delivery and program development.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #1.2.1: 2.1: 51% of staff and board (at a minimum) are individuals with disabilities as evidence of consumer control.

Indicator #1.2.2: 2.2: CILs complete the standardized survey questionnaires and report to the SILCK on a yearly basis.

Indicator #1.2.3: 2.3: PPR reflects how survey information was used to inform improved service delivery.

Indicator #1.2.4: 2.4: DSE Monitoring Reviews reflect consumer feedback is utilized in the development and delivery of CIL services and program(s).

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #1.3: Objective 3: CIL staff, board members and consumers will be provided with opportunities for training that support increased capacity of the IL Network.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #1.3.1: 3.1: CILs report training and community activities on the PPR.

Indicator #1.3.2: 3.2: SILCK reports on training and community activities at quarterly board meetings.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #2: Goal 2: CILs are a resource for disabled Kansans responding to access barriers and discrimination that prevent community integration, access, and equality of opportunity in all areas of community life.

Objective #2.1: Objective 1: CILs provide advocacy services and leadership training opportunities for individuals experiencing barriers.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.1.1: 1.1: CIL staff and board support events such as the Disability Caucus as opportunities for individuals with disabilities to receive leadership training and support.

Indicator #2.1.2: 1.2: Satisfaction Surveys demonstrate individuals receive the services they requested.

Indicator #2.1.3: 1.3: CILs provide individual and family education using tools such as Supported Decision Making, alternatives to guardianship, etc.

Indicator #2.1.4: 1.4: PPR reports demonstrate CILs are providing advocacy services.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Objective #2.2: Objective 2: CILs network in their communities to expand knowledge of community resources and to educate on the Independent Living Philosophy, the Americans with Disabilities Act, civil rights, (et.al.) and how removing barriers increases access for individuals with disabilities.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #2.2.1: 2.1: CILs send success/impact stories quarterly to DSE and SILCK.

Indicator #2.2.2: 2.2: PPR reflects community networking.

Indicator #2.2.3: 2.3: CILs participate in peer sharing events to maintain current information on available resources.

Indicator #2.2.4: 2.4: CILs advocate for increased resources and access to current resources (such as housing, food, health care services, income and financial resources, transportation, social and recreational activities, etc.)

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

Goal #3: Goal 3: Disabled Kansans have resources and knowledge that prepares them in the event of a disaster or emergency.

Objective #3.1: Objective 1: Disabled Kansans will be able to meet basic needs in the event of an emergency.

Measurable Indicators:

Indicator #3.1.1: 3.1: CILs work with consumers to develop plans for Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery for people with disabilities in KS.

Indicator #3.1.2: 3.2: CILs participate in local development of emergency plans and offer disability awareness training for First Responders - to be prioritized by each CIL.

Indicator #3.1.3: 3.3: CILs in KS will be prepared for local, regional, or national emergencies.

Other Objective info and/or Activities (optional):

Geographic Scope: Statewide

1.4 - EVALUATION

Goal 1: : An increased number of individuals with disabilities in KS will be empowered to achieve their independent living goals through the provision of quality services by the IL Network.

Goal 2: CILs are a resource for disabled Kansans responding to access barriers and discrimination that prevent community integration, access, and equality of opportunity in all areas of community life.

Goal 3: Disabled Kansans have resources and knowledge that prepares them in the event of a disaster or emergency.

1. Review the SPIL at each SILCK meeting through SILCK updates, CIL updates and success stories and evaluate whether timelines are being met. If Indicators and/or objectives have not been accomplished, analyze why and determine whether adjustments need to be made. Public comment on monitoring the SPIL is available at each quarterly SILCK meeting. Timeline: Quarterly
2. Review the annual consumer satisfaction survey results. The CILs and the SILC have agreed upon at least 3 survey questions that all CILs will use and report results to the SILC at the end of each federal fiscal year. Timeline: 1st Quarter each year
3. Review the Program Performance reports from all KS CILS listed in the SPIL at the end of each federal fiscal year. Timeline: 1st Quarter each year
4. Review ACL and DSE Site Review reports of CILS when available. If requested SILCK can offer resources to assist CILs with corrective action plans for below standard performance designations. Timeline: As needed
5. Create an annual Progress Report on the state of IL in Kansas, including an analysis and recommendations and distribute to IL Network, state legislature, Governor's office and other interested parties. Timeline: 2nd Quarter each year

1.5 - PART I: FINANCIAL PLAN

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

Fiscal Year(s): 2025

October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025

Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$115709	\$0	\$215415	\$0	\$16936	\$348060
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$0	\$1094997	\$0		\$1094997
						\$1443057
Other Federal Funds						
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$1313621	\$0		\$1313621
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
						\$1313621
Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$37635	\$0	\$0	\$37635
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$47173	\$0	\$4024181	\$0	\$0	\$4071354
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						\$4108989
TOTAL	\$162882	\$0	\$6685849	\$0	\$16936	\$6865667

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

Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$115709	\$0	\$215415	\$0	\$16936	\$348060
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$0	\$1094997	\$0		\$1094997
						\$1443057
Other Federal Funds						
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$1317046	\$0		\$1317046
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
						\$1317046
Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$37635	\$0	\$0	\$37635
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$52588	\$0	\$4018766	\$0	\$0	\$4071354
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						\$4108989
TOTAL	\$168297	\$0	\$6683859	\$0	\$16936	\$6869092

Fiscal Year(s): 2027
 October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027

Sources	Projected Funding Amounts and Uses					
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities	Retained by DSE for Admin. Costs	TOTAL
Title VII Funds						
Chapter 1, Part B	\$115709	\$0	\$215415	\$0	\$16936	\$348060
Chapter 1, Part C	\$0	\$0	\$1094997	\$0		\$1094997
						\$1443057
Other Federal Funds						
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Social Security Reimbursement	\$0	\$0	\$1320567	\$0		\$1320567
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
						\$1320567
Non-Federal Funds						
Part B State Match	\$0	\$0	\$37635	\$0	\$0	\$37635
Other State Match for Funds in SPIL	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Funds	\$58274	\$0	\$4013080	\$0	\$0	\$4071354

Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
						\$4108989
TOTAL	\$173983	\$0	\$6681694	\$0	\$16936	\$6872613

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 SILCK will utilize VIIB funds for FFY 25 through FFY 27, in the following amounts; \$115,709 each year. The SILCK will utilize SGF in the following amounts: FFY 25 \$47,173, FFY 26 \$52,588 and FFY 27 \$58,274. Fiscal plan for the CILs is as follows: In FFY 25, \$253,050 VIIB, \$1,313,621 SSR, and \$4,024,181 SGF. FFY 26, \$253,050 VIIB, \$1,317,046 SSR, and \$4,018,766 SGF. FFY 27, \$253,050 VIIB, \$1,320,567 SSR, and \$4,013,080 SGF. \$37,635 is associated with the state match for VIIB each year. This combination will be used to fund the general operations of CILs across Kansas and provide core and additional IL services across 105 Kansas counties. Section 3.1 describes the counties each CIL covers. The composition of funding may fluctuate dependent upon available Social Security Reimbursement funds and in response to program income requirements. Chapter One Part C funds allotted to federally funded CILs in Kansas amounts to \$1,094,997 which is divided among five of the network CILs to support the territory noted in this SPIL. When ACL releases the Notice of Funding Opportunity, the current CILs not receiving Part C will have an opportunity to apply for this funding. DSE administration of the IL program is covered by \$16,936 in VIIB. See Section 4.1 for more detail on process, selection and facilitation of funds.

Section 2: Scope, Extent and Arrangements of Services

2.1 - SERVICES

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

Core Independent Living Services: Information and referral

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

Core Independent Living Services: IL skills training

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

Core Independent Living Services: Peer counseling

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

Core Independent Living Services: Individual and systems advocacy

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

Transition Services: Transition from nursing homes & other institutions

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

Transition Services: Diversion from institutions

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

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

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

Counseling services, including psychological, psychotherapeutic, and related services

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

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
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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

Mobility training

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Supported living

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

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

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

Physical rehabilitation

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

Therapeutic treatment

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

Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices

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

Individual and group social and recreational services

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

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

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

Services for children

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2.1 - OPTIONAL MAP ATTACHMENT

Uploaded Document Name:

2.2 - OUTREACH TO UNSERVED AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

Definitions of "unserved" and "underserved" for outreach:

The term "underserved communities" refers to disabled people in populations as well as geographic communities that have been systematically denied the opportunity to participate fully in aspects of economic, social, and civic life. Characteristics that have contributed to the systematic exclusion of underserved disabled people can include type, nature, severity of disability, racial marginalization, ethnic background, gender identity. Geographic communities may include populations in rural areas, or populations located in area deprivation index communities. "Unserved communities" refers to people who share a characteristic or who live in an area where they have been unable to access services otherwise available.

Unserved or underserved communities shall be determined by the service areas where the CIL is located and provides primary services.

How unserved and underserved are determined:

CILs will be encouraged to provide outreach to individuals residing in counties that document less than 3% of contribution to the most recent PPR report (704) data of individuals served.

Minority groups: This varies by CIL region.

Consider population density with regards to:

- Urban
- Rural
- Frontier
- Border

Targeted populations and/or geographic areas:

All groups identified above as unserved/underserved live dispersed throughout the 105 Kansas counties. The CILs each have their own outreach plans. This section is to address statewide outreach efforts and is to be separate from, not inclusive of or replacing, the CILs outreach plans. In place of an Outreach Workgroup an Outreach Planning Guide/Toolkit will be developed by the CILs.

Outreach activities and methods to be conducted and who will conduct each:

1. CIL staff will establish and continue contact with local community partners that are minority focused to educate on CIL services and encourage referrals.
 2. CIL staff will collaborate with youth and family focused organizations, e.g., the youth mentoring service provider, Special Education Cooperatives, schools, etc. to increase independent living opportunities for young people with disabilities.
 3. CILs, as cross disability organizations, will establish and continue contact with appropriate community organizations specific to outreach to the mental health community, the blind or low vision community, the Deaf and hard of hearing community, and the cognitive disability community.
- Identify steps to be taken regarding statewide outreach to populations that are unserved or underserved by programs that are funded under Title VII, including minority groups and urban and rural populations and how outreach will be conducted to address equity.

2.3 - COORDINATION

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

SILCK, and the CILs will continue to pursue and develop partnerships and collaborations with other providers of IL or closely related services at the Federal, State, county, municipal and public/private

sector levels. The Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services and the Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns representative serve on the SILCK. The DSE holds quarterly meetings for the IL grantees and others to help increase collaboration and sharing of information for the IL programs across the state. When requested, SILCK meets with and provides IL updates to members of the Kansas Association of Centers for Independent Living, Grass Roots Advocates for Independent Living and other IL service providers and disability stakeholders. SILCK holds a seat on and attends the State Rehabilitation Council meetings. The SILCK facilitates or participates in IL network meetings as needed. CILS are invited to all SILCK quarterly meetings. SILCK and KCDC co-facilitate a Disability and Disaster Preparedness group every quarter.

Kansas IL program coordinates with the Aging and Disability Resource Centers, Department of Special Education, universities, developmental disability agencies, public health entities, Kansas Department of Human Services, Department of Health and Environment, Department of Commerce, state organizations and agencies handling housing, community mental health centers, transportation councils, tribal VR programs and veteran's programs. Kansas IL programs make a concerted effort to use existing programs to gain maximum benefits of Title VII, Chapter 1 funds and to ensure no unnecessary duplication of services.

Section 3: Network of Centers

3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

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

3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

Beyond Barriers, Inc.

Counties Served: Barber, Clark, Comanche, Edwards, Ford, Harper, Harvey, Hodgeman, Kingman, Kiowa, McPherson, Ness, Pratt, Reno, Stafford

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

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

Oversight Process: SSR The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

State Funds

Oversight Process: The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: Underserved areas are covered by an MOU and funds received from Independence, Inc. for at least FFY 25, then the funds should come through award of a Title VII C funds directly from ACL.

Oversight Entity: DSE

SPIIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Barber (Full Services)

Clark (Full Services)

Comanche (Full Services)

Edwards (Full Services)

Ford (Full Services)

Harper (Full Services)

Harvey (Full Services)

Hodgeman (Full Services)

Kingman (Full Services)

Kiowa (Full Services)

McPherson (Full Services)

Ness (Full Services)

Pratt (Full Services)

Reno (Full Services)

Stafford (Full Services)

Independence, Inc.

Counties Served: Douglas, Franklin, Jefferson, Johnson, Wyandotte

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

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

Oversight Process: SSR The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

State Funds

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Douglas (Full Services)

Franklin (Full Services)

Jefferson (Full Services)

Johnson (Full Services)

Wyandotte (Full Services)

Independent Connection, Inc.

Counties Served: Cloud, Dickinson, Ellsworth, Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Ottawa, Republic, Saline

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

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

Oversight Process: SSR The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

State Funds

Oversight Process: The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: Underserved areas are covered by an MOU and funds received from Independence, Inc. for at least FFY 25, then the funds should come through award of a Title VII C funds directly from ACL.

Oversight Entity: DSE

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Cloud (Full Services)
Dickinson (Full Services)
Ellsworth (Full Services)
Jewell (Full Services)
Lincoln (Full Services)
Mitchell (Full Services)
Ottawa (Full Services)
Republic (Full Services)
Saline (Full Services)

Independent Living Resource Center
Counties Served: Sedgwick, Sumner

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

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

Oversight Process: SSR The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

State Funds

Oversight Process: The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: Underserved areas are covered by an MOU and funds received from Independence, Inc. for at least FFY 25, then the funds should come through award of a Title VII C funds directly from ACL.

Oversight Entity: DSE

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Sedgwick (Full Services)

Sumner (Full Services)

Living Independently in Northwest Kansas, Inc.

Counties Served: Barton, Cheyenne, Decatur, Ellis, Finney, Gove, Graham, Grant, Gray, Greeley, Hamilton, Haskell, Kearny, Lane, Logan, Meade, Morton, Norton, Osborne, Pawnee, Phillips, Rawlins, Rice, Rooks, Rush, Russell, Scott, Seward, Sheridan, Sherman, Smith, Stanton, Stevens, Thomas, Trego, Wallace, Wichita

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

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

Oversight Process: SSR The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

State Funds

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Barton (Full Services)
Cheyenne (Full Services)
Decatur (Full Services)
Ellis (Full Services)
Finney (Full Services)
Gove (Full Services)
Graham (Full Services)
Grant (Full Services)
Gray (Full Services)
Greeley (Full Services)
Hamilton (Full Services)
Haskell (Full Services)
Kearny (Full Services)
Lane (Full Services)
Logan (Full Services)
Meade (Full Services)
Morton (Full Services)
Norton (Full Services)
Osborne (Full Services)
Pawnee (Full Services)
Phillips (Full Services)
Rawlins (Full Services)
Rice (Full Services)
Rooks (Full Services)
Rush (Full Services)
Russell (Full Services)
Scott (Full Services)
Seward (Full Services)
Sheridan (Full Services)
Sherman (Full Services)
Smith (Full Services)
Stanton (Full Services)
Stevens (Full Services)
Thomas (Full Services)
Trego (Full Services)
Wallace (Full Services)
Wichita (Full Services)

Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc.

Counties Served: Allen, Anderson, Bourbon, Butler, Chase, Coffey, Cowley, Elk, Greenwood, Linn, Lyon, Marion, Miami, Morris, Osage, Shawnee

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

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

Oversight Process: SSR The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

State Funds

Oversight Process: The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE

Other Non-Federal Funds

Oversight Process: covered by an MOU and funds received from Independence, Inc. for at least FFY 25, then the funds should come through award of a Title VII C funds directly from ACL.

Oversight Entity: DSE

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Allen (Full Services)

Anderson (Full Services)

Bourbon (Full Services)

Butler (Full Services)

Chase (Full Services)

Coffey (Full Services)

Cowley (Full Services)

Elk (Full Services)

Greenwood (Full Services)

Linn (Full Services)

Lyon (Full Services)

Marion (Full Services)

Miami (Full Services)

Morris (Full Services)

Osage (Full Services)

Shawnee (Full Services)

Southeast Kansas Independent Living Resource Center, Inc.

Counties Served: Chautauqua, Cherokee, Crawford, Labette, Montgomery, Neosho, Wilson, Woodson

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

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

Oversight Process: SSR The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

State Funds

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Chautauqua (Full Services)

Cherokee (Full Services)

Crawford (Full Services)

Labette (Full Services)

Montgomery (Full Services)

Neosho (Full Services)

Wilson (Full Services)

Woodson (Full Services)

Three Rivers, Inc

Counties Served: Atchison, Brown, Clay, Doniphan, Geary, Jackson, Leavenworth, Marshall, Nemaha, Pottawatomie, Riley, Wabaunsee, Washington

All Sources of Funding:

Title VII Chapter 1, Part B

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

Title VII Chapter 1, Part C

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

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

Oversight Process: SSR The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

State Funds

Oversight Process: The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP

Oversight Entity: DSE and ACL/OILP

SPIIL Signatory: Yes

County Services

Atchison (Full Services)

Brown (Full Services)

Clay (Full Services)

Doniphan (Full Services)

Geary (Full Services)

Jackson (Full Services)

Leavenworth (Full Services)

Marshall (Full Services)

Nemaha (Full Services)

Pottawatomie (Full Services)

Riley (Full Services)

Wabaunsee (Full Services)

Washington (Full Services)

3.1 - EXISTING CENTERS

CIL Network

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

Kansas currently has a network of eight CILs covering all counties. The eight CILs, territories and funding mix for the current federal fiscal year is as listed per CIL. CILs awarded federal funds by the DSE will be paid based on the availability of SSR funds, as program income must be expended first. All 105 Kansas counties are provided core independent living services through a combination of state and federal funding. All eight CILs listed here in the SPIIL are eligible to sign the SPIIL.

3.2 - EXPANSION AND ADJUSTMENT OF NETWORK

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

Definition of served, unserved, and underserved.

It is a Kansas priority to support the needs of existing Centers for Independent Living (CIL) in their efforts to establish an effective statewide network of IL services.

Served groups or populations means individuals with disabilities who receive or have received services from a Center for Independent Living; this includes information and referral services. The term "underserved communities" refers to disabled people in populations as well as geographic communities that have been systematically denied the opportunity to participate fully in aspects of economic, social, and civic life. Characteristics that have contributed to the systematic exclusion of underserved disabled people can include type, nature, severity of disability, racial marginalization, ethnic background, gender identity. Geographic communities may include populations in rural areas, or populations located in area deprivation index communities. "Unserved communities" refers to people who share a characteristic or who live in an area where they have been unable to access services otherwise available.

Unserved or underserved communities shall be determined by the service areas where the CIL is located and provides primary services.

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

The goal of the Kansas CIL network is to secure resources adequate to fund individual CILs through Part B, Part C or a combination thereof, as a "base" amount of \$650,000. If a national organization makes a recommendation for base funding higher than \$650,000 based on actuarial data, the Kansas IL network would agree to that amount and use that amount in place of \$650,000 where referenced herein. Maintaining continuity of services by offering support for CILs that may be encountering trouble in operations, to minimize disruption to services by people served. Should a CIL either relinquish or have its award terminated, and after collaboration with the Administration on Community Living, or the DSE; the first priority will be to guarantee continuation of services covering the service area vacated by the CIL which relinquished or had its federal or state award terminated. Redistribution of funds relinquished by the termination of a CIL will follow the guidelines established in items a), b) or c) below or the specifics listed here:

The Kansas IL Network will carry forward the Part C funding guidelines, and future application for those Part C funds when ACL releases the application process, outlined in the 2024 technical amendment of the last SPIL. All CILs becoming Part C funded will only strengthen the KS IL Network.

*Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc. will continue to cover Shawnee County.

*Independent Connection has identified the following plan to reach underserved areas of our service area with additional funding. As identified in the 2025-2027 State Plan for Independent Living, under Outreach, CILs will be encouraged to provide outreach to individuals residing in counties that document less than 3% of contribution to the PPR report (704) data of individuals served. As such, Independent Connection has an annual goal of reaching 3%-5% of people with disabilities in our service area.

We have opportunities to reach more individuals in five outlying rural counties - Cloud, Dickinson, Jewell, Mitchell, and Republic (representing 55% of the number of counties in our service area and 35% of the total population with disabilities in our service area). During the last PPR date range (2022-2023), 13% of individuals who contacted us for independent living goal support and 11% of information and referral service contacts were in these five counties.

We would use Part C funding to increase service hours and outreach activities in these five counties.

*Beyond Barriers has identified the following plan to reach the underserved populations in our service area with additional funding.

Identified in the FFY21-23 SPIL, CILs will be encouraged to provide outreach to individuals residing in counties that document less than 3% of contribution to the PPR report (704) data of individuals served. Beyond Barriers has an annual goal of reaching 3-5% of people with disabilities in our

service area. Targeted areas to reach are McPherson County with a population of 29,324 and 3,887 people identified as people with disabilities. Harvey County has a population of 3328 and 4,710 people identified as persons with a disability.

We would utilize Part C funding to establish a new outreach specialist position that can significantly enhance our ability to serve underserved individuals with disabilities in the counties we operate in. This role would be instrumental in identifying and addressing the unique needs of these communities, ensuring that they have equitable access to the support and resources they require. The outreach specialist would play a pivotal role in reaching out to underserved populations, including those in rural areas, low-income neighborhoods, and minority communities. By establishing partnerships with local organizations, community leaders, and advocacy groups, they can effectively connect with individuals who may be facing barriers to accessing services due to various factors such as socioeconomic status, language barriers, or lack of awareness. People from the disability community face many barriers to equal access in receiving adequate healthcare, affordable and accessible housing, transportation, job training and employment, education, and financial stability. The lack of knowledge about existing resources, especially in rural areas, can lead to secondary disabilities.

*The Independent Living Resource Center has identified the following plan to reach the underserved areas in Sedgwick County which we serve. Below are the populations that we will be reaching out to: Sedgwick County has a population of 509,371 and 72,290 are persons identified as persons with disabilities or individuals with living difficulties.

According to the Sedgwick County census population for Disabilities in the county they are reporting 35,120 with Ambulatory Difficulty - 11,883 with Self-Care Difficulty and 23,697 with Independent Living Difficulty. All of these listed are 3% or above in percentage of needing services.

We would utilize Part C funding to support and enrich our service quality and availability, continue to cultivate partnerships to assist people with disabilities as they navigate barriers, and advocate for accessible and inclusive activities that promote independence. Our reach could be higher with additional funding to allow for more service hours and more outreach activities. Specifically, we will focus on Sedgwick County since it is the largest county that we serve. Independent Living Resource Center has an annual goal of reaching 3% - 6% of people with disabilities in our service area by hosting awareness events in these communities and provide information and referral and assistance for things such as housing, Medicaid applications, social security applications, rental assistance, food assistance, durable medical equipment, health insurance options just to name a few.

Our IL staff will be reaching out to the county for additional information of locations, etc. and the funding we would receive would allow us to do more and reach more persons in our communities. We would use Part C funding to increase service hours and outreach activities.

Priorities for establishment of new CIL(s).

Should new adequate funds become available to establish a new CIL in Kansas the CILs and SILCK will come together to analyze data and formulate a plan for a new CIL.

c) Long term state and/or Part C federal funds greater than \$650,000 could be used to begin the establishment of a new CIL, if base funding for all existing Kansas CILs is at least \$650,000.

When notification of additional funding is received the SILCK will inform the CILs and support a collaborative process including a needs assessment and application process. It will be established that a routine process to create or locate a new CIL will include thoughtful collaboration between the Kansas CILs and SILCK to ensure a new CIL is located in a community of need, and the SILCK to ensure compliance with provisions of the SPIL.

Kansas, as a largely frontier state, with the majority of the population being in the eastern third of the state, faces substantial challenges to ensuring meaningful IL services are available to people with disabilities in all areas of the state. CILs, local CIL boards, SILCK and our consumers will be actively engaged in the next three years to evaluate the adequacy of the existing CIL network, the

existence of unserved and underserved populations in the state, and the capacity of existing CILs to support IL services for people within existing service areas.

The SILCK will coordinate with the existing network of CILs to evaluate and assess the ability of the network to meet the needs of Kansans with disabilities in all areas of the state.

The SILCK will coordinate with the existing network of CILs to work through a collaborative process to determine if the existing service areas should be adjusted and if so, how.

The SILCK will coordinate with the existing network of CILs to work through a collaborative process to identify funding changes associated with service area adjustments, the need for additional funding or resources to provide adequate services within existing or adjusted service areas, or if no funding changes are needed.

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

Maintaining continuity of services by offering support for CILs that may be encountering trouble in operations, to minimize disruption to services by people served. Should a CIL either relinquish or have its award terminated, and after collaboration with the Administration on Community Living, or the DSE; the first priority will be to guarantee continuation of services covering the service area vacated by the CIL which relinquished or had its federal or state award terminated. Redistribution of funds relinquished by the termination of a CIL will follow the guidelines established in items a), b) or c) below or the specifics listed here:

Should it become necessary to close a CIL in receipt of funds awarded through the DSE:

The DSE will first determine if the closing CIL is leaving any remaining State awarded Title VII, Part B, State General Funds (SGF) or Social Security Reimbursement (SSR) grant funds available for IL use.

Should there be any Title VII, Part B State awarded grant funds available for IL use, in collaboration with the SILCK and the Kansas CILs, the DSE will identify and utilize the most efficient process allowed under the State procurement process to ensure the continuation of services in the affected territory. At its discretion the DSE will, after input from the SILCK and the CILs, distribute SGF and SSR funds available for IL services to the affected geographic area.

Should the CIL close without any State awarded funds available, the DSE will solicit the SILCK and the CILs recommendations and identify the territory as currently unserved by an existing CIL. The DSE will identify and utilize the most efficient process allowed under the State procurement process to ensure the continuation of services in the affected territory. The IL network will refer any callers to the nearest service provider. The closest service provider is not assumed to be the most available provider.

Should any Title VII, Part B funds allotted for IL services for fiscal years covered by this SPIL not be fully expended for any reason, the SILCK and the Kansas CILs will provide input on an optimal use of those funds for established goals and objectives of the IL Network and/or the SPIL. SILCK and the CILs encourage that other funds available to the DSE for IL services be used to continue the establishment of the statewide network of IL services provided by the Kansas CILs.

Should new additional funding become available during the course of this three-year plan, the funds will be distributed according to the following:

a) Long term Part C funds, that are not otherwise directly distributed, up to \$50,000 a year will be distributed equally among existing Part C federally funded CILs in Kansas which meet the federal definition of a Center for Independent Living. This ensures the established statewide network and its infrastructure to provide service and outreach can be maintained.

b) Long term Part C funds, that are not otherwise directly distributed, greater than \$50,000 could be used to support expanded services within any Kansas CIL or CILs. The existing network of CILs have worked with the SILCK to develop a weighted formula for distribution of any additional funds to existing CILs based on 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according

to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: (percent of PWD in service area served*0.6)+(percent of total square miles served*0.4) = percent of allocation.

c) Long term state and/or Part C federal funds greater than \$650,000 could be used to begin the establishment of a new CIL, if base funding for all existing Kansas CILs is at least \$650,000. When notification of additional funding is received the SILCK will inform the CILs and support a collaborative process including a needs assessment and application process. It will be established that a routine process to create or locate a new CIL will include thoughtful collaboration between the Kansas CILs and SILCK to ensure a new CIL is located in a community of need, and the SILCK to ensure compliance with provisions of the SPIL.

d) Any one time or short term federal funds intended for Independent Living and not otherwise restricted, would be distributed to all CILs. The existing network of CILs have worked with the SILCK to develop a weighted formula for distribution of any additional funds to existing CILs based on 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: (percent of PWD in service area served*0.6)+(percent of total square miles served*0.4) = percent of allocation.

e) Distribution of Non Federal, long term funds should be in support of the IL Network intent to bring base funding for all Kansas CILs to at least \$650,000. Base funding refers to Part C, Part B, State IL funding, or a mix of these funds as awarded to the individual CIL. The distribution of these long term funds should consider the most equitable distribution to bring as many of the Kansas CILs as possible, closer to the goal of at least \$650,000 base funding. Kansas CILs who have achieved base funding of \$650,000 will not receive a distribution of long-term, non-federal funds during this State Plan period, until all Kansas CILs have reached base funding goal.

Once all CILs have long term operating funding of at least \$650,000, the existing network of CILs have worked with the SILCK to develop a weighted formula for distribution of any additional funds to existing CILs based on 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: (percent of PWD in service area served*0.6)+(percent of total square miles served*0.4) = percent of allocation.

f) Non Federal, short term funds that are not otherwise restricted should be distributed according to the weighted formula developed by the existing CILs and SILCK: 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: (percent of PWD in service area served*0.6)+(percent of total square miles served*0.4) = percent of allocation.

Should Title VII, Part C or Part B federal funding be reduced during the course of this three-year plan, the funds will be distributed according to the following:

a), If ACL leaves it to the discretion of the IL Network, reduction to long term Part C funds will be reduced proportionally using the network developed weighted formula among existing Part C federally funded CILs in Kansas: 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: (percent of PWD in service area served*0.6)+(percent of total square miles served*0.4) = percent of allocation.

b) Reduction in long term Part B or other funds supporting the operations of CILs in the state will be reduced proportionally using the network developed weighted formula among CILs receiving such funds in Kansas: 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: (percent of PWD in service area served*0.6)+(percent of total square miles served*0.4) = percent of allocation.

c) Reductions to any one time or short term federal funds, intended for Independent Living would be reduced proportionally using the network developed weighted formula by CILs receiving such funding: 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: (percent of PWD

in service area served*0.6)+(percent of total square miles served*0.4) = percent of allocation. Kansas, as a largely frontier state, with the majority of the population being in the eastern third of the state, faces substantial challenges to ensuring meaningful IL services are available to people with disabilities in all areas of the state. CILs, local CIL boards, SILCK and our consumers will be actively engaged in the next three years to evaluate the adequacy of the existing CIL network, the existence of unserved and underserved populations in the state, and the capacity of existing CILs to support IL services for people within existing service areas. The SILCK will coordinate with the existing network of CILs to evaluate and assess the ability of the network to meet the needs of Kansans with disabilities in all areas of the state. The SILCK will coordinate with the existing network of CILs to work through a collaborative process to determine if the existing service areas should be adjusted and if so, how. The SILCK will coordinate with the existing network of CILs to work through a collaborative process to identify funding changes associated with service area adjustments, the need for additional funding or resources to provide adequate services within existing or adjusted service areas, or if no funding changes are needed.

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

CIL Administration and Boards of Directors shall be responsible for planning to build capacity of existing CILs and/or expand services or service areas by establishing branch offices and/or satellites of existing CILs, based on local needs, preferences and priorities.

The Kansas IL Network will carry forward the Part C funding guidelines, and future application for those Part C funds when ACL releases the application process, outlined in the 2024 technical amendment of the last SPIL. All CILs becoming Part C funded will only strengthen the KS IL Network.

*Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc. will continue to cover Shawnee County.

*Independent Connection has identified the following plan to reach underserved areas of our service area with additional funding. As identified in the 2025-2027 State Plan for Independent Living, under Outreach, CILs will be encouraged to provide outreach to individuals residing in counties that document less than 3% of contribution to the PPR report (704) data of individuals served. As such, Independent Connection has an annual goal of reaching 3%-5% of people with disabilities in our service area.

We have opportunities to reach more individuals in five outlying rural counties - Cloud, Dickinson, Jewell, Mitchell, and Republic (representing 55% of the number of counties in our service area and 35% of the total population with disabilities in our service area). During the last PPR date range (2022-2023), 13% of individuals who contacted us for independent living goal support and 11% of information and referral service contacts were in these five counties.

We would use Part C funding to increase service hours and outreach activities in these five counties.

*Beyond Barriers has identified the following plan to reach the underserved populations in our service area with additional funding.

Identified in the FFY21-23 SPIL, CILs will be encouraged to provide outreach to individuals residing in counties that document less than 3% of contribution to the PPR report (704) data of individuals served. Beyond Barriers has an annual goal of reaching 3-5% of people with disabilities in our service area. Targeted areas to reach are McPherson County with a population of 29,324 and 3,887 people identified as people with disabilities. Harvey County has a population of 3328 and 4,710 people identified as persons with a disability.

We would utilize Part C funding to establish a new outreach specialist position that can significantly enhance our ability to serve underserved individuals with disabilities in the counties we operate in. This role would be instrumental in identifying and addressing the unique needs of these communities, ensuring that they have equitable access to the support and resources they require.

The outreach specialist would play a pivotal role in reaching out to underserved populations, including those in rural areas, low-income neighborhoods, and minority communities. By establishing partnerships with local organizations, community leaders, and advocacy groups, they can effectively connect with individuals who may be facing barriers to accessing services due to various factors such as socioeconomic status, language barriers, or lack of awareness. People from the disability community face many barriers to equal access in receiving adequate healthcare, affordable and accessible housing, transportation, job training and employment, education, and financial stability. The lack of knowledge about existing resources, especially in rural areas, can lead to secondary disabilities.

*The Independent Living Resource Center has identified the following plan to reach the underserved areas in Sedgwick County which we serve. Below are the populations that we will be reaching out to: Sedgwick County has a population of 509,371 and 72,290 are persons identified as persons with disabilities or individuals with living difficulties.

According to the Sedgwick County census population for Disabilities in the county they are reporting 35,120 with Ambulatory Difficulty - 11,883 with Self-Care Difficulty and 23,697 with Independent Living Difficulty. All of these listed are 3% or above in percentage of needing services.

We would utilize Part C funding to support and enrich our service quality and availability, continue to cultivate partnerships to assist people with disabilities as they navigate barriers, and advocate for accessible and inclusive activities that promote independence. Our reach could be higher with additional funding to allow for more service hours and more outreach activities. Specifically, we will focus on Sedgwick County since it is the largest county that we serve. Independent Living Resource Center has an annual goal of reaching 3% - 6% of people with disabilities in our service area by hosting awareness events in these communities and provide information and referral and assistance for things such as housing, Medicaid applications, social security applications, rental assistance, food assistance, durable medical equipment, health insurance options just to name a few. Our IL staff will be reaching out to the county for additional information of locations, etc. and the funding we would receive would allow us to do more and reach more persons in our communities. We would use Part C funding to increase service hours and outreach activities.

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

Should new additional funding become available during the course of this three-year plan, the funds will be distributed according to the following:

- a) Long term Part C funds, that are not otherwise directly distributed, up to \$50,000 a year will be distributed equally among existing Part C federally funded CILs in Kansas which meet the federal definition of a Center for Independent Living. This ensures the established statewide network and its infrastructure to provide service and outreach can be maintained.
- b) Long term Part C funds, that are not otherwise directly distributed, greater than \$50,000 could be used to support expanded services within any Kansas CIL or CILs. The existing network of CILs have worked with the SILCK to develop a weighted formula for distribution of any additional funds to existing CILs based on 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas:
(percent of PWD in service area served*0.6)+(percent of total square miles served*0.4) = percent of allocation.

- c) Long term state and/or Part C federal funds greater than \$650,000 could be used to begin the establishment of a new CIL, if base funding for all existing Kansas CILs is at least \$650,000.

When notification of additional funding is received the SILCK will inform the CILs and support a collaborative process including a needs assessment and application process. It will be established that a routine process to create or locate a new CIL will include thoughtful collaboration between the Kansas CILs and SILCK to ensure a new CIL is located in a community of need, and the SILCK to ensure compliance with provisions of the SPIL.

d) Any one time or short term federal funds intended for Independent Living and not otherwise restricted, would be distributed to all CILs. The existing network of CILs have worked with the SILCK to develop a weighted formula for distribution of any additional funds to existing CILs based on 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: $(\text{percent of PWD in service area served} \times 0.6) + (\text{percent of total square miles served} \times 0.4) = \text{percent of allocation}$.

e) Distribution of Non Federal, long term funds should be in support of the IL Network intent to bring base funding for all Kansas CILs to at least \$650,000. Base funding refers to Part C, Part B, State IL funding, or a mix of these funds as awarded to the individual CIL. The distribution of these long term funds should consider the most equitable distribution to bring as many of the Kansas CILs as possible, closer to the goal of at least \$650,000 base funding. Kansas CILs who have achieved base funding of \$650,000 will not receive a distribution of long-term, non-federal funds during this State Plan period, until all Kansas CILs have reached base funding goal.

Once all CILs have long term operating funding of at least \$650,000, the existing network of CILs have worked with the SILCK to develop a weighted formula for distribution of any additional funds to existing CILs based on 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: $(\text{percent of PWD in service area served} \times 0.6) + (\text{percent of total square miles served} \times 0.4) = \text{percent of allocation}$.

f) Non Federal, short term funds that are not otherwise restricted should be distributed according to the weighted formula developed by the existing CILs and SILCK: 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: $(\text{percent of PWD in service area served} \times 0.6) + (\text{percent of total square miles served} \times 0.4) = \text{percent of allocation}$.

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

Should Title VII, Part C or Part B federal funding be reduced during the course of this three-year plan, the funds will be distributed according to the following:

a), If ACL leaves it to the discretion of the IL Network, reduction to long term Part C funds will be reduced proportionally using the network developed weighted formula among existing Part C federally funded CILs in Kansas: 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: $(\text{percent of PWD in service area served} \times 0.6) + (\text{percent of total square miles served} \times 0.4) = \text{percent of allocation}$.

b) Reduction in long term Part B or other funds supporting the operations of CILs in the state will be reduced proportionally using the network developed weighted formula among CILs receiving such funds in Kansas: 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: $(\text{percent of PWD in service area served} \times 0.6) + (\text{percent of total square miles served} \times 0.4) = \text{percent of allocation}$.

c) Reductions to any one time or short term federal funds, intended for Independent Living would be reduced proportionally using the network developed weighted formula by CILs receiving such funding: 60% of the number of people with disabilities in their service area (according to the most recent Census data), and 40% of the square miles within the existing service areas: $(\text{percent of PWD in service area served} \times 0.6) + (\text{percent of total square miles served} \times 0.4) = \text{percent of allocation}$.

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.

The Kansas IL Network will carry forward the Part C funding guidelines, and future application for those Part C funds when ACL releases the application process, outlined in the 2024 technical

amendment of the last SPIL. All CILs becoming Part C funded will only strengthen the KS IL Network.

*Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc. will continue to cover Shawnee County.

*Independent Connection has identified the following plan to reach underserved areas of our service area with additional funding. As identified in the 2025-2027 State Plan for Independent Living, under Outreach, CILs will be encouraged to provide outreach to individuals residing in counties that document less than 3% of contribution to the PPR report (704) data of individuals served. As such, Independent Connection has an annual goal of reaching 3%-5% of people with disabilities in our service area.

We have opportunities to reach more individuals in five outlying rural counties - Cloud, Dickinson, Jewell, Mitchell, and Republic (representing 55% of the number of counties in our service area and 35% of the total population with disabilities in our service area). During the last PPR date range (2022-2023), 13% of individuals who contacted us for independent living goal support and 11% of information and referral service contacts were in these five counties.

We would use Part C funding to increase service hours and outreach activities in these five counties.

*Beyond Barriers has identified the following plan to reach the underserved populations in our service area with additional funding.

Identified in the FFY21-23 SPIL, CILs will be encouraged to provide outreach to individuals residing in counties that document less than 3% of contribution to the PPR report (704) data of individuals served. Beyond Barriers has an annual goal of reaching 3-5% of people with disabilities in our service area. Targeted areas to reach are McPherson County with a population of 29,324 and 3,887 people identified as people with disabilities. Harvey County has a population of 3328 and 4,710 people identified as persons with a disability.

We would utilize Part C funding to establish a new outreach specialist position that can significantly enhance our ability to serve underserved individuals with disabilities in the counties we operate in.

This role would be instrumental in identifying and addressing the unique needs of these communities, ensuring that they have equitable access to the support and resources they require.

The outreach specialist would play a pivotal role in reaching out to underserved populations,

including those in rural areas, low-income neighborhoods, and minority communities. By

establishing partnerships with local organizations, community leaders, and advocacy groups, they can effectively connect with individuals who may be facing barriers to accessing services due to

various factors such as socioeconomic status, language barriers, or lack of awareness.

People from the disability community face many barriers to equal access in receiving adequate healthcare, affordable and accessible housing, transportation, job training and employment,

education, and financial stability. The lack of knowledge about existing resources, especially in rural areas, can lead to secondary disabilities.

*The Independent Living Resource Center has identified the following plan to reach the underserved areas in Sedgwick County which we serve. Below are the populations that we will be reaching out to: Sedgwick County has a population of 509,371 and 72,290 are persons identified as persons with disabilities or individuals with living difficulties.

According to the Sedgwick County census population for Disabilities in the county they are reporting 35,120 with Ambulatory Difficulty - 11,883 with Self-Care Difficulty and 23,697 with Independent Living Difficulty. All of these listed are 3% or above in percentage of needing services.

We would utilize Part C funding to support and enrich our service quality and availability, continue to cultivate partnerships to assist people with disabilities as they navigate barriers, and advocate for

accessible and inclusive activities that promote independence. Our reach could be higher with

additional funding to allow for more service hours and more outreach activities. Specifically, we will focus on Sedgwick County since it is the largest county that we serve. Independent Living Resource

Center has an annual goal of reaching 3% - 6% of people with disabilities in our service area by hosting awareness events in these communities and provide information and referral and assistance

for things such as housing, Medicaid applications, social security applications, rental assistance,

food assistance, durable medical equipment, health insurance options just to name a few. Our IL staff will be reaching out to the county for additional information of locations, etc. and the funding we would receive would allow us to do more and reach more persons in our communities. We would use Part C funding to increase service hours and outreach activities.

Kansas, as a largely frontier state, with the majority of the population being in the eastern third of the state, faces substantial challenges to ensuring meaningful IL services are available to people with disabilities in all areas of the state. CILs, local CIL boards, SILCK and our consumers will be actively engaged in the next three years to evaluate the adequacy of the existing CIL network, the existence of unserved and underserved populations in the state, and the capacity of existing CILs to support IL services for people within existing service areas.

The SILCK will coordinate with the existing network of CILs to evaluate and assess the ability of the network to meet the needs of Kansans with disabilities in all areas of the state.

The SILCK will coordinate with the existing network of CILs to work through a collaborative process to determine if the existing service areas should be adjusted and if so, how.

The SILCK will coordinate with the existing network of CILs to work through a collaborative process to identify funding changes associated with service area adjustments, the need for additional funding or resources to provide adequate services within existing or adjusted service areas, or if no funding changes are needed.

Temporary Changes (if applicable) Other (if applicable)

Other

Should an emergency or disaster situation happen in Kansas, which results in additional federal or state funding distributed according to specific formulas, unless specifically prohibited, CILS may use the funds to provide services outside their service area. Furthermore, if the IL Network agrees that during this emergency time a shift in Part B or state funds is needed to cover areas in need, funding can be adjusted.

Section 4: Designated State Entity

4.0 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

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

4.1 - DSE RESPONSIBILITIES

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

4.2 - ADMINISTRATION AND STAFFING: DSE ASSURANCES

Administrative and staffing support provided by the DSE.

No more than 5% of Part B appropriation will be used on administrative costs. No DSE employees

will serve as staff to the SILC.

4.3 - STATE-IMPOSED REQUIREMENTS

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

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

There are no state imposed requirements on IL. The state has general grant requirements for reporting of all grantees, however no requirements that limit, expand or alter the requirements of the SPIL.

Pursuant to 45 CFR 1329.15(c)(4), the DSE may not include any conditions or requirements in the SILC's Resource Plan that may compromise the independence of the SILC.

4.4 - GRANT PROCESS & DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

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

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

Process for soliciting proposals

Rehabilitation Services follows the grant procedures of the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF). Generally, grants are awarded on a three-year cycle. The cycle begins with a competitive request for proposals (RFP). The RFP specifies the purpose and goals for the program, the qualifications for grant organizations, the scope of work to be completed, the budget format and required documentation/assurances. Interested organizations submit proposals that specify the organization's qualifications, the services they will provide, the plan for delivery of services, the scope of services in accordance with the RFP, qualifications of key personnel and a line-item proposed budget. These proposals are then reviewed by a peer review panel, including a subject matter expert. Peer reviewers evaluate proposals to make sure the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the program or legislative requirements as stated in the RFP. DCF leadership uses the peer review ratings and summaries as guidance when selecting projects for awards. Peer review ratings are advisory. In addition to the peer review ratings, considerations for award may include, but are not limited to, underserved populations, strategic priorities, past performance, geographic balance, and available funding. If funding requests exceed the amount available, there may be negotiations. Grants are then awarded for a three-year cycle. Renewals for years two and three are contingent on performance of the grantee and ongoing availability of funds.

Development of format for proposals

Rehabilitation Services follows the grant procedures of the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF). The RFP specifies the purpose and goals for the program, the qualifications for grant organizations, the scope of work to be completed, the budget format and required documentation/assurances.

Process for reviewing proposals and who reviewers will be

Rehabilitation Services follows the grant procedures of the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF). These proposals are then reviewed by a peer review panel, including a subject matter expert. Peer reviewers evaluate proposals to make sure the information presented is

reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the program or legislative requirements as stated in the RFP.

Process for evaluating performance and compliance of grantees

Rehabilitation Services follows the grant procedures of the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF). Peer reviewers evaluate proposals to make sure the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the program or legislative requirements as stated in the RFP. DCF leadership uses the peer review ratings and summaries as guidance when selecting projects for awards. Peer review ratings are advisory. In addition to the peer review ratings, considerations for award may include, but are not limited to, underserved populations, strategic priorities, past performance, geographic balance, and available funding. If funding requests exceed the amount available, there may be negotiations. Grants are then awarded for a three-year cycle. Renewals for years two and three are contingent on performance of the grantee and ongoing availability of funds.

4.5 - OVERSIGHT PROCESS FOR PART B FUNDS

The oversight process to be followed by the DSE.

Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) monitors monthly financial reports as well as quarterly and annual individual program performance reports submitted by all CILs/SILC receiving funding through KRS. Additionally, KRS also requires submission of independent auditor's reports by all CILs/SILC. Independent auditor's reports are reviewed by DCF Audit Services. DCF Audit Services monitors for all follow up and corrective action.

The DSE determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE, for the following CILs: Independent Living Resource Center, Independent Connection, Inc., Beyond Barriers Kansas, Inc., and Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc. The DSE and ACL/OILP determines oversight process, which involves but is not limited to the CIL submitting the PPR to the DSE and ACL/OILP, for the following CILs: Independence Inc., Living Independently in Northwest Kansas, Inc., Southeast Kansas Independent Living Center, Inc., and Three Rivers, Inc..

4.6 - 722 VS. 723 STATE

722 State

Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

5.1 - ESTABLISHMENT OF SILC

How the SILC is established and SILC autonomy is assured.

The SILCK is incorporated as a non-profit, has received 501 (c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service, and is independent of all State agencies (including the DSE), CILs and other organizations. The SILCK is governed by a board of directors with members appointed by the governor. In the absence of paid staff the board may designate assignment of SILCK duties. SILCK's office is located separate from the DSE. The Kansas SILC board is responsible to select and supervise its staff, establish and manage its budget, bylaws, policies and procedures, and set and carryout priorities and activities. This assures the SILCs autonomy.

5.2 - SILC RESOURCE PLAN

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

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

The SILCK resource plan includes:

\$162,882.22 Part B Funds and SGF for FFY 2025

\$168,297.67 Part B Funds and SGF for FFY 2026

\$173,983.89 Part B Funds and SGF for FFY 2027

The Statewide Independent Living Council of Kansas, Inc. (SILCK) was established as a not-for-profit corporation to coordinate the functions related to the planning, monitoring, and evaluation of the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) and other authorities as described in Section 705 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. The SILCK will maintain staff and space commensurate to the efforts necessary to carry out the work of the Council.

The resource plan outlined above identifies the federal and state funds provided by the DSE for the operation and management of the SILCK in accordance with its federally designated duties and authorities.

The Resource Plan supports management and operation of the SILCK, including but not limited to, staff, maintaining not for profit 501(c)3 status, contractual services necessary to meet the designated duties and authorities of a SILC, board training and development, and travel costs and reasonable accommodations for members and staff. The SILCK is autonomous and responsible to manage its budget.

Process used to develop the Resource Plan.

The SILCK and the DSE had multiple meetings and conversations where they agreed upon the necessity of the SILCK Resource Plan. At this time the DSE did not commit to use of Innovation and Expansion funds for part of the SILCK Resource Plan. The SILCK and the CILs had a SPIL development meeting and reviewed multiple drafts of the SPIL.

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

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

As an independent and autonomous organization, SILCK is responsible for management of its budget and any expenditures. As a grantee with the DSE, the SILCK agrees, as follows, to be responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate procedures and internal financial controls governing the management and utilization of funds provided hereunder which will be in the form pursuant to generally accepted accounting procedures.

In addition, the SILCK has in place fiscal policies and procedures which address internal controls, safe-guarding assets, expenditures, cash receipts, cash disbursements, compliance with all federal and state laws and regulations, and the annual budget process.

In the annual budget process, the SILCK develops a budget, to the maximum extent possible, based on existing net assets and anticipated assets under current agreements. Budget revisions are made, as needed, when new funding is received during the fiscal year.

The resource plan will support the Councils activities, including personnel, operating, and the following designated duties and authorities:

(1) Duties. - The Council shall

(A) develop the State plan as provided in section 704(a)(2);

(B) monitor, review, and evaluate the implementation of the State plan;

(C) meet regularly, and ensure that such meetings of the Council are open to the public and sufficient advance notice of such meetings is provided;

(D) submit to the Administrator such periodic reports as the Administrator may reasonably request, and keep such records, and afford such access to such records, as the Administrator finds necessary to verify the information in such reports; and

(E) as appropriate, coordinate activities with other entities in the State that provide services similar to or complimentary to independent living services, such as entities that facilitate the provision of or provide long-term community-based services and supports.

(2) Authorities. - The Council may, consistent with the State plan described in section 704, unless prohibited by State law -

(A) in order to improve services provided to individuals with disabilities, work with Centers for Independent Living to coordinate services with public and private entities; SILCK leadership, in collaboration with all Kansas CILs and other entities whose standard operating practices actively support the IL philosophy, will provide education and awareness to public officials and public employees regarding the needs, priorities and emerging issues of CILs and Kansans with disabilities who need and use their services. This education and awareness can be achieved via public forums, electronic information sharing, and direct presentations at the local and state level.

(B) conduct resource development activities to support the activities described in this subsection or to collaborate and support the provision of Independent Living services by Centers for Independent Living; SILCK may create a specific committee, subcommittee or workgroup to who will address the identification of potential new and varied revenue and funding sources for the SILCK. These new sources may be achieved through grantsmanship, partnerships or other fund development measures.

(C) perform such other functions, consistent with the purpose of this chapter and comparable to other functions described in this subsection, as the Council determines to be appropriate.

(3) Limitation. - The Council shall not provide independent living services directly to individuals with significant disabilities or manage such services.

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

I&E funds are not used in Kansas so the SILC Resource plan utilizes more then 30% of Part B funds each year.

5.3 - MAINTENANCE OF SILC

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

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

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

The SILC is established and operating

The Board of Directors of the SILCK are responsible for hiring, supervision and removal of the Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for hiring, evaluating, and supervising other staff. The Executive Director has the responsibility of managing the day-to-day operations including carrying out the policies and goals of the SILCK. Those responsibilities are detailed in the Executive Director's position description. The Executive Director shall attend all Executive Committee and Council meetings. The current SILCK policy manual outlines staff performance evaluations and allows SILCK staff to request an evaluation at any time.

SILC Operations

The SILC operates in following the approved policies that ensure that SILC has the autonomy to operate and conduct its required duties and the granted authorities:

SILC Bylaws

Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics policies

Fiscal Policies and Procedures

Personnel Policies

Appointments are made in a timely manner to keep the SILC in compliance with the Act

SILCK Membership Eligibility. All residents of the State of Kansas shall be eligible to apply for appointment to the SILCK board of directors. **SILCK Membership Applications.** The application for membership shall be available on the SILCK website, from the SILCK staff and whenever requested. The application for membership shall be available in the necessary formats to insure full access. Individual residents of Kansas may submit applications for appointment to the Council to the SILCK office. Applicants may also elect to apply directly through the Governor's Office of Appointments and Certificate of Tax Clearance available online at

<https://www.da.ks.gov/gov/governor/appointments/>. **Application Review.** The Membership Committee of the SILCK shall review all membership applications submitted to the SILCK to ensure composition and qualification requirements are met and submit the list of recommended nominees to the Governor of Kansas. The Governor's appointment office will review all applications, including those submitted directly to the Governor's Office of Appointments and the recommendations that come through the SILCK. The SILCK executive director works with the Governor's staff to answer questions, provide information, and to facilitate the appointment process. The governor's office makes final appointments to the SILCK.

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

The SILCK is incorporated as a non-profit, has received 501 (c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service, and is independent of all State agencies (including the DSE), CILs and other organizations. The SILCK is governed by a board of directors with members appointed by the governor. In the absence of paid staff the board may designate assignment of SILCK duties. SILCK's office is located separate from the DSE. The Kansas SILC board is responsible to select and supervise its staff, establish and manage its budget, bylaws, policies and procedures, and set and carryout priorities and activities. This assures the SILCs autonomy.

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

The SILCK is incorporated as a non-profit, has received 501 (c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service, and is independent of all State agencies (including the DSE), CILs and other organizations. The SILCK is governed by a board of directors with members appointed by the governor. In the absence of paid staff the board may designate assignment of SILCK duties. SILCK's office is located separate from the DSE. The Kansas SILC board is responsible to select and supervise its staff, establish and manage its budget, bylaws, policies and procedures, and set and carryout priorities and activities. This assures the SILCs autonomy.

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

The SILCK resource plan includes:

\$162,882.22 Part B Funds and SGF for FFY 2025

\$168,297.67 Part B Funds and SGF for FFY 2026

\$173,983.89 Part B Funds and SGF for FFY 2027

The Statewide Independent Living Council of Kansas, Inc. (SILCK) was established as a not-for-profit corporation to coordinate the functions related to the planning, monitoring, and evaluation of the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) and other authorities as described in Section 705 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. The SILCK will maintain staff and space commensurate to the efforts necessary to carry out the work of the Council.

The resource plan outlined above identifies the federal and state funds provided by the DSE for the operation and management of the SILCK in accordance with its federally designated duties and authorities.

The Resource Plan supports management and operation of the SILCK, including but not limited to, staff, maintaining not for profit 501(c)3 status, contractual services necessary to meet the designated duties and authorities of a SILC, board training and development, and travel costs and reasonable accommodations for members and staff. The SILCK is autonomous and responsible to manage its budget.

Section 6: Legal Basis & Certifications

6.1 - DESIGNATED STATE ENTITY

The state entity/agency designated to receive and distribute funding, as directed by the SPIL, under Title VII, Part B of the Act is Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

Authorized representative of the DSE Daniel Decker. Title: Director.

6.2 - STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)

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

6.3 - CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CILS)

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

Beyond Barriers, Inc.

Independence, Inc.

Independent Connection, Inc.

Independent Living Resource Center

Living Independently in Northwest Kansas, Inc.

Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc.

Southeast Kansas Independent Living Resource Center, Inc.

Three Rivers, Inc

6.4.A

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

Yes

6.4.B

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

Yes

6.4.C

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

Yes

Section 7: DSE Assurances

DSE ASSURANCES

Daniel Decker acting on behalf of the DSE Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services located at:

Street: 555 S. Kansas Avenue

City: Topeka

State: KS

Zip Code: 66603

7.1

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

7.2

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

7.3

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

7.4

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

7.5

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

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

7.6

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

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

7.7

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

7.8

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

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

DSE SIGNATURE SECTION

Daniel Decker

Name of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Director of KRS

Title of DSE Director/Authorized Representative

Daniel Decker

Electronic Signature

06/25/2024

Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

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

8.1 - SILC ASSURANCES

Brian Ellefson acting on behalf of the SILC Kansas Statewide Independent Living Council located at:

Street: 1921 SE Indiana Ave, Suite E

City: Topeka

State: KS

Zip Code: 66607

45 CFR 1329.14 assures that:

1. The SILC regularly (not less than annually) provides the appointing authority recommendations for eligible appointments;
2. The SILC is composed of the requisite members set forth in the Act;
3. The SILC terms of appointment adhere to the Act;
4. The SILC is not established as an entity within a State agency in accordance with 45 CFR Sec. 1329.14(b);
5. The SILC will make the determination of whether it wants to utilize DSE staff to carry out the functions of the SILC;

- The SILC must inform the DSE if it chooses to utilize DSE staff;
 - The SILC assumes management and responsibility of such staff with regard to activities and functions performed for the SILC in accordance with the Act.
6. The SILC shall ensure all program activities are accessible to people with disabilities;
 7. The State Plan shall provide assurances that the designated State entity, any other agency, office, or entity of the State will not interfere with operations of the SILC, except as provided by law and regulation and;
 8. The SILC actively consults with unserved and underserved populations in urban and rural areas that include, indigenous populations as appropriate for State Plan development as described in Sec. 713(b)(7) the Act regarding Authorized Uses of Funds.

8.2 - INDICATORS OF MINIMUM COMPLIANCE

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

(a) STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL INDICATORS -

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

- meetings in accordance with existing State and federal laws, and 45 CFR 1329.17(f)(2)(i);
- d. Public meeting locations, where public input is being taken, are accessible to all people with disabilities, including, but not limited to:
- i. proximity to public transportation,
 - ii. physical accessibility, and
 - iii. effective communication and accommodations that include auxiliary aids and services, necessary to make the meeting accessible to all people with disabilities.
- e. Materials available electronically must be 508 compliant and, upon request, available in alternative and accessible format including other commonly spoken languages.
5. The SILC monitors, reviews and evaluates the State Plan in accordance with 45 CFR 1329.15(a)(2) ensuring:
- a. Timely identification of revisions needed due to any material change in State law, state organization, policy or agency operations that affect the administration of the State Plan approved by the Administration for Community Living.
6. The SILC State Plan resource plan includes:
- a. Sufficient funds received from:
 - i. Title VII, Part B funds;
 - ii. If the resource plan includes Title VII, Part B funds, the State Plan provides justification of the percentage of Part B funds to be used if the percentage exceeds 30 percent of Title VII, Part B funds received by the State;
 - iii. Funds for innovation and expansion activities under Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 721(a)(18), as applicable;
 - iv. Other public and private sources.
 - b. The funds needed to support:
 - i. Staff/personnel;
 - ii. Operating expenses;
 - iii. Council compensation and expenses;
 - iv. Meeting expenses including meeting space, alternate formats, interpreters, and other accommodations;
 - v. Resources to attend and/or secure training and conferences for staff and council members and;
 - vi. Other costs as appropriate.

SILC SIGNATURE SECTION

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

Brian Ellefson

Name of SILC Chair

Brian Ellefson

Electronic Signature

06/23/2024

Date

I understand that this constitutes a legal signature

Section 9: Signatures

SIGNATURES

The signatures below are of the SILC chairperson and at least 51 percent of the directors of the centers for independent living listed in section 6.3. These signatures indicate that the Kansas 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

Brian Ellefson Name of SILC Chair Brian Ellefson Electronic Signature 06/23/2024 Date I understand that this constitutes a legal signature
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CIL SIGNATURE SECTION

Southeast Kansas Independent Living Resource Center, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living Shari Coatney Name of CIL Director Shari J. Coatney Electronic Signature 06/26/2024 Date

Three Rivers, Inc Name of Center for Independent Living Audrey Schremmer Name of CIL Director Audrey Schremmer Electronic Signature 06/21/2024 Date
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Independence, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living Jill Enyart Name of CIL Director Jill Enyart Electronic Signature 06/24/2024 Date

Living Independently in Northwest Kansas, Inc. Name of Center for Independent Living Angie Zimmerman Name of CIL Director Angie Zimmerman Electronic Signature 06/23/2024 Date

Independent Living Resource Center Name of Center for Independent Living Cindi Unruh Name of CIL Director Cindi Unruh Electronic Signature 06/20/2024 Date

Beyond Barriers, Inc.
Name of Center for Independent Living
Erica Rivera
Name of CIL Director
Erica Rivera
Electronic Signature
06/24/2024
Date

Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc.
Name of Center for Independent Living
Deone Wilson
Name of CIL Director
Deone Wilson
Electronic Signature
06/24/2024
Date

Independent Connection, Inc.
Name of Center for Independent Living
Angie Saenger
Name of CIL Director
Angie Saenger
Electronic Signature
06/26/2024
Date