

**STATE PLAN FOR  
INDEPENDENT LIVING  
(SPIL)**

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

**STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES (SILS) PROGRAM  
PART B**

**CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL) PROGRAM  
PART C**

**FISCAL YEARS 2011 - 2013**

Effective Date: October 1, 2010

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Part I: Assurances

Section 1: Legal Basis and Certifications .....	3
Section 2: SPIL Development .....	3-4
Section 3: Independent Living Services .....	4
Section 4: Eligibility .....	5
Section 5: Staffing Requirements .....	5
Section 6: Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting .....	5
Section 7: Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting .....	6
Section 8: Protection, Use and Release of Personal Information .....	6
Section 9: Signatures.....	7

### Part II: Narrative

Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities.....	8-23
Section 2: Scope, Extent, and Arrangements of Services .....	23-27
Section 3: Design for the Statewide Network of Centers .....	27-28
Section 4: Designated State Unit (DSU) .....	29
Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) .....	29-32
Section 6: Service Provider Requirements .....	32-35
Section 7: Evaluation .....	36-38
Section 8: State-Imposed Requirements .....	38

## PART I: Assurances

### Section 1: Legal Basis and Certifications

- 1.1 The designated State unit (DSU) eligible to submit the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL or the plan) and authorized under State law to perform the functions of the State under the State Independent Living Services (SILS) and Centers for Independent Living (CIL) programs is The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Education. *34 CFR 76.104(a)(1) and (2); 34 CFR 364.22(a)*
- 1.2 The separate State agency eligible to submit the plan and authorized under State law to provide vocational rehabilitation (VR) services to individuals who are blind is The Commission for the Blind. Indicate N/A if not applicable. *34 CFR 76.104(a)(1) and (2); 34 CFR 364.20(d) and 364.22(c)*
- 1.3 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 the New Mexico Statewide Independent Living Council. *34 CFR 364.21(a)*
- 1.4 The DSU and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, and the SILC are authorized to jointly develop, sign and submit this SPIL on behalf of the State, and have adopted or otherwise formally approved the SPIL. *34 CFR 76.104(a)(7); 34 CFR 364.20(c) and (d)*. *Yes*
- 1.5 The DSU, and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, may legally carry out each provision of the plan and will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the three-year period it receives funding under the SPIL. *34 CFR 76.104; 34 CFR 80.11(c)*. *Yes*
- 1.6 The SPIL is the basis for State operation and administration of the program. All provisions of the SPIL are consistent with State law. *34 CFR 76.104(a)(4) and (8)*. *Yes*
- 1.7 The representative of the DSU and, if applicable, of the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, who has the authority under State law to receive, hold, and disburse Federal funds made available under the SPIL and to submit the SPIL jointly with the SILC chairperson is Ralph Vigil, Assistant Secretary for Vocational Rehabilitation and Greg Trapp, Director Commission for the Blind. *34 CFR 76.104(a)(5) and (6)*.

### Section 2: SPIL Development

- 2.1 The plan shall be reviewed and revised not less than once every three years, to ensure the existence of appropriate planning, financial support and coordination, and other assistance to appropriately address, on a statewide and comprehensive basis, the needs in the State for:
- The provision of State independent living services;
  - The development and support of a statewide network of centers for independent living; and
  - Working relationships between programs providing independent living services and independent living centers, the vocational rehabilitation program established under title I, and other programs providing services for individuals with disabilities. *34 CFR 364.20(f)*

- 2.2 The DSU and SILC conduct public meetings to provide all segments of the public, including interested groups, organizations and individuals, an opportunity to comment on the State plan prior to its submission to the Commissioner and on any revisions to the approved State plan. *34 CFR 364.20(g)(1)*.
- 2.3 The DSU and SILC establish and maintain a written description of procedures for conducting public meetings in accordance with the following requirements. The DSU and SILC shall provide:
- appropriate and sufficient notice of the public meetings (that is, the notice that is required by the Open Meetings Act, which may include notice provided through various media available to the general public, such as newspapers and public service announcements, and through specific contacts with appropriate constituency groups and organizations identified by the DSU and SILC);
  - reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication in the conduct of the public meetings, including providing sign language interpreters and audio-loops; and
  - public meeting notices, written material provided prior to or at the public meetings, and the approved State plan in accessible formats for individuals who rely on alternative modes of communication. *34 CFR 364.20(g)(2)*
- 2.4 At the public meetings to develop the State plan, the DSU and SILC identify those provisions in the SPIL that are State-imposed requirements beyond what would be required to comply with the regulations in 34 CFR parts 364, 365, 366, and 367. *34 CFR 364.20(h)*
- 2.5 The DSU will seek to incorporate into, and describe in, the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under a project funded under chapter 2 of title VII of the Act and that the DSU determines to be effective. *34 CFR 364.28*
- 2.6 The DSU and SILC actively consult, as appropriate, in the development of the State plan with the director of the Client Assistance Program (CAP) authorized under section 112 of the Act. *34 CFR 364.20(e)*

### **Section 3: Independent Living Services**

- 3.1 The State, directly or through grants or contracts, will provide IL services with Federal, State, or other funds. *34 CFR 364.43(b)*
- 3.2 Independent living services shall be provided to individuals with significant disabilities in accordance with an independent living plan mutually agreed upon by an appropriate staff member of the service provider and the individual, unless the individual signs a waiver stating that such a plan is unnecessary. *34 CFR 364.43(c)*
- 3.3 All service providers will use formats that are accessible to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about:
- the availability of the CAP authorized by section 112 of the Act;
  - the purposes of the services provided under the CAP; and
  - how to contact the CAP. *34 CFR 364.30*
- 3.4 Participating service providers meet all applicable State licensure or certification requirements. *34 CFR 365.31(c)*

## Section 4: Eligibility

- 4.1 Any individual with a significant disability, as defined in 34 CFR 364.4(b), is eligible for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs authorized under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act. Any individual may seek information about IL services under these programs and request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities, as appropriate. The determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs meets the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51. *34 CFR 364.40(a), (b) and (c)*
- 4.2 Service providers apply eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services. *34 CFR 364.41(a)*
- 4.3 Service providers do not impose any State or local residence requirement that excludes any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services from receiving IL services. *34 CFR 364.41(b)*

## Section 5: Staffing Requirements

- 5.1 Service provider staff includes personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of centers. *34 CFR 364.23(a)*
- 5.2 To the maximum extent feasible, a service provider makes available personnel able to communicate:
- with individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication devices, Braille or audio tapes, and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act; and
  - in the native languages of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act. *34 CFR 364.23(b)*
- 5.3 Service providers establish and maintain a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services and, if appropriate, in administering the CIL program. The staff development programs emphasize improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of IL services, including knowledge of and practice in the IL philosophy. *34 CFR 364.24*
- 5.4 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act. *34 CFR 364.31*

## Section 6: Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting

- 6.1 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will comply with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements and will adopt those fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for those funds. *34 CFR 364.34*

## **Section 7: Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting**

7.1 In addition to complying with applicable EDGAR recordkeeping requirements, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will maintain records that fully disclose and document:

- the amount and disposition by the recipient of that financial assistance;
- The total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which the financial assistance is given or used;
- the amount of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources;
- compliance with the requirements of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act and Part 364 of the regulations; and
- other information that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate to facilitate an effective audit. *34 CFR 364.35(a) and (b)*

7.2 With respect to the records that are required by 34 CFR 364.35, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will submit reports that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate. *34 CFR 364.36*

7.3 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will provide access to the Commissioner and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, to the records listed in 34 CFR 364.37 for the purpose of conducting audits, examinations, and compliance reviews. *34 CFR 364.37*

## **Section 8: Protection, Use, and Release of Personal Information**

8.1 Each service provider will adopt and implement policies and procedures to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names in accordance with the requirements of 34 CFR 364.56(a)(1-6). *34 CFR 364.56(a)*

**Section 9: Signatures**

After having carefully reviewed all of the assurances in sections 1 - 8 of this SPIL, the undersigned hereby affirm that the State of New Mexico is in compliance and will remain in compliance with the aforementioned assurances during 2011-2013.

The effective date of this SPIL is October 1, 2010

---

SIGNATURE OF SILC CHAIRPERSON	DATE
-------------------------------	------

---

SUZANNE ANDERSON-RUBLE

---

NAME OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

---

SIGNATURE OF DSU DIRECTOR	DATE
---------------------------	------

---

RALPH VIGIL, DVR DIRECTOR

---

NAME AND TITLE OF DSU DIRECTOR

---

SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR OF THE SEPARATE STATE AGENCY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND	DATE
---	------

---

GREG TRAPP, CFB DIRECTOR

---

NAME AND TITLE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE  
SEPARATE STATE AGENCY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND

## Part II: Narrative

### Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities

#### 1.1 Goals and Mission – 34 CFR 364.42(b)(1)

Describe the overall goals and mission of the State's Independent Living programs and services. The SPIL must address the goals and mission of both the SILS and the CIL programs, including those of the State agency for individuals who are blind as they relate to the parts of the SPIL administered by that agency.

The overall goals for this SPIL are as follows:

- Goal 1:** Strengthen a statewide network of Centers for Independent Living (CIL's).
- Goal 2:** Centers for Independent Living will provide services and supports to people with disabilities that promote independent living in the community.
- Goal 3:** Enhance the ability of Centers for Independent Living to deliver quality independent living services in their service areas.
- Goal 4:** The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) will identify and review for feasibility options for organizational structure.
- Goal 5:** The goal of the Commission for the Blind (CFB) is to enable persons who are blind to achieve vocational, economic and social equality by providing career preparation, training in the skills of blindness and above all, promoting and conveying the belief that blindness is not a barrier to successful employment, or to living an independent and meaningful life.
- Goal 6:** The Statewide Independent Living Council in partnership with the CIL's will provide vision and leadership to the independent living movement throughout the state of New Mexico.

The mission and shared goals of the New Mexico SILC, Designated State Unit (NMDVR & CFB), State Independent Living Services (SILS) and CIL's is to collectively promote a philosophy of independent living, including a philosophy of consumer control, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, individual and systems advocacy, in order to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence and productivity of individuals with disabilities of all ages, and their integration and full inclusion in our communities by:

- A. Monitoring, reviewing, and evaluating the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) and making recommendations concerning its development and implementation.
- B. Working closely with Centers for Independent Living, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Commission for the Blind (as the Designated State Units – DSU), State Rehabilitation Councils and with any other service agency or State entity that benefits individuals of all ages who have a disability and can further the principles of independent living philosophy.
- C. Developing awareness in local and state government, in service agencies, in the business community and in the general public, as appropriate, regarding the philosophy of independent living and its importance in providing access at all levels of community participation for persons with disabilities.
- D. Providing technical assistance to Centers for Independent Living on matters concerning independent living services, grant applications, program development, administrative support, fundraising and other related areas to preserve and expand independent living services statewide.

1.2 Objectives – 34 CFR 364.42(a)(1) and (d); 34 CFR 364.32; 34 CFR 364.33

1.2A Specify the objectives to be achieved and the time frame for achieving them.

**Goal 1:** Strengthen a statewide network of Centers for Independent Living.

**Objective 1:** Identify resources necessary to expand services in un-served counties.

**Activities:**

1. In cooperation with the National Council on Independent Living, APRIL and local Centers for Independent Living educate and advocate with key national and state decisions makers regarding the importance of independent living services for persons with disabilities and the necessity to expand availability of those services.
2. Enhance efficiencies and advocate for additional funding to expand the network of Centers for Independent Living to serve the un-served counties of Hidalgo and Catron in the southwest part of the state and Roosevelt, Quay and Curry in the eastern part of the state.
3. Promote partnerships with tribal entities to enhance independent living opportunities for Native American peoples with disabilities.

**Timeline:** October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

**Financial Plan:** The SILC and CILs will identify several funding options in both the public and private sectors to serve Hidalgo, Catron, Roosevelt, Quay and Curry Counties.

1. Fiscal Years 2011, 2012, and/or 2013 – The SILC and CILs will explore enhanced efficiencies and solicit additional funds to serve Roosevelt, Quay and Curry Counties.
2. Fiscal Years 2011, 2012, and/or 2013 – The SILC and CILs will explore enhanced efficiencies and solicit additional funds for an existing CIL to expand services into Catron and Hidalgo Counties.

Priority for Funding: Moderate 2

**Objective 2:** Improve the delivery of services in underserved rural counties.

**Activities:**

1. The SILC will assist all New Mexico based centers (including the Native American Independent Living centers) in identifying or developing needs assessment instruments and methodologies with State General Funds and Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act.
2. The CILs, collaboratively or independently, will conduct needs assessments in their service areas.
3. The SILC will recommend to the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) the amount of the allocation of Part C funds for this purpose to the selected Center(s) in addition to Cost of Living (COLA) increases for Title VII Part C funded Centers for Independent Living.
4. The SILC will determine if SILC members and Center for Independent Living staff attending the annual NCIL, APRIL, and/or CNAR conferences could provide training in improving service delivery to underserved rural areas. The SILC will support attendance at these conferences and follow-up training by attendees as budget permits in Section 5 – Training and Development Fund.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: Identify public and private options for funding the activities of CILs (including development and implementation of needs assessments).

1. Prioritize which activities need funding support at each CIL (including development and implementation of needs assessments).
2. The SILC and CILs will use the internet to identify funds available through the federal register, resources through philanthropic entities, and business opportunities.
3. CILs will apply for funding using the results of the needs assessments to apply for the identified funding, with assistance from the SILC as appropriate.

Priority for Funding: 3

Objective 3: Continue to improve the delivery of services to Native American communities.

Activities:

1. The SILC will support efforts by Centers for Independent Living, to the maximum extent possible, for funding requests from the State Legislature, the Executive or state agencies for the purpose of expanding the Native American Centers for Independent Living.
2. The SILC will provide technical assistance and training and leadership development in partnership and in conjunction with Centers for Independent Living when requested for the purposes of expanding the knowledge and understanding of independent living philosophy and independent living principles in service delivery, community education.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013.

Financial Plan: State general and capital outlay funds for Native American Independent Living services will be requested from the State Legislature for continued support and expansion of Native American Centers for Independent Living. Resources for Activities (2) will be included in the SILC Resource Plan as recommended annually by the State Independent Living Council.

Goal 2: Centers for Independent Living will provide Independent Living services and supports to people with disabilities that promote independent living in the community.

Objective 1: Build capacity in Centers for Independent Living to support community living by people with disabilities to prevent unwanted, unnecessary and inappropriate institutionalization and to assist people with disabilities to return to the community of their choice following institutionalization.

Activities:

1. Provide opportunities for training and technical assistance to Centers for Independent Living regarding alternatives to institutional living, including Consumer-Directed PCO, Transition Services and Housing Policies.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan:

1. Resources for training and technical assistance are included in the SILC Resource Plan and annually reviewed and will be available as budget permits (Section 5).
2. Additional resources will be explored through ILRU, Systems Change grants and other possible resources.

Objective 2: All New Mexico Centers for Independent Living will be actively involved in working with Managed Care Organizations to identify and transition individuals currently residing in institutions who wish to transition to community living.

Activities:

1. Provide training and technical assistance to Centers for Independent Living in the identification and transition of Individuals with significant disabilities to community living.
2. Working with the Human Services Department Medical Assistance Division and the Centers for Medicare / Medicaid to obtain the Minimum Data Set numbers indicating the number of individuals currently residing in institutions who have indicated a preference for community living.
3. Assisting Centers for Independent Living in the development of outreach planning to ensure that all areas of the state are aware of the work of Centers for Independent Living with regard to the deinstitutionalization of individuals with disabilities.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: Currently Managed Care Organizations have a onetime transition benefit of such sums as negotiated per individual that is available to be used for initial household setup cost. While ILC's are not directly compensated for transition services, the concept of deinstitutionalization of Individuals with disabilities to community living remains a cornerstone of the IL movement.

Objective 3: Independent Living Services will be provided for persons with any type of disability, those who are deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind.

Activities:

1. Identify how CILs currently provide IL services to people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind.
2. Conduct and assessment of need for independent living services in collaboration with the New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons.
3. Identify how current funding supports efforts by Centers for Independent Living to provide independent living services for persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind.
4. The SILC, in collaboration with the New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons, will provide technical assistance, training, and leadership development in partnership with Centers for Independent Living for the purposes of expanding the knowledge and understanding of independent living philosophy and independent living principles among the deaf and hard of hearing communities.

**Timeline:** October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

**Financial Plan:** The SILC, in collaboration with Centers for Independent Living and the New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons will identify how current and potential future funding can be used to provide Independent Living services to people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind.

1. Identify what activities need funding support at each CIL includes this in the development and implementation of needs assessments across New Mexico.
2. The SILC and CILs will use the internet to identify funds available through the federal register, resources through philanthropic entities, and business opportunities.
3. CILs will apply for funding using the results of the needs assessments to apply for the identified funding, with assistance from the SILC as appropriate.

**Goal 3:** Enhance the ability of Centers for Independent Living to deliver quality independent living services in their service areas.

**Objective 1:** Secure necessary increases in the base funding of Centers for Independent Living, which reflect the increase in costs of maintaining services at the current level.

**Activities:**

1. The SILC will annually provide the DSUs with information on the change in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and ask that the DSUs include an adjustment to state general fund request budget to reflect that change. The SILC will support the DSU budget request in the appropriations process.
2. The SILC will communicate its support of annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) to RSA and the Congress and will support increases in Part B and Part C funding. The SILC will support the continued policy of RSA to apply new Part C funds first to COLAs for Part C-funded CILs and then to expansion.

**Timeline:** October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

**Financial Plan:** Additional funds will be used to enhance outreach and provide services to individuals with disabilities that live within currently served areas but due to the ruralness of these counties they are considered underserved. In the Northern area of New Mexico the underserved counties include Colfax and Union. Northeast counties include Harding and northwest counties include Sandoval. In the southern area of New Mexico the underserved counties include Sierra, Grant and Luna. In the central region of New Mexico the western underserved counties include Cibola, Socorro and Valencia and the eastern underserved counties include Torrance, Guadalupe and De Baca

<b>Center Name</b>	<b>Rural Counties to be served</b>
New Vistas	Colfax, Union and Harding
Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC) Albuquerque	Sandoval, Cibola, Valencia, Torrance, Guadalupe, Socorro and DeBaca.
Ability Center	Sierra, Grant and Luna
ILRC Socorro	Socorro

Priority for Funding: 1

**Objective 2:** Provide SILC members and CIL staff with the opportunity to attend local, regional and national training activities.

Activities:

1. The SILC will include funding for a Training and Development Fund in its Resource Plan.
2. The SILC will provide funding to, SILC members, and CIL staff for attendance at local, regional and national training activities.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: Resources for this activity are included in the SILC Resource Plan (Section 5).

**Objective 3:** State-funded CILs will utilize the 704 Report format.

Activities:

1. The DVR and the SILC will offer training and technical assistance to CILs not receiving federal Title VII funds in the requirements and format of the 704 Report.
2. The DVR will include a requirement in funding contracts that state-funded CILs report their activities in the 704 Report format.

Note: Activities 1 and 2 are contingent upon availability of funds as per the SILC Resource Plan (Section 5).

Timeline: Activities (1) will occur in State FY 2011. Activities (2) will be required for contracts reporting in State FY 2011 and beyond.

Financial plan: Resources for this objective are included in the SILC Resource Plan (Section 5).

**Goal 4:** The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) will identify and review the models for its organizational structure.

**Objective 1:** Enhance the efficacy of the State Independent Living Council (SILC).

Activities:

1. The SILC will conduct research and make contact with other States to determine models for organizational structure.
2. The SILC and Designated State Units (DSUs) will identify organizational structures currently available and approved under New Mexico General Statutes and Administrative Code.
3. Determine which organizational structures are viable options for New Mexico SILC and have support of CILs and other stakeholders.
4. Determine if developing and implementing a plan to change the New Mexico SILC's organizational structure is feasible given the current fiscal constraints.
5. If feasible, develop and implement a plan for changing organizational structure.

Timeline: Beginning in FY 2011

Financial Plan: Resources for this activity are included in the SILC Resource Plan (Section 5) The SILC Budget will be such sums as negotiated for FY 2011 and then evaluated and adjusted if necessary for 2012 and 2013.

**Goal 5:** The Commission for the Blind will provide services and supports to people who are blind that promotes independent living in the community.

Objective 1: Provide and strengthen independent living services and provide public outreach, so individuals who are blind can live and function more independently in their homes and communities, thereby avoiding unwanted, unnecessary, or inappropriate institutionalization.

Activities:

1. The Commission will employ a minimum of eight Independent Living Teachers who will provide Independent Living services throughout the state.
2. The Commission will provide training to the Independent Living Teachers on the use of assistive technology, with the expectation that the Independent Living Teachers will have the ability to help consumers access and utilize this assistive technology. Assistive technology is becoming of increasing importance to the Independent Living needs of persons who are blind, and this trend will continue to become more pronounced as technology becomes a greater part of daily life.
3. The Commission will operate at least one Senior Week Program per year. Senior Week is a one-week emersion experience wherein seniors are provided more intensive Independent Living training in a centralized setting.
4. The Commission will partner with the Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons to better serve individuals who are deaf-blind and who also have Independent Living needs. The agencies have in place a Memorandum of Understanding which facilitates this process.
5. To better serve the Deaf-Blind population, The Commission for the Blind will provide training to the Independent Living teachers on the needs of the Deaf-Blind population.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: The Commission will seek the requisite funds through the legislature, and will apply federal IL/OB funds to the activities.

Objective 2: To provide services to consumers through the development of a coordinated Independent Living Plan (ILP) (unless a waiver is signed stating that such a plan is unnecessary) and to maintain records documenting efforts to serve each individual consumer who is blind.

Activities:

1. The Commission will employ and train eight Independent Living Teachers, as well as a Deputy Director assigned to supervise those Teachers.

2. The Commission will continue to use the Independent Living case management program (AWARE), which allows for accurate and timely adoption of the ILP, and the provision of Independent Living services pursuant to the ILP.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: The Commission will seek the requisite funds through the legislature, and will apply federal IL/OB funds to the activities.

Objective 3: Continue to provide training to consumers, peer support groups, consumer organizations, service providers and the general public on the philosophy and purpose of independent living and attitudes of blindness.

Activities:

1. The Independent Living Teachers will be assigned support groups and consumer organizations that they will regularly attend and assist.
2. The Independent Living Teachers will be trained on the use of a wide range of assistive technology devices, including those devices traditionally associated with blindness training such as Braille and the white cane, as well as video magnifiers and screen readers.
3. The Independent Living Teachers, Deputy Director, and Executive Director will participate in public events and media outreach.
4. The Independent Living Teachers will provide training to organizations such as senior citizen centers, civic groups, and other entities.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013.

Financial Plan: The Commission will seek the requisite funds through the legislature, and will apply federal IL/OB funds to the activities.

Objective 4: Continue to reach out to the un-served, underserved and minority populations.

Activities:

1. The Commission will hire and train individuals with the skills necessary to provide appropriate services to un-served, underserved and minority populations, including the provision of a pay-differential for employees who use bilingual abilities to serve this population.
2. The Commission will engage in specific and concerted outreach activities designed to identify and serve individuals from un-served, underserved and minority populations.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: The Commission will seek the requisite funds through the legislature, and will apply federal IL/OB funds to the activities.

Objective 5: Maximize cooperation, coordination and relationships with independent living centers, the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), public and private agencies that address the needs of individuals who are blind, and specific disability groups.

Activities:

1. The Commission Executive Director serves on the SILC, and a different member of the SILC serves as the representative to the Commission's State Rehab Council, including providing of SILC reports at each SRC meeting.
2. The Executive Director and Deputy Director will meet with IL Center directors throughout the state in an effort to strengthen and expand coordination and cooperation.
3. The Independent Living Teachers, Deputy Director, and Executive Director will participate in public events and media outreach.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: The Commission will seek the requisite funds through the legislature, and will apply federal IL/OB funds to the activities.

Objective 6: Maximize consumer satisfaction.

Activities:

1. The Commission will conduct a periodic consumer satisfaction survey, and will also periodically conduct comprehensive needs assessment surveys designed to assess areas of need and enhance consumer satisfaction.
2. The Executive Director will regularly attend meetings of consumer organizations, including annual conferences at which the Executive Director makes an annual report.
3. The Commission will conduct public hearing throughout the state, including at consumer organization conferences.
4. Independent Living Teachers will regularly attend support groups and other meetings where they provide information about Independent Living services.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: The Commission will seek the requisite funds through the legislature, and will apply federal IL/OB funds to the activities.

**Goal 6:** The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) will provide vision and leadership to the network of Centers for Independent Living and the independent living movement throughout the state of New Mexico.

Objective 1: Utilize the SILC Meetings to promote Independent Living with other state agencies, private agencies and community based programs.

Activities:

1. Provide opportunity for public comment on the agenda of each SILC meeting.
2. Provide opportunity for progress reports to the SILC from each CIL.

3. Invite other state agencies, private agencies and community based programs to report to the SILC on their activities that impact independent living for individuals with disabilities, as appropriate.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: The resources necessary to achieve this goal are allocated in the SILC Resource Plan (Section 5).

Objective 2: Educate and inform as many stakeholders as possible about what the SILC is, the current independent living opportunities for New Mexicans with disabilities, and where the gaps in Independent Living services exist.

Activities:

1. Attend legislative hearings and provide expert witness testimony, as appropriate.
2. Visit CIL's to observe the work they do and identify unmet service needs.
3. Attend meetings of local government boards and commissions as well as private service provider agencies to provide input regarding independent living issues regarding any issues.
4. Identified as service priorities on Table 2.1A of the State Plan for Independent Living.
5. Hold SILC meetings in different geographical areas of New Mexico.
6. Send SILC leaders to the Independent Living Congress.
7. Review best practices of other SILCs.
8. Develop and implement a plan to improve SILC leadership.

Timeline: October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013

Financial Plan: The resources necessary to achieve this goal are allocated in the SILC Resource Plan (Section 5).

1.2B Describe the steps planned regarding outreach to populations in the State that are un-served or underserved by programs under title VII, including minority groups and urban and rural populations. This section of the SPIL must:

- Identify the populations to be designated for targeted outreach efforts;
- Identify the geographic areas (i.e., communities) in which the targeted populations reside; and
- Describe how the needs of individuals with significant disabilities from minority group backgrounds will be addressed.

The steps planned to serve Native Americans are ongoing from the last SPIL. The SILC supports the Native American Independent Living (NAIL) Coalition working to enhance and expand the Native American Centers for Independent Living in New Mexico.

NAIL is currently comprised of over 30 individuals, with members from eight New Mexico Tribes: Acoma, Laguna, Isleta, Santa Ana, San Felipe, Zia, Jemez, Zuni and the Navajo Nation. The NAIL held community meetings in Laguna, San Felipe Pueblos and other Native American communities to lay the foundation for the future Native American Center for Independent Living by:

1. providing culturally relevant information about Independent Living philosophy and services
2. cultivating dialogue among Native American people with disabilities,

3. developing leadership in Native American communities,
4. identifying needs in Native American Communities that can be addressed by a Center for Independent Living

The dissemination of information, dialogue and building of leaders will continue in FY 2011, FY 2012 and FY 2013. One of the challenges in bringing Independent Living services to Native American people has been overcoming the belief, by many Native American people, that Independent Living collides with their values and their cultural. It is often a foreign concept and viewed with mistrust. Native American people assume that Independent Living means living alone and doing everything without assistance. This presents, what appears to be, a culture clash since interdependence among extended family and among community members is a very fundamental element in Native American culture. So, providing culturally relevant information will continue to be a major undertaking. Acquainting Native American people with the objective of Independent Living Services is essential to making them see that Independent Living is a vehicle enabling people with disabilities to fully participate in family, community and work life. When people understand this, they realize that Independent Living and Native American cultural values are complimentary.

The major activity for this endeavor is to strengthen a statewide network of Centers for Independent Living by enhancing efficiencies and advocate for additional funding to expand the network of Centers for Independent Living to serve the un-served counties of Hidalgo and Catron in the southwest part of the state and Roosevelt, Quay and Curry in the eastern part of the state.

The CILs, collaboratively or independently, will conduct needs assessments in their service areas. This will improve the delivery of services in underserved rural counties which include Colfax and Union in the Northern area of New Mexico. Northeast counties include Harding and northwest counties include Sandoval. In the southern area of New Mexico the underserved counties include Sierra, Grant and Luna. In the central region of New Mexico the western underserved counties include Cibola, Socorro and Valencia and the eastern underserved counties include Torrance, Guadalupe and De Baca

### 1.3 Financial Plan – 34 CFR 364.42(a)(2) and (3); 34 CFR 364.29

Describe in sections 1.3A and 1.3B, below, the financial plan for the use of Federal and non-Federal funds to meet the SPIL objectives.

#### 1.3A Financial Plan Tables

Complete the financial plan tables covering years 1, 2 and 3 of this SPIL. For each funding source, provide estimated dollar amounts anticipated for the applicable uses. The financial plan table should include only those funding sources and amounts that are intended to support one or more of the objectives identified in section 1.2 of the SPIL. To the extent possible, the tables and narratives must reflect the applicable financial information from centers for independent living. Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about completing the financial tables and narratives.

- Insert additional rows for the specific funding sources and amounts expected within the categories of Other Federal Funds and Non-Federal Funds.

**Year 1**

<b>Sources</b>	<b>Approximate Funding Amounts and Uses</b>			
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities
<b>Title VII Funds</b>				
Chapter 1, Part B		\$250,000.00		
Chapter 1, Part C		\$784,879.00		
Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)		\$225,000.00		
<b>Other Federal Funds</b>				
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$81,848.00			**\$12,592.00
ARRA Part B Allocations		\$74,225.00	\$94,153.00	
ARRA Part C Allocations			\$364,969.00	
<b>Non-Federal Funds</b>				
State Funds	\$22,152.00	\$1,257,020.00		**\$3,408.00
Other: Part B ARRA State Match		\$8,247.00	10,461.00	

\*\*This is a proposed budget and is subject to change.

**Year 2**

<b>Sources</b>	<b>Approximate Funding Amounts and Uses</b>			
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities
<b>Title VII Funds</b>				
Chapter 1, Part B		\$250,000.00		
Chapter 1, Part C		\$784,879.00		
Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)		\$225,000.00		
<b>Other Federal Funds</b>				
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$81,848.00			**\$12,592.00
ARRA Part C Allocations			\$364,969.00	
<b>Non-Federal Funds</b>				
State Funds	\$22,152.00	\$1,257,020.00		**\$3,408.00
Other				

\*\*This is a proposed budget and is subject to change.

**Year 3**

<b>Sources</b>	<b>Approximate Funding Amounts and Uses</b>			
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities
<b>Title VII Funds</b>				
Chapter 1, Part B		\$250,000.00		
Chapter 1, Part C		\$784,879.00		
Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)		\$225,000.00		

<b>Other Federal Funds</b>				
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$81,848.00			**\$12,592.00
ARRA Part C Allocations			\$364,969.00	
<b>Non-Federal Funds</b>				
State Funds	\$22,152.00	\$1,257,020.00		**\$3,408.00
Other				

\*\*This is a proposed budget and is subject to change.

### 1.3B Financial Plan Narratives

1.3B (1) Specify how the part B, part C and chapter 2 (Older Blind) funds, if applicable, will further the SPIL objectives.

ARRA Part B funds received in New Mexico will be allocated to existing Centers for Independent Living. This money will only be used for the first year of the 2011-2013 SPIL. All Part B ARRA funds are to be expended by September 30, 2011. Part B ARRA centers include the Independent Living Resource Center located in Albuquerque, NM and CHOICES CIL which is located in Roswell, NM. The Choices CIL will be using the money to continue providing services to their existing IL services catchment area. The ILRC CIL will be using the money to open a business to serve as a training and development site for individuals with disabilities. ILRC will hire, train, and retain individuals with significant disabilities.

ARRA Part C funds received in New Mexico will be allocated to existing Centers for Independent Living in the same proportion as the allocation of Part C funds currently received by the state: New Vistas ILC 47%; The Ability Center 37%; Independent Living Resource Center (Albuquerque) 8%; and the Independent Living Resource Center (Socorro) 8%. Our efforts, to bring additional allocations of federal funding to the state, are in cooperation and collaboration with the National Council on Independent Living, APRIL and our local Centers. In addition, the SILC and our local CILs will be requesting additional state appropriated dollars from the New Mexico Legislature to expand the network of Centers for Independent Living to serve the un-served counties of Hidalgo and Catron in the southwest part of the state and Quay in the eastern part of the state.

The New Mexico Commission for the Blind will receive \$55,500 in Title VII part B funds and \$225,000 in Title VII Older Blind funds for each of the years from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013. The funds will be used to Provide and strengthen independent living services and provide public outreach, so individuals who are blind can live and function more independently in their homes and communities, thereby avoiding unwanted, unnecessary, or inappropriate institutionalization. The funds will be used to accomplish the activities identified in Goal 5.

1.3B(2) Describe efforts to coordinate Federal and State funding for centers and IL services, including the amounts, sources and purposes of the funding to be coordinated.

N/A

1.3B(3) Describe any in-kind resources including plant, equipment or services to be provided in support of the SILC resource plan, IL services, general CIL operations and/or other SPIL objectives.

N/A

1.3B (4) Provide any additional information about the financial plan, as appropriate.

N/A

#### 1.4 Compatibility with Chapter 1 of Title VII and the CIL Work Plans – 34 CFR 364.42(c) and (e)

1.4A Describe how the SPIL objectives are consistent with and further the purpose of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act as stated in section 701 of the Act and 34 CFR 364.2.

The SPIL objective is to create new opportunities for individuals with disabilities to become active in the process of creating innovative ideas for Independent Living in New Mexico. These ideas will help direct the Independent Living direction and allow consumers to promote a philosophy of independent living, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, and individual and system advocacy. Through this process leaders in Independent Living emerge and are empowered to make system changes that benefit people with disabilities.

1.4B Describe how, in developing the SPIL objectives, the DSU and the SILC considered and incorporated, where appropriate, the priorities and objectives established by centers for independent living under section 725(c)(4) of the Act.

In developing the SPIL, The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) and Designated State Units (DSUs) took into consideration the work plans and comments of the CILs. The State of New Mexico recognizes that one of the strengths of the Independent Living movement is local consumer control of CILs, and the SPIL is intended to honor and support that local consumer control. The SPIL will continue to support collaboration between the CILs and appropriate state agencies to meet the independent living needs of individuals with disabilities in New Mexico. The goals and objectives listed in Section 1 describe the commitment and aspiration of the people working to achieve those goals.

#### 1.5 Cooperation, Coordination, and Working Relationships Among Various Entities – 34 CFR 364.26

Describe the steps that will be taken to maximize the cooperation, coordination and working relationships among the SILS program, the SILC, and centers; the DSU, other State agencies represented on the SILC and other councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues; and other public and private entities determined to be appropriate by the SILC.

- The description must identify the entities with which the DSU and the SILC will cooperate and coordinate.

The DSUs and the SILC will cooperate and coordinate with the following entities:

State Rehabilitation Council (SRC)  
Association of Programs in Rural Independent Living (APRIL)  
New Mexico Commission for the Blind (NMCB)  
New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Governor's Committee on Disability

Human Services Department  
 Department of Health  
 Department of Indian Affairs  
 New Mexico Public Education Department  
 Community-based Service Providers  
 Aging and Long Term Services Department  
 NMDVR's Program Development and Support Unit (PDS)

The DSU's and the SILC will encourage these entities to attend the quarterly meetings when appropriate. These entities, may have the opportunity to present their organizations mission and update the DSU's and SILC of IL services available through their organization and of upcoming events that may allow coordination of efforts to serve individuals with disabilities throughout the state of NM. It is the SILC's intention to seek out input from other entities that represent different disability groups and ensure that IL services are available and accessible to all disability populations.

#### 1.6 Coordination of Services – 34 CFR 364.27

Describe how IL services funded under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will be coordinated with and complement other services to avoid unnecessary duplication with other Federal, State, and local programs, including the [Older Individuals who are Blind] OIB program authorized by Chapter 2 of Title VII of the Act, that provide IL- or VR-related services.

The State takes steps that maximize the communication, cooperation, coordination and working relationships among the SILS program, the SILC and CILs. The DSUs, other State agencies, and other councils, represented on the SILC address the needs of specific disability populations and specific disability issues and through their participation in the SILC avoid unnecessary duplication of services. The State ensures that services funded under Chapter 1 will complement and be coordinated to avoid duplication with other Federal, State and Local programs, including the SILS program for the Older Individuals who are blind funded under Chapter 2 of Title VII.

The Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC) which is located in Albuquerque, NM is currently the only CIL that is funded under Chapter 1 of title VII of the Act. This center serves Bernalillo, Sandoval, Cibola and Valencia counties. It administers two satellite offices. There is a satellite office located in Moriarty, NM which is east of Albuquerque and serves the Tarrant, Guadalupe and DeBaca counties. There is a satellite office located in Alamogordo, NM which is south east of Albuquerque and serves the Lincoln and Otero counties. This CIL ensures that unnecessary duplication of services with other Federal, State, and local programs, including the [Older Individuals who are Blind] OIB program authorized by Chapter 2 of Title VII of the Act, that provide IL- or VR-related services by communicating, cooperating, and coordinating with these entities on a monthly and quarterly basis.

#### 1.7 Independent Living Services for Individuals who are Older Blind – 34 CFR 364.28

Describe how the DSU seeks to incorporate into, and describe in, the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under the Older Individuals who are Blind program and that the DSU determines to be effective.

The chief objective of the Independent Living Older Blind program is to increase and improve Independent Living/Older Blind services in New Mexico. In addition, to provide public outreach, so older individuals who

are blind can function more independently in their homes and within their communities. The majority of Independent Living/Older Blind services are provided to seniors who frequently have age-related disabilities in addition to blindness. The various field offices effectively serve and educate these consumers on the issues of blindness and the ability of the blind to have independent productive lives. Independent Living/Older Blind specialists, through monthly support groups, public service announcements, and attendance at health fairs, independent living centers and senior centers, provided public education and information about New Mexico Commission for the Blind services, to thousands of individuals. Independent Living/Older Blind specialists have also been very effective in establishing and maintaining peer support groups in rural, isolated areas that provide a self-supporting mechanism to consumers and to make new consumers aware of the program. There are support groups in Deming, Belen, Tularosa, and Silver City, as well as in Alamogordo, Ruidoso, and Roswell.

2.1 Scope and Extent – 34 CFR 364.42(b)(2)(3); 34 CFR 364.43(b); 34 CFR 364.59(b)

2.1A Check the appropriate boxes in the SPIL Instrument table indicating the types of IL services to be provided to meet the objectives identified in section 1.2 of this SPIL, and whether the services will be provided by the CILs or by the DSU (directly and/or through contract or grant).

<b>Table 2.1A: Independent living services</b>	<b>Provided by the DSU (directly)</b>	<b>Provided by the DSU (through contract and/or grant)</b>	<b>Provided by the CILs (Not through DSU contracts/ grants)</b>
Core Independent Living Services, as follows:	√	√	√
- Information and referral	√	√	√
- IL skills training	√	√	√
- Peer counseling	√	√	√
- Individual and systems advocacy	√	√	√
Counseling services, including psychological, psychotherapeutic, and related services			
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 significant disabilities)		√	√
Rehabilitation technology			
Mobility training	√		
Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life skills training, and interpreter and reader services	√	√	√
Personal assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services			

<b>Table 2.1A: Independent living services</b>	<b>Provided by the DSU (directly)</b>	<b>Provided by the DSU (through contract and/or grant)</b>	<b>Provided by the CILs (Not through DSU contracts/grants)</b>
Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation, accessible transportation and other support services	√	√	√
Consumer information programs on rehabilitation and IL services available under this Act, especially for minorities and other individuals with disabilities who have traditionally been un-served or underserved by programs under this Act	√	√	√
Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities	√	√	√
<b>Supported living</b>			
Transportation, including referral and assistance for such transportation			
Physical rehabilitation			
Therapeutic treatment			
Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices			
Individual and group social and recreational services			
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			
Services for children with significant disabilities			
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 significant disabilities			
Appropriate preventive services to decrease the need of individuals with significant disabilities for similar services in the future			
Community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with disabilities	√	√	√
Other necessary services not inconsistent with the Act			

2.1B Describe any service provision priorities, including types of services or populations, established for meeting the SPIL objectives identified in section 1.2.

The service provision priorities will continue to be the core Independent Living services.

- (1) Information and referral services are available to identify resources, services, and key service providers in public, private, and community agencies and organizations. These services inform people of the services and benefits available from outside community services and provide assistance in the referral of persons to the appropriate programs.
- (2) Independent living training services are designed to increase the personal functioning of people with disabilities in the educational and psycho-social areas.  
Educational skills training includes a variety of areas designed to increase the competencies of individuals with disabilities in personal assistance services, financial management, consumer affairs, sexuality, caring for personal needs, obtaining a GED or vocational certificate, engaging in civic activities, mobility, and utilizing recreational and leisure activities.  
  
Independent living training programs assist in the development of personal-social skills. Individuals who participate in personal-social skill training develop gains in areas such as self-awareness, self-confidence, socially responsible behavior, interpersonal skills, and communication with others.
- (3) Peer-counseling services are available to individuals with disabilities to provide emotional support, understanding, and practical advice. Peer-counseling as well as family- and couple-counseling, group counseling, and crisis-intervention are aspects of this program. The primary advantage of peer-counseling is that the counselors themselves have learned to cope with their disabilities and are able to communicate their experience to consumers.
- (4) Individual and systems advocacy efforts may affect one individual with a disability or a whole community. Advocacy programs teach individuals with disabilities how to effect change and become the change agent. Advocacy also works to change the social policies that create economic disincentives.

### **Other Services**

Many factors determine the total range of services provided by CILs in New Mexico. Funding level, personnel, resources, and priorities established by consumer-controlled governing boards of CILs as well as community size determine whether a wide-ranging or narrow array of services is provided. Not all centers provide all services. Other services that are provided in New Mexico are as follows:

- (1) Adaptive housing services, limited to accommodations to remove barriers to access and functioning in housing occupied by a person with a significant disability;
- (2) Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life-skills training and interpreter and reader services;
- (3) Personal-assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services;
- (4) Surveys, directories, and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation activities, and accessible transportation and other support services;
- (5) News-line services for people with significant disabilities to have access to major area newspapers and other publications;
- (6) Consumer information programs on rehabilitation and independent living services available under the Rehabilitation Act, especially for minorities and other individuals with disabilities who have been traditionally un-served or under-served by programs under the Act;

- (7) Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities;
- (8) Community-awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of people with disabilities;
- (9) Nursing home transition services are provided to individuals desiring to and deemed fit to live in the community.
- (10) Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services to individuals, their families, and their communities.

2.1C If the State allows service providers to charge consumers for the cost of services or to consider the ability of individual consumers to pay for the cost of IL services, specify the types of IL services for which costs may be charged and for which a financial need test may be applied, and describe how the State will ensure that:

- Any consideration of financial need is applied uniformly so that all individuals who are eligible for IL services are treated equally; and
- Written policies and consumer documentation required by 34 CFR 364.59(d) will be kept by the service provider.

Indicate N/A if not applicable.

N/A

## 2.2 Arrangements for State-Provided Services – 34 CFR 364.43(d) and (e)

2.2A. If the DSU will provide any of the IL services identified in section 2.1A through grants or contractual arrangements with third parties, describe such arrangements.

State general funds for Independent Living are appropriated to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and contracted to the following Centers for Independent Living: Independent Living Resource Center, The San Juan Center for Independent Living, CHOICES, and The Native American Independent Living (NAIL). All State general funds contracted to Centers for Independent Living must be distributed based on their response to a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process. State law allows multiple-year contracts that allow Centers to generally receive a four-year contract.

2.2B If the State contracts with or awards a grant to a center for the general operation of the center, describe how the State will ensure that the determination of an individual's eligibility for services from that center shall be delegated to the center.

The State ensures the determination of an individual's eligibility for Independent Living Services by contractual obligation and review of consumer service records, and through compliance reviews using New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument.

## **Section 3: Design for the Statewide Network of Centers**

### 3.1 Existing Network – 34 CFR 364.25

Provide an overview of the existing network of centers, including non-Part C-funded centers that comply with the standards and assurances in section 725 (b) and (c) of the Act, and the geographic areas and populations currently served by the centers.

New Mexico provides Independent Living Services through a network of Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and through the Commission for the Blind. The network of CILs provides core Independent Living Services to 30 of New Mexico's 33 counties. Three counties are not in the core service areas of CILs but receive some services through other funding generated by CILs, including Medicaid Home and Community-based Waivers, Brain Injury Funds, Early Intervention Funding, Title I Vocational Rehabilitation Funds,

Procurement Funds, Medicaid Personal Care Program, Independent Living procurement funds, Commission for the Blind Independent Living Program and others.

New Mexico is a large state (121,369 square miles) with a small population (1,984,356million people). The population is concentrated in urban areas along the Rio Grande corridor. About 60% of the population lives in Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Las Cruces and their suburban counties, constituting about 13% of the State's area. About 40% of the population lives in sparsely populated rural areas. The state is ethnically diverse, with Hispanics and Anglos comprising about 43% each, Native Americans 10%, African-Americans 3%, and others 1%.

**Part C-funded Centers for Independent Living include:**

*New Vistas Center for Independent Living* – This center is located in Santa Fe, NM which is north-central of New Mexico. This center serves Santa Fe, Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, Taos, Colfax, Mora, Union, Harding and San Miguel counties. It administers a satellite office in Las Vegas, NM which serves the eastern portion of the state.

*The Ability Center* – This center is located in Las Cruces (southwest New Mexico) and serves Doña Ana, Luna, Grant and Sierra Counties.

*Independent Living Resource Center* – This center is located in Albuquerque, NM which is central New Mexico. This center serves Bernalillo, Sandoval, Cibola, Valencia, Torrance, Guadalupe and DeBaca counties. The satellite office that is Part C funded is the satellite office in Socorro, NM which is south of Albuquerque and serves the Socorro county.

**Part B Funded Centers for Independent Living include:**

*Independent Living Resource Center* – This center is located in Albuquerque, NM which is central New Mexico. This center serves Bernalillo, Sandoval, Cibola and Valencia counties. It administers two satellite offices. There is a satellite office located in Moriarty, NM which is east of Albuquerque and serves the Torrance, Guadalupe and DeBaca counties. There is a satellite office located in Alamogordo, NM which is south east of Albuquerque and serves the Lincoln and Otero counties.

**State of New Mexico General Funded Centers for Independent Living Include:**

*The San Juan Center for Independence* – This center is located in Farmington which in the northwest region of New Mexico and serves the San Juan and McKinley Counties. This office administers a satellite office in Gallup, NM which serves the McKinley County and a portion of the Navajo Nation.

*Independent Living Resource Center* – This center is located in Albuquerque, NM which is central New Mexico. This center serves Bernalillo, Sandoval, Cibola and Valencia counties. It administers two satellite offices. There is a satellite office located in Moriarty, NM which is east of Albuquerque and serves the Torrance, Guadalupe and DeBaca counties. There is a satellite office in Alamogordo, NM which is southeast of Albuquerque and serves the Lincoln and Otero counties.

*CHOICES Center for Independent Living* – This center is located in Roswell, NM which is in the southeast region of New Mexico. It administers two satellite offices, one in Hobbs, NM which is northeast of Roswell and the second in Carlsbad, NM which is southeast of Roswell, NM. These offices serve the Chavez, Eddy, and Lea Counties.

*Native American Independent Living Center (NAIL)* – This center is located in the Pueblo of Laguna, NM which is in the western region of New Mexico and serves the Pueblos of Acoma, Laguna, Isleta, Sandia, Santa Ana, San Felipe, Santo Domingo, Cochiti, Zia and Jemez.

Un-served counties in New Mexico currently include the Hidalgo, Catron, Quay, Curry and Roosevelt Counties.

### 3.2 Expansion of Network – 34 CFR 364.25

Describe the design for the further expansion of the network, including identification of the un-served and underserved areas in the State and the order of priority for serving these areas as additional funding becomes available (beyond the required cost-of-living increase).

During the period covered by the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL), appropriations will be sought from the state legislature and other sources to complete the network of Independent Living Services to all areas of the state. See Section 1 for objectives related to expansion of the network. The expanding of the network of Independent Living services into the un-served Counties of Hidalgo and Catron in the southwest part of the state and Roosevelt, Quay and Curry in the eastern part of the state will be a main concern of the SILC.

Priorities for Distribution of ARRA Funds:

Because of the great un-served need, particularly in rural counties within each existing Part C center's service area, ARRA funds received in New Mexico will be allocated to existing Part C Centers for Independent Living in the same proportion as the allocation of Part C funds currently received by the state: New Vistas ILC 47%; The Ability Center 37%; Independent Living Resource Center (Albuquerque) 8% and the Independent Living Resource Center (Socorro) 8%.

Priorities for Distribution of Regular Part C Funds:

If after the existing Part C centers in New Mexico receive the amount of funds they received the prior fiscal year and a cost-of-living increase, funds remain out of a single year's appropriation of Part C funds in the amount of \$250,000 or greater, New Mexico has the following priorities for use of that funding:

1. Establish a new center for independent living in a Native American community;
2. Establish a new center for independent living in Hidalgo and Catron Counties, preferably one that shares the governing board of an existing center;
3. Establish a new center for independent living in Roosevelt, Quay and Curry Counties;
4. Establish a new Part C center in an area already served by an existing center that receives only state or Part B funds in the following order of priority
  - a. San Juan and McKinley Counties
  - b. Chavez, Eddy, and Lea Counties

If, in any fiscal year, funds remain after creating a new center or if there is insufficient funds to create a new center, those remaining funds will be distributed to the existing Part C centers in the same proportion as the allocation of Part C funds currently received by the state.

### 3.3 Section 723 States Only – 34 CFR 364.39

3.3A If the State follows an order of priorities for allocating funds among centers within a State that is different from what is outlined in 34 CFR 366.22, describe the alternate order of priority that the DSU director and the SILC chair have agreed upon. Indicate N/A if not applicable.

N/A

3.3B Describe how the State policies, practices and procedures governing the awarding of grants to centers and the oversight of these centers are consistent with 34 CFR 366.37 and 366.38.

N/A

## **Section 4: Designated State Unit (DSU)**

### 4.1 Administrative Support Services – 34 CFR 364.4; 34 CFR 364.22(b)

4.1A Describe the administrative support services to be provided by the DSU for the SILS (Part B) program and, if the State is a Section 723 State, for the CIL (Part C) program.

– Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about administrative support services.

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation receives Title VII, Part B funds and currently contracts with the Independent Living Resource Center, in Albuquerque, New Mexico to serve the counties of Bernilillo, Sandoval, Cibola, Torrance, Guadalupe, DeBaca, and Valencia. Title VII, Part B Funds are contracted to CILs based on their response to a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP). State law allows multiple year contracts but requires a competitive RFP process. While this document identifies the present contractor of services, a competitive RFP process may result in a new contractor for those services. The New Mexico Commission for the Blind also receives Title VII, Part B funds and Title VII Older Blind funds. The Commission for the Blind provides Independent Living Services directly to consumers with visual impairments statewide.

4.1B Describe other DSU arrangements for the administration of the IL program, if any.

State General funds for Independent Living are appropriated to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and contracted to the following CILs: Independent Living Resource Center; The San Juan Center for Independence; Native American Independent Living (NAIL) and, CHOICES Center for Independence. The State also has a “Procurement fund for Independent Living”. Those funds are contracted to CIL’s based on their response to a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP).

All State General Funds that are contracted for IL services must be disbursed to CILs based on their response to a competitive Request for Proposal. State law allows multiple year contracts but requires a competitive RFP process. While this document identifies the present contractors of IL services, a competitive RFP process may yield new contractors for those services.

## **Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)**

### 5.1 Resource Plan – 34 CFR 364.21(i)

5.1A – The Designated State Unit (DSU) will release a Request for Proposals for support of SILC activities for FFY 2011, 2012 and 2013. The SILC and the DSU will establish a proposal evaluation committee to review

proposals and make recommendations to the DSU. The DSU will enter into a three year contract with a selected consultant to provide support for the SILC and to support the implementation of the State Plan for Independent Living.

The final contract will be developed and administered by NMDVR. The contractor will provide support services to the SILC and will conduct the business of the SILC in a manner that forwards the agenda and implements the priorities established by the SILC in terms of the responsibilities identified in 34 CFR 364.21. The DSU will impose no conditions or requirements in the contract that in any way compromise the independence of the contractor or the SILC. The contract will stipulate that the contractor may not engage in any other work that would create a conflict of interest with the SILC.

The DSU will provide \$120,000 per year for support of the SILC unless the State of NM mandates necessary budget cuts due to the current economic needs. These funds may come from a variety of sources available to the DSU which may be used for the purpose of implementing Independent Living Programs.

**5.1B** – The SILC will present to the DSU on an annual basis a proposed categorical budget. The Contractor will be responsible to provide the SILC and the DSU with a quarterly budget status report. While the categorical budget will stipulate how most of the funds are to be expended, certain expenditures will require prior approval of the SILC executive committee and the DSU. Prior approval of certain expenditures will assure that the funds are being used in a manner that promotes the priorities of the SILC.

The following is a proposed budget for contractual support of the SILC. This proposed budget is subject to change, pending final negotiation of a contract with the successful bidder and subject to annual adjustments necessary to successfully carry out the priorities of the SILC. The funds used for this contract include Title I Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion) and State General Funds.

**Proposed SILC Support Budget\***

PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$ 60,000
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 18,000
BOARD MEMBER I/S TRAVEL	\$ 4,400
BOARD MEMBER PER DIEM	\$ 5,700
CONTRACTOR I/S TRAVEL	\$ 1,620
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR	\$ 1,000
SUPPLIES	\$ 600
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	\$ 8,200
OPERATING COSTS	\$ 4,480
TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT	\$ 5,000
BOARD MEMBER O/S TRAVEL	\$ 6,000
CONTRACTOR O/S TRAVEL	\$ 5,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$120,000

\*Category totals may be adjusted subject to final negotiation with contractor and annual adjustments necessary to meet SILC support needs.

**Personnel Services – Contractor time:**

50 weeks X 40 hours per week average  
 X \$30.00 per hour = **\$60,000\*\***

**Employee Benefits**

\$60,000 X .3 (30%) = **\$18,000\*\***

\*\*Personnel Services and employee benefits may be adjusted depending upon whether or not the selected vendor bids personnel rates as “fully loaded.” However, for the purposes of this State Plan for Independent Living - Resource Plan, the estimated total cost for Personnel and Benefits is \$81,120.

**Board Member In-State (I/S) Travel & Per Diem**

SILC member mileage @ 10,000 miles X \$.44 = \$4,400.00

**TOTAL I/S Travel \$4,400.00**

SILC member Per Diem @ 60 days X \$95 = \$5,700.00

**TOTAL PER DIEM \$5,700.00**

**Contractor In-State Travel**

Contractor mileage @ 3680 miles X \$.44 = \$1,620.00

**TOTAL I/S TRAVEL \$1,620.00**

**Maintenance and Repair \$1,000.00**

**Supplies**

12 months X \$50 = \$ 600.00

**TOTAL SUPPLIES \$ 600.00**

**Contractual Services**

Sign language interpreters, note takers,  
Meeting minutes, attendants and drivers  
for SILC meeting and SILC committee meetings **\$8,200.00**

**Operating Costs**

Meeting Rooms Rental \$1,000.00\*

Legal notices for meetings (\$200 X 7 mtgs) \$1,400.00

Postage and e-mail (\$50 per month) \$ 600.00

Telephone (\$50 per month) \$ 600.00

Copying (\$40 per month) \$ 480.00

Subscription and dues \$ 400.00

**TOTAL OPERATING COSTS \$4,480.00**

\*In most cases meeting rooms will be available in state offices or Centers for Independent Living conference rooms; however, it may be necessary to rent conference room space for at least one meeting per year.

**Training and Development**

SILC members \$3,000.00

Contractor \$2,000.00

**TOTAL TRNG & DEVELOPMENT \$5,000.00**

**Board Member Out-of-State (O/S) Travel**

Three out-of-state trips (includes Travel, per diem  
and personal attendant fees) \$6,000.00

**TOTAL O/S TRAVEL \$6,000.00**

**Contractor Out-of-State (O/S) Travel**

Three out-of-state trips (includes Travel, per diem  
and personal care attendant fees) \$5,000.00

**TOTAL O/S TRAVEL \$5,000.00**

The DSU will not impose any conditions or requirements in the SILC support contract that may compromise the independence of the SILC. The DSU will carefully review and monitor expenditure of contractual funds to assure compliance will applicable federal laws and regulations, New Mexico General Statutes, and New Mexico Administrative Code. For certain expenditures (e.g. out-of-state travel) this will require prior approval by the

DSU.

To the maximum extent possible, appropriate utilization of all funds made available on an annual basis for support of the SILC will be a priority for both the SILC and the DSU.

### **5.2 Establishment and Placement – 34 CFR 364.21(a)**

The New Mexico SILC is established by the Governor's office as a council independent of all state agencies. Resources for administration and support of the SILC are provided by the New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation through a contractual arrangement.

### **5.3 Appointment and Composition – 34 CFR 364.21(b) – (f)**

The Governor appoints all members of the SILC in accordance with the applicable regulations. Nominations for membership on the SILC may come from any source. The necessary forms are posted on the Governor's website and are also available from SILC support staff and the Designated State Unit. When the appropriate nomination forms are received by the Governor's staff, consultation is sought from the Designate State Agency and Designated State Unit to assure that SILC composition, membership qualifications, and term limits as stipulated in the applicable regulations are met. Upon assurance that the necessary requirements are met, a letter of appointment is drafted by the Designated State Agency for the Governor's signature.

New Mexico SILC is not currently in compliance with membership requirements as outlined in 34CFR 364.21(b)-(f). The current Governor's term ends on December 31, 2010. When the current administration took office in 2002 all gubernatorial appointees to state boards and commissions were asked to resign their appointments. It is no known whether the next Governor will take the same action.

After the election and during the transition planning process, the SILC Executive Committee and DSU Representatives will attempt to meet with the new administration's appointments coordinator to share information regarding Independent Living the SILC and the appointment and composition requirements of 34CFR 364.21(b)-(f).

### **5.4 Staffing – 34 CFR 364.21(j)**

Support staff, consistent with applicable federal law and regulations, New Mexico General Statutes, and New Mexico Administrative Code will be provided through a contractual arrangement as per the following section of the New Mexico SILC bylaws.

#### **SILC Staff**

The SILC shall administer staff and other personnel as deemed necessary for carrying out the duties and functions of the SILC. The SILC shall prepare, in conjunction with the Designated State Unit, a plan for the provision of such resources, including such staff and personnel as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the SILC.

SILC Staff and other personnel necessary to carry out the functions of the SILC shall be provided by the Designated State Unit through a contractual agreement between an individual interested and knowledgeable in independent living philosophy, programs and services under the Rehabilitation Act as amended, and the Designated State Unit (the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation);

The SILC shall, consistent with State law, supervise and evaluate such contractor(s) as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the SILC; and

SILC staff and other personnel necessary to carry out the function of the SILC shall be required to enter into a contractual agreement with the Designated State Unit administratively responsible, prior to carrying out any

function of the SILC, and be held accountable to the SILC.

## **Section 6: Service Provider Requirements**

### 6.1 Staffing

#### 34 CFR 364.23

- (a) At all Centers for Independent Living the staff include personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of Independent Living Services and in the development and support of the Centers. *(Position postings, job descriptions, and personnel files document compliance.)*
- (b) To the maximum extent feasible, each service provider makes available personnel able to communicate
  - (1) With individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication devices, Braille, or audio tapes, and who apply for or receive Independent Living services under title VII of the Act. *(Contracts with IL service providers, physical presence of required communication equipment/materials, and service provider policies and procedures document compliance.)*
  - (2) In the native language of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for and receive IL services under title VII of the act. *(Contracts to promote Native American Independent Living Services, service provider policies and procedures, and job descriptions document compliance.)*

#### 34 CFR 364.24

The state assures that all Independent Living Services providers establish and maintain a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing Independent Living Services and, if appropriate, in administering the Center for Independent Living program. These staff development programs emphasize improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of Independent Living services, including knowledge of and practice in the Independent Living philosophy.

*(State Independent Living Council support contract, service provider training records and personnel files, and New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument document compliance.)*

#### 34 CFR 364.31

All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of Chapter 1 of Title VII of the act take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the act.

*(Contracts with service providers, service provider personnel records, and New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument document compliance.)*

### 6.2 Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting

#### 34 CFR 364.34

In addition to complying with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements, the state assures that all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the act adopt fiscal control and fund accounting procedures necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for those funds.

*(Contracts with service providers, service provider invoices with support documentation, New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation contract management files, service provider annual audits, audits conducted by or on behalf of the Designated State Units, and New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument document compliance.)*

### 6.3 Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting

#### 34 CFR 364.35

In addition to complying with applicable EDGAR recordkeeping requirements, the State assures that all

recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act maintain--

- (a) Records that fully disclose and document--
  - (1) The amount and disposition by the recipient of that financial assistance;
  - (2) The total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which the financial assistance is given or used;
  - (3) The amount of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources;
  - (4) Compliance with the requirements of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act and this part; and
- (b) Other records that the Secretary determines to be appropriate to facilitate an effective audit.  
*(Contracts with service providers, service provider invoices with support documentation, New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation contract management files, service provider annual audits, audits conducted by or on behalf of the Designated State Units, and New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument document compliance.)*

#### 34 CFR 364.36

With respect to the records that are required by Sec. 364.35, the State assures that all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will submit reports that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

*(Contracts with service providers, services provider annual audits, audits conducted by or on behalf of the Designated State Units, reports submitted by the state to the Rehabilitation Services Administration, and grant assurances signed by the two Designated State Unit directors document compliance.)*

#### 34 CFR 364.37

For the purpose of conducting audits, examinations, and compliance reviews, the State assures that all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 and chapter 2 of title VII of the Act will provide access to the Secretary and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, to--

- (a) The records maintained under Sec. 364.35;
- (b) Any other books, documents, papers, and records of the recipients that are pertinent to the financial assistance received under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act; and
- (c) All individual case records or files or consumer service records of individuals served under 34 CFR part 365, 366, or 367, including names, addresses, photographs, and records of evaluation included in those individual case records or files or consumer service records.

*(Contracts with service providers, services provider annual audits, audits conducted by or on behalf of the Designated State Units, New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument, and grant assurances signed by the two Designated State Unit directors document compliance.)*

### 6.4 Eligibility

#### 34 CFR 364.40

The state assures that--

- (a) Any individual with a significant disability, as defined in Sec. 364.4(b) is eligible for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs authorized under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act;
- (b) Any individual may seek information about IL services under these programs and request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities, as appropriate; and
- (c) The determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs meets the requirements of Sec. 364.51.

*(Contracts with service providers, consumer service records, and New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument document compliance.)*

#### 34 CFR 364.41

The state assures that—

- (a) The service provider applies eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion, or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services.
- (b) The service provider does not impose any State or local residence requirement that excludes under the plan any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services from receiving IL services.

*(State statutes, state administrative code, contracts with service providers, consumer service records, and New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument document compliance.)*

#### 6.5 Independent Living Plans

34 CFR 364.43(c)

The state assures that unless the individual signs a waiver stating that an IL plan is unnecessary, IL services provided to individuals with significant disabilities must be in accordance with an IL plan that meets the requirements of Sec. 364.52 and that is mutually agreed upon by--

- (1) An appropriate staff member of the service provider; and
- (2) The individual.

*(Service provider job descriptions, contracts with service providers, consumer service records, and New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument document compliance.)*

#### 6.6 Client Assistance Program (CAP) Information

34 CFR 364.30

The State assures that all service providers will use formats that are accessible to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about--

- (a) The availability of the CAP authorized by section 112 of the Act;
- (b) The purposes of the services provided under the CAP; and
- (c) How to contact the CAP.

*(All individuals seeking or receiving Independent Living services are advised through a handout about the availability of the Client Assistance Program under section 112 of the Act, the purposes of services provided under such program, and information on the means of looking for assistance under such program.)*

#### 6.7 Protection, Use and Release of Personal Information

34 CFR 364.56(a)

The state assures that each service provider will adopt and implement policies and procedures to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names. These policies and procedures must assure that--

- (1) Specific safeguards protect current and stored personal information;
- (2) All applicants for, or recipients of, IL services and, as appropriate, those individuals' legally authorized representatives, service providers, cooperating agencies, and interested persons are informed of the confidentiality of personal information and the conditions for gaining access to and releasing this information;
- (3) All applicants or their legally authorized representatives are informed about the service provider's need to collect personal information and the policies governing its use, including--
  - (i) Identification of the authority under which information is collected;
  - (ii) Explanation of the principal purposes for which the service provider intends to use or release the information;
  - (iii) Explanation of whether providing requested information to the service provider is mandatory or voluntary and the effects to the individual of not providing requested information;
  - (iv) Identification of those situations in which the service provider requires or does not require informed written consent of the individual or his or her legally authorized representative before

- information may be released; and
- (v) Identification of other agencies to which information is routinely released;
  - (4) Persons who are unable to communicate in English or who rely on alternative modes of communication must be provided an explanation of service provider policies and procedures affecting personal information through methods that can be adequately understood by them;
  - (5) At least the same protections are provided to individuals with significant disabilities as provided by State laws and regulations; and
  - (6) Access to records is governed by rules established by the service provider and any fees charged for copies of records are reasonable and cover only extraordinary costs of duplication or making extensive searches.

*(Contracts with service providers, service provider written policies and procedures, consumer service records, and New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Independent Living Compliance Review Instrument document compliance.)*

### **Section 7: Evaluation**

Describe the method that will be used to periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the plan in meeting the objectives established in Section 1. The description must include the State's evaluation of satisfaction by individuals with significant disabilities who have participated in the program. 34 CFR 364.38

The SILC, the NM Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and the NM Commission for the Blind will monitor and review the activities and accomplishments of each objective listed in Section 1, at each quarterly meeting of the SILC. When activities involve other entities, representatives of those organizations will be invited to attend SILC meetings. Reports from CILs and State Agencies will also received by the SILC at their quarterly meetings.

Specific Data elements for each goal identified in Section 1 are as follows:

#### Goal 1 Objective 1

##### Evaluation data sources:

1. The amount of new resources planned and requested for services in identified counties.
2. The measurable provision of services for persons with disabilities in Roosevelt, Quay and Curry counties in FY 2011, 2012, and 2013.
3. The expansion of independent living services into Hidalgo and Catron counties in FY 2011, 2012, and 2013.

#### Goal 1 Objective 2

##### Evaluation data sources:

1. Results of the needs assessments conducted by each CIL.
2. Results of funding proposals and/or applications.
3. The number of persons in underserved counties receiving independent living services.

#### Goal 1 Objective 3

##### Evaluation data sources:

1. The number of Native American Centers for Independent Living established and operating (contingent upon appropriation of adequate funding for this purpose).
2. The number of staff employed by Native American Centers for Independent Living.
3. The number of Native American Individuals with Disabilities receiving Independent Living Services.

#### Goal 2 Objective 1

##### Evaluation data sources:

1. Number of staff at Centers for Independent Living successfully trained.
2. Number of individuals that are deinstitutionalized as reported by Centers for Independent Living in annual 704 reports to RSA and other reports for state funded Centers for Independent Living

Goal 2 Objective 2

Evaluation data sources:

1. Number of Centers for Independent Living successfully trained in the transition process.
2. Obtaining Minimum Data Set Numbers from the NM Medical Assistance Division.
3. The number of Individuals successfully transitioned to community living.

Goal 2 Objective 3

Evaluation data sources:

1. Needs assessment results related to deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind populations.
2. Number of deaf and hard of hearing persons receiving appropriate and meaningful independent living services from each Center for Independent Living. (This information should be provided in current annual reports.)

Goal 3 Objective 1

Evaluation data sources: SILC / DSU correspondence regarding the CPI-U and COLA.

Goal 3 Objective 2

Evaluation data sources: Reports at quarterly SILC meetings of Training and Development Fund activities.

Goal 3 Objective 3

Evaluation data sources: All CILs report in 704 Report format.

Goal 4 Objective 1

Evaluation data sources: Establishment / continuation of most efficacious organizational structure allowed under state law and administrative code.

Goal 5 Objective 1:

Evaluation data sources: Report to Commission Board, Commission Annual Report to RSA and Governor, 704 and 7(OB) Report, Commission Reports at quarterly SILC meetings.

Goal 5 Objective 2:

Evaluation data sources: AWARE case management system, Report to Commission Board, Commission Annual Report to RSA and Governor, 704 and 7(OB) Report, Commission Reports at quarterly SILC meetings.

Goal 5 Objective 3:

Evaluation data sources: Report to Commission Board, Commission Annual Report to RSA and Governor, 704 and 7(OB) Report, Commission Reports at quarterly SILC meetings.

Goal 5 Objective 4:

Evaluation data sources: Report to Commission Board, Commission Annual Report to RSA and Governor, 704 and 7(OB) Report, Commission Reports at quarterly SILC meetings.

Goal 5 Objective 5:

Evaluation data sources: Report to Commission Board, Commission Annual Report to RSA and Governor, Director Report to Consumer Conferences, 704 and 7(OB) Report, Commission Reports at quarterly SILC meetings.

Goal 5 Objective 6:

Evaluation data sources: Consumer Satisfaction Surveys, Report to Commission Board, Commission Public Hearing Summaries, Commission Annual Report to RSA and Governor, Director Report at Consumer Conferences, 704 and 7(OB) Report, Commission Reports at quarterly SILC meetings.

Goal 6 Objective 1

Evaluation data sources:

1. SILC meeting agendas.
2. SILC meeting minutes.

Goal 6 Objective 2

Evaluation data sources:

1. Written activity reports submitted by the SILC contract director to the SILC and DSU.
2. Written activity reports submitted by SILC officers to the SILC membership.

Data for sources identified above will be compiled and reported to the full SILC. Progress in meeting Goals and Objectives will be reported to RSA in the 704 reports. The SILC will use the quarterly reports and the annual 704 reports for a self-evaluation and will revise and update activities for Goals and Objectives based on the results of those reviews. If Goals and Objectives are substantially changed, an amendment to the State Plan will be drafted subsequent to public hearings and other opportunities for public input.

Annually, CILs will be asked to make their Work Plans available to the SILC as needed. CILs will report data in a format consistent with the 704 report.

The SILC chair will appoint a committee consisting of SILC members, CIL directors, designated state unit staff, and other individuals and organizations familiar with independent living issues to review and propose models of consumer satisfaction analyses that may be utilized by all of the different Independent Living partners in New Mexico.

## **Section 8: State-Imposed Requirements**

Identify any State-imposed requirements contained in the provisions of this SPIL. Indicate N/A if not applicable. 34 CFR 364.20(h) N/A