General Meeting

Wednesday, January 27, 2016 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Office

2211 W. Evans Ave., Denver, CO 80203

Present: Joe Anzures, Chair

Martha Mason, Chair Elect

Bill Wood, Secretary

Chris Roe, Treasurer

Nancy Jackson

Steven Estes

Jennifer Scilacci

Colin Laughlin

Travis Morgan

Matthew Ruggles

James “Joe” Triplett

Jason Eaton

Karen Prince, IL/OIB Program Coordinator

Melissa Fishburn

Absent: Jerry Michel

Mario Rocha

ASL Interpreters: Sara Romes

Denise Flores

Maya Luckner, Intern

Guests: Lana Mutters, CDPHE

Rob Buzogany, DVR

Joan La Belle, CPWD

Linda Taylor, CFI

Jordan, DVR Client

Dixie Herring, The Independence Center

Robin Bauknecht

Pat Going, ADA Consultant with The Independent Center

Greg Monk, The Independence Center

Carrie Roberts, FEMA

**Agenda**

Call to Order(Joe)

* Approval of Agenda
* Introductions
* Chairperson’s Remarks
  + Believe SILC is getting traction for this year
* Follow-ups from last meeting’s notes
  + Asked Chairperson to ensure their committee members are correct
  + Deaf providers in Colorado group had asked for funding in a letter, but they submitted a request. SILC approved funding last meeting for $400
* Approving the minutes
  + James “Joe” Triplett moved to approve the minutes
  + Travis Morgan seconded
  + Minutes approved

Old Business

* Independent Living Allocations Committee (Chris/Jason) [30 minutes]
  + Chris and Jason developed a proposed budget for SILC (see attachment). Line items were reviewed.
    - Travel: $15,000
      * Want to re-establish traveling meetings
    - Meetings: $8,000
      * Hoping to have meetings at the CILs themselves
    - Program Accommodations: $5,000
      * + Section total: $28,000
    - Questions:
      * Where does the funds come from? Who is the funding agent?
        + ILAC is working to establish use of the Part B funds and the DSE will provide some funding but amount is unknown.

The total amount for Part B dollars available is $91,500

* + - * Are the amounts flexible?
        + Yes
      * Dept of Ed prohibits purchase of food how can we provide catering?
        + Part B funds are not Dept of Ed, they are Dept of Health and Human Services and it is allowed
      * How can we travel to high cost tourist areas?
        + SILC is able to access the governmental rates at a lower cost
  + Operating
    - Professional services: $6,000
    - Operating costs: $6,000
    - Training funds: $6,500
    - Conferences: $5,000
      * Section total: $23,500
  + Committees/Other Budget Descriptions
    - SILC Coordinator: $29,250
    - Programming/Training: $5,000
    - Dues and Fees: $ 1,500
      * Section total: $35,750
  + Grand Total: $87,250
  + Next steps ILAC meeting in person on Friday, January 29. Based on outcome of that meeting will determine what happens next. Have had a budget of $48,000 and $30,000 in Part B for the Coordinator resulting in a $78,000.
  + Comments
    - Funding formula agreed by CILs should be looked at
    - Part B funds have all gone to the CIL historically so the SILC being funded by Part B would be from the CILs giving up their funding.
    - Funds would not be mandated or guaranteed as the Federal funds are not ever guaranteed
    - All 10 Centers would receive a cut.
    - SPIL needs to address the goals and how much is set to fund each goal.
* SPIL (Martha) [30 minutes]
  + This is the First Draft. It was reviewed. Please read the copy that was emailed to you, if you have not already, and provide comments to Martha or another SPIL Committee member.
  + Goal 1 – to improve SILC Effectiveness
  + Goal 2 – Improve SILC Member training
  + Goal 3 – Increase the capacity of the CILs
  + Nancy made a motion to accept the First draft of the SPIL. James “Joe” Triplett seconded.
    - Discussion: Nancy complemented Martha on the collaborative approach to developing the SPIL.
    - Next meeting of SPIL is February 8 at 1 pm.
  + Motion passed

Representative from the Center’s Director’s Report (Nancy)

* CILs have agreed to move to Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) under DVR and there is legislation being introduced to this session to move. CDHS was not interested in operating a Division of Independent Living. There is discussion to have an Office of Independent Living (OIL) under the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, which would include staff for OIL. Goal is to complete the legislative cycle for a move date of July 1, 2016, SFY 2017.
* Beth Danielson has retired from Connections for Independent Living and Patricia Ziegler is the new Executive Director. Deborah Weising is no longer at Mile High Independent Living (MHIL), information is that the CIL will be closing; it is unknown what the Federal government Administration for Community Living (ACL) will do with the Part C funds MHIL was receiving.
* Deaf and Hard of Hearing Committee there was some miscommunication and the group did not understand that the funds had already been approved. DRS submitted a proposal to the Colorado Commission of Deaf and Hard of Hearing which was not approved. The goal was/is to have a series of meetings to create a strategic plan to develop and increase services across the State.
  + Matthew Ruggles provided information on a white paper/issue brief in regards to telephone services. Problem is that people are discontinuing their landline service and the surcharge has decreased and there is a funding problem for many services. Proposal is to have the surcharge applied to all telephone surveys. Discussion on surcharge possible amounts and how they would be collected.
    - Issue briefs are on The Independence Center website
    - There was a suggestion made that the SILC take a position in favor of the legislation, however, the SILC is prohibited from taking positions or lobbying in any form, please see bylaws for further clarification. The Public Policy committee could look at the subject.
  + CPWD-Boulder is expanding their Medicaid waiver for TBI.
  + CFI-Grand Junction closes the last two weeks of January to provide services as a homeless shelter during Christmas and New Year’s week. One of the staff volunteered to be at the shelter and would work with the men and was able to help one person to gain a Section 8 voucher, address numerous issues, and is now stable.
  + The Independence Center – Colorado Springs they received a grant to start a Spinal Cord Injury group. A consumer utilizing SCI recreational services was profiled.

Committee Updates

* Executive (Joe)
  + - * Please be sure to participate in the calls. It is all Elected officers and Committee Chairs. Agenda is set for upcoming SILC meeting in this meeting.
    - Membership (Joe)
      * We have 5 upcoming vacancies. Joe Anzures, Nancy Jackson, Matthew Ruggles, Jerry Michel, and James “Joe” Triplett. Colin Laughlin is looking at needing to step down due to promotions at work and he brought Lana to see if she would be interested in joining in Colin’s position. Jerry Michel is retiring and moving to Hawaii. He will not be renewing his membership so we need to find someone from the Northeast area, needs to be a person with a disability.
    - Website/Social Media (Jason)
      * Having trouble with members attending the meeting. They are usually scheduled in the evenings.
      * Blue Ray Media notification they are closing. Will be working on finding a new company.
      * Looking to collect information for updating the brochure.
      * If anyone wants or needs SILC business cards just let Karen Prince know.
* Youth (Bill)
  + Have been working with the SPIL committee to include Youth transitions. Have been researching what is currently available in the State and want to increase partnerships. Also working to develop a Youth Consortium/Leadership Forum that would not be SILC/CIL specific. Committee will be organizational over the next few months.
* ASPIRE (Robin Bauknecht)
  + Robin provided an update on the ASPIRE program. Currently have completed all enrollment in August. Focusing on case management now. Have 4 contracts to provide training and services to youth and family members.
    - Public Policy (Matthew/James)
      * Nothing at present
    - DVR (Karen)
      * SB 15-240 Rule Formulation
        + SB 15-240 is the bill that increased the CILs base amount and established additional funds to be distributed by formula. The CILs met in October and came to agreement on the formula. The rule was written and put out for public comment Nov 25 – Dec 25. The rule then went through the Department’s clearance process and is being presented to the Human Services Board for adoption. Once the rule is adopted the funds will be disbursed to the CILs.
      * SILS numbers
        + The summary of the monthly reports that the CILs submit was reviewed (see attachment).
      * Region 8 update
        + There is not much to report at present. There was not a call this month due to SILC Congress.
* Finance/SILC updated Budget (Chris/Karen) [15 minutes]
  + New budget format was reviewed (see attachment)
  + Budget was initially set very lean to accommodate the SILC Coordinator. As the Coordinator resigned and it was chosen not to fill the position we have excess funds. We had stopped traveling the State to save funds. There was $12,000 set aside for SPIL development in addition to the $2,000 already set aside
  + Proposed budget was reviewed (see attachment). Bottom line is that we have additional funds available.
  + Committee Chairs were asked if they need funds to support their work. Any requests send to Karen.
  + Suggestions: hiring a company to develop and print our flyers. Could use funds send new members to Smooth as SILC.
  + Martha made a motion to adopt new meeting schedule in Boulder March 16 and Grand Junction May 4. Seconded by Jason and Travis. Discussion: focused on transportation issues and interpreters. Motion passes.
  + June Retreat. Discussion on one or two day retreat. Recommendation to enact a Retreat committee to establish an agenda and organizing. James “Joe” Triplett, Bill Wood, Jason Eaton (Chair), Joan La Belle, Nancy Jackson, and Lana Mutters.
  + Survey Monkey subscription expired. Does the SILC want to continue with the membership? Martha moves that the subscription is renewed. Bill seconded. No discussion. Motion passes.

Public Comment (Sign-up sheet by the door)

* Garrett Mumma asked why the services that are provided by Pueblo CIL are not copied Statewide.
* Bill Wood addressed the Adaptive Design Association
* Jason Eaton announced that the Independent Living Experience in conjunction with the College Living Experience on Feb 21 will be hosting a resource fair from 5 – 7:30 pm with a variety of speakers.

New Business continued

* Independent Living Program placement in State Government (Karen Prince)
  + As the Joint Budget Commission (JBC) voted and drafted a bill to move the Independent Living program to the Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) there is not much to discuss.
* 704 and 7OB Annual Report FFY15 (Karen)
  + 704 has been completed and is available for public viewing. It has not been submitted to the Independent Living Administration (ILA) yet as they do not have a working computer system and asked us to hold it. They will publish the report once received and approved. Karen will send the full report to the SILC.
  + 7OB is the annual report for the Older Individuals who are Blind (OIB) which has been taken out of the IL program under WIOA. The report has been completed and filed and is available if anyone would like a copy let Karen know.
* SILC Congress (Karen)
  + SILC Congress was held in Phoenix, Jan 16-19, 2016.
  + There was no basket taken to the Congress as Karen did not have time to collect items for the basket. Karen suggests and highly recommends that SILC members contribute to the basket for next year’s SILC.
  + SILC sessions focused on the upcoming regulations. Karen will scan and share the handouts and notes with the SILC.
  + Elections were held for SILC Congress Officers and where to have the Congress next year and the following year. It will be in Phoenix for 2017 and in Houston for 2018.
  + The Congress is really intended for SILC members and the CO SILC really should plan to send the Chair and possibly another member.
* Peak Parent Center (Beth Schaffner)
  + Unavailable today - moved to next SILC meeting
* Transition CoP Federal Program (Joe)
  + Federal program but no funds tied to it. A grass roots model being provided by Federal government, Peak Parent and ASPIRE are part of the program. It is focusing on transitions at a grass roots level.
* Emergency Preparedness shelter kits and Emergency Video  (Patrick Going)
  + To view the video go to TheIndependenceCenter.org, get involved, view video.
* NCIL Conference July 25-28 2016 Washington DC (Joe)
  + If going to belong to these organizations should have representatives present.
  + The IC sends someone to the conference
  + Discussion on who would be the best person to attend the conference – a CIL staff member sponsored through SILC or a SILC member.
  + Steven will keep track of NCIL information and report back to SILC on agenda. Karen will send Steve the link to the NCIL conference.
* No Wrong Door Grant Manager (Joe)
  + Comment period has been extended until Feb 4. Information has been forwarded to SILC members.
  + Discussion on RFA, expectations, and word on the street.
* Autism Awareness (Hannah)
  + Unavailable today - moved to next SILC meeting

Adjourn