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 and 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 though 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 2019, for every GF/GP dollar invested in CILs, we returned $7. This translates into total taxpayer savings of $43 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 ensure 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 2019, CILs assisted 31,125 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 5 Years</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 19 Years</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 Years</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 to 59 Years</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 60 Years</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Unknown</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disability Type</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Disabilities</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental/Emotional</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Data</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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In 2019, 78% of the independent living goals set by consumers were met with the assistance of CIL staff.

CIL Consumer Services

In FY 2019, the top three services CILs provided were assisting people in securing affordable and accessible housing, supports to obtain and maintain employment and ongoing community supports to maximize independence in the community.
Telling Our Stories:

**William**

Nora, an Independent Living Specialist with Disability Network, first visited William’s school three years ago. She talked about a program that could help him learn skills to live on his own and to find a job. At the time, William was afraid to talk to anyone. He had few friends and even they called him “quiet.” At home, he had never helped make anything in the kitchen. He dreamed of getting a job, and an apartment, but until he met Nora, William never thought those dreams could come true.

William has been in the STAGES program for three years. STAGES helps students transition into adulthood. He is more social and has found a new confidence. “I’ve learned a few key things about how to keep conversations going and I know how to meet someone I’ve never talked to before,” said William. He regularly prepares meals for his family using the stove, oven, and microwave and he is now investigating career opportunities. He has practiced filling out job applications and he is working on interview skills during Job Clubs.

“I have a long way to go to independence,” said William. “But I never thought I’d even get this far. I have learned so much and I know I just have to keep moving forward. I am very grateful to be part of the STAGES program. I can’t wait to get to work!”

**Ralph**

When Ralph was 50 years old, he slipped and fell in his bathroom at home, causing a spinal cord injury which resulted in permanent loss of the use of his legs. After his initial hospitalization, Ralph was transferred to the University of Michigan for rehabilitation and eventually transferred to a nursing facility. Over the next several years, Ralph worked with community agencies to try to find appropriate housing but was unsuccessful. He remained in a supervised care facility for nine years following his fall.

Disability Network staff connected with Ralph through our Nursing Facility Transition services to help him locate community-based housing and within a year, Ralph had moved to his own apartment. Staff worked with Ralph to identify appropriate housing and obtain all the required documentation for the application process. Our Nursing Facility Transition staff assisted Ralph with purchasing the furniture and supplies to get Ralph’s new home ready for him to move in. Ralph requires assistance to complete everyday tasks and we were also able to help negotiate an arrangement for Ralph to hire two of the care providers from the nursing facility to help him at home since they were familiar with his needs and routines.

Now settled in his own apartment, Ralph said that what he is enjoying most is the privacy and quiet of having his own space because he had shared a room with various roommates over the past nine years. His new apartment complex offers a community room, a gym, and scheduled activities for residents. He is looking forward to meeting people there and socializing when and with whom he cares to.
Changing Communities:

In 2019, 63,234 Michigan citizens were impacted by a CIL through Disability Awareness Training, Community Education & Outreach and Systems Change Advocacy.

2019 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. In Fiscal Year 2019, the network focused on the following issues:

**Employment:** Disability Network has continued to engage in systems change efforts to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities. We have specifically engaged in Employment First policy efforts. This initiative places employment in the community at a competitive wage as a top priority for people with disabilities in Michigan. In addition, we have engaged in discussions with other advocates about the elimination of policy that allows for people with disabilities to be paid less than minimum wage. The Americans with Disabilities Act promotes EQUALITY; paying people less than minimum wage is the antithesis of equality.

**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. In FY 2019, Disability Network has devoted numerous hours to re-designing the Nursing Facility Transition program with our state partners. These changes will increase access and options for people living in nursing facilities who want to return home to their community and families.

**Transportation:** Disability Network remained active on the Council on Future Mobility. Key achievements include the successful execution of the first pilot projects of the Michigan Mobility Challenge in which Disability Network/Michigan members’ staff and constituents were key stakeholders. Future work will focus on equitable funding for all mobility options in the state.

**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:

Revenue

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fee for Service</td>
<td>$12,430,530</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State &amp; Federal Grants &amp; Contracts</td>
<td>$10,641,025</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Contributions</td>
<td>$1,114,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation Grants</td>
<td>$448,867</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$621,526</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$25,256,788</td>
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Expenses

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Expenses</td>
<td>$21,046,262</td>
<td>83%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General</td>
<td>$3,675,976</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$686,471</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$23,408,708</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

Compiled 2019 financial data from 15 CILs.
State Plan for Independent Living:

2017-2019 Goals Set:

**Inclusion and Accessible Communities:** Michigan’s IL program will strive to create inclusive and accessible communities.

- **2019**: The CILs spent 32,043 hours educating community members on how to make their communities and businesses more accessible to people with disabilities.

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

- **2019**: CILs worked with schools, families and students to help facilitate the path to a successful transition into adulthood. Through our partnership with Michigan Rehabilitation Services, we worked with 3,029 students with disabilities ages 14-26.

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

- **2019**: 78% of the goals consumers set regarding employment were met last year. These goals include obtaining employment, developing resumes, learning job search skills, interview practice and learning soft skills for the employment setting. In addition, CILs spent 47,285 hours on systems change activities to educate employers on the value of a diverse workforce.

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

- **2019**: CILs continue to engage with their local emergency management organizations and law enforcement to help communities understand the unique needs of people with disabilities during a natural disaster or community crisis.

**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.

- **2019**: In addition to transitioning 1,294 people out of nursing facilities in partnership with other providers, CILs also spent 20,469 hours educating the community about community living options.

**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.

- **2019**: The CIL Network is deeply committed to ensuring we have an effective program, while delivering services in the most efficient manner. To ensure we have a strong network we provide mentoring to all new Directors by connecting to experienced Directors. In addition, we have created the Disability Network Academy, which offers them training in a variety of modalities to the 300+ employees in our network.
CIL Contact List:

**Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living**
3941 Research Park Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
734.971.0277
www.annarborcil.org

**Disability Network/ Oakland & Macomb**
1709 John R Road
Troy, MI 48083
586.268.4160
www.dnom.org

**Disability Network/ Wayne County-Detroit**
5555 Conner
Suite 2224
Detroit, MI 48213
313.923.1655
www.dnwayne.org

**The Disability Network/ Flint & Genesee**
3600 S. Dort Hwy., Suite 54
Flint, MI 48507
810.742.1800
www.disnetwork.org

**Disability Advocates of Kent County**
3600 Camelot Drive SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616.949.1100
www.dakc.us

**Disability Network/ Lakeshore**
426 Century Lane
Holland, MI 49423
616.396.5326
www.dnlakeshore.org

**Disability Network Southwest Michigan**
517 E. Crosstown Parkway
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
269.345.1516
www.dnswm.org

**disAbility Connections**
409 Linden Ave.
Jackson, MI 49203
517.782.6054
www.disabilityconnect.org

**Disability Network Capital Area**
901 E. Mt Hope Ave.
Lansing, MI 48910
517.999.2760
www.dncap.org

**Superior Alliance for Independent Living**
1200 Wright St., Suite A
Marquette, MI 49855
906.228.5744
www.upsail.org

**Disability Network/ Mid-Michigan**
1705 S. Saginaw Road
Midland, MI 48640
989.835.4041
www.dnmm.org

**Disability Network West Michigan**
27 E. Clay Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49442
231.722.0088
www.disabilitynetworkwm.org

**Blue Water Center for Independent Living**
1042 Griswold, Suite 2
Port Huron, MI 48060
810.987.9337
www.bwcil.org

**Disability Network Southwest Michigan-Berrien/Cass**
2900 Lakeview Ave.
St. Joseph, MI 49085
269.985.0111
www.dnswm.org

**Disability Network/ Northern Michigan**
415 E. Eighth St.
Traverse City, MI 49686
231.922.0903
www.disabilitynetwork.org
Disability Network/Michigan
www.dnmichigan.org

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