Michigan’s Independent Living Network

Michigan’s Independent Living Network is comprised of Centers for Independent Living, Disability Network/Michigan and the Michigan Statewide Independent Living Council.

Centers for Independent Living
Michigan has 15 federally-designated Centers for Independent Living (CILs) that focus on removing barriers for people with disabilities and promoting self-sufficiency. We take a two-pronged approach to our services; helping people discover and reach their independent living goals and helping communities become more inclusive through education and advocacy.

CILs are unique in that they are community-based, private non-profits that are governed and staffed predominantly by people with disabilities. CILs serve people of all ages and all types of disabilities. But, it doesn’t stop there...we are also a great resource for families, caregivers, state/local government, legislators, businesses and community organizations.

Supports to individuals are focused on working in partnership with them to achieve their goals which often include increased independence, connections to their community and self-sufficiency. We do this through a variety of services that include: Information & Referral, Peer Support, Independent Living Skill Development, Individual & Systems Advocacy and Community Transitions.

Disability Network/Michigan
Disability Network/Michigan (DN/M) represents the collective voice & efforts of Michigan’s CILs at the state and national level. DN/M is devoted to supporting and building sustainable CILs through leadership development, relationship building, effective communication and mobilizing around issues that will have the greatest impact on delivering high-quality independent living services to people with disabilities.

Statewide Independent Living Council
The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) is an independent agency created by the Governor’s Executive Order, in accordance with the federal Rehabilitation Act. By law, each state must establish a SILC to be eligible for federal funding. The council is responsible for collaborative development of the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) which serves as the roadmap to improve independent living for Michigan’s citizens with disabilities. The SPIL is developed in coordination with Michigan’s CILs, along with input from a variety of other organizations and people with disabilities. To access the SPIL, visit www.misilc.org.

Investing in CILs Saves State Money
In 2016, for every GF/GP dollar invested in CILs, we returned $14. This translates into total taxpayer savings of $48 million.

CILs Promote Independence, Economic Self-Sufficiency, Equal Opportunities & Full Participation in Society
Every citizen in Michigan with a disability deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential. CILs have a long history of being a wise investment to help people discover and reach their potential while advocating for policy changes on a local, state and federal level that ensures equal opportunity and full participation in society.

The benefit to Michigan’s economy when we promote independence, economic self-sufficiency and equal opportunities in our communities include:

- More people are financially literate.
- Higher employment rate for people with disabilities.
- Young adults are more prepared for success in employment or post-secondary setting.
- Citizens have the supports they need to live in the community vs. an institutionalized setting, saving significant Medicaid costs.
- Accessible communities allow everyone to participate in the economy.
- People with disabilities have the skills to ask for accommodations that make it easier to stay in their jobs.
- Increased purchasing power & spending on Michigan products and services.
Changing Lives:

In 2016, CILs assisted 33,291 people with disabilities across every county in Michigan in reaching their independent living goals.

Age & Disability Demographics

CIL staff serve people with disabilities of ANY age and ALL disability types.

Disability Type %
- Cognitive 24%
- Hearing 2%
- Mental/Emotional 14%
- Multiple Disabilities 23%
- Physical 32%
- Vision 2%
- Other (non-specified) 4%

Age %
- Under 5 Years <1%
- 5 to 19 Years 9%
- 20 to 24 Years 9%
- 25 to 59 Years 51%
- Over 60 Years 30%

CIL Consumer Services Outcomes

Goals related to removing barriers to employment, affordable/accessible housing and transportation continue to be the most commonly identified needs of consumers.

HOUSING 7,383
EMPLOYMENT 7,095
TRANSPORTATION 4,561

In 2016, 80% of the independent living goals set by consumers were met with the assistance of CIL staff.

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Changing Communities:

In 2016, 43,900 Michigan citizens were impacted by a CIL through Disability Awareness Training, Community Education & Outreach and Systems Change Advocacy.

2016 Highlights

In addition to educational activities at the local level, Michigan’s network of CILs collectively worked on issues that impact public policy to ensure Michigan’s citizens with disabilities have equal opportunities and are able to fully participate in society.

Employment: Through a variety of venues, including the Michigan Hidden Talent Workshops, partnering with Michigan Rehabilitation Services and Bureau of Services to the Blind, and other community-based organizations, numerous employers were educated on the value of employing people with disabilities and how their bottom line can improve through hiring a diverse workforce. In addition, in partnership with other national disability organizations, we advocated for policy change to the Social Security program to remove disincentives to employment and helped further the Employment First implementation in Michigan.

Long-term Community Services & Supports: Michigan’s CILs continue to collaborate with the aging network, Aging and Adult Services Agency and the Medicaid Home and Community Based Services program to ensure that people with disabilities and seniors can remain living in their own homes or transition from institutional care.

Services to consumers rose steadily in 2016

Data collected from the CIL network during 2016 shows a steady increase in the number of services provided to people with disabilities; yet, the number of consumers served each year is not growing at the same rate. This data tells us that our consumers are experiencing more complex, multiple barriers to independent living.

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<td>62,216</td>
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<tr>
<th>Services (66,543)</th>
<th>People (33,291)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>FY 2013</td>
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<td>FY 2014</td>
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Transportation: Having access to reliable transportation options is an essential priority for people with disabilities to connect to work, shopping, health care and community. CILs take an active role both locally and at a state level to ensure public transportation is accessible and available so people with disabilities can have access to their communities.

Housing: Access to safe, accessible and affordable housing is a challenge for people with disabilities. The Michigan Disability Housing Workgroup, inclusive of the CILs, is a multi-organization workgroup solely focused on ensuring adequate housing options are available for people with disabilities in Michigan.

Disability is Diversity: We strive to ensure that all citizens understand that disability is part of the human experience and in no way diminishes one’s ability to participate in society. Our educational emphasis is on promoting equality, full participation and self-sufficiency for Michigan’s citizens with disabilities.
Financial Information:

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<th>Revenue</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td>Total Expenses</td>
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State Plan for Independent Living:

2014-2016 Goals Achieved:

• Signed a memorandum of understanding between Disability Network and the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons to enhance services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired.
• Met with Lt. Governor Calley to advance Employment First.
• Testified about transportation challenges to the Michigan Transportation Commission and Michigan legislature.
• Continued to advance a proposed federal pilot known as CareerACCESS, which would provide a waiver from the Social Security Administration for 18-30 year olds with significant disabilities, putting an emphasis on career development.
• Enhanced the partnership with Michigan Rehabilitation Services by negotiating contracts to provide Employment Navigator services and Pre-Employment Youth Transition Services.
• Collaborated with Medicaid Waiver agencies to transition over 1,600 people out of nursing facilities.

2017-2019 Goals Set:

Inclusion and Accessible Communities: Michigan’s Independent Living (IL) program will strive to create inclusive and accessible communities.

Education: Michigan’s IL program will work more closely with the education system to ensure students and families have the optimal educational experience.

Employment: Michigan’s IL program will partner with appropriate entities to facilitate increased employment in competitive, integrated settings.

Emergency Preparedness: Michigan’s IL program will continue to help individuals with disabilities and communities be prepared for emergency situations.

Long-Term Care Services and Supports: Michigan’s IL program will continue to promote community-based living as the preferred living arrangement for people with disabilities.

Effective and Efficient Independent Living Program: Michigan’s IL Network will continue to build a consumer driven, highly effective IL program that meets the federal standards and indicators as required by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act.

For more information about the State Plan for Independent Living, visit misilc.org
Appendix A: Chart Data

CIL Consumer Services Overall Trend (5 years)

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