

2006
2006

ANNUAL REPORT



PRESENTED TO
THE HONORABLE GOVERNOR TED KULONGOSKI,
THE OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
AND TO THE PEOPLE WE SERVE



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Dear Governor Kulongoski, Oregon Legislators, Disability Advocates, Community Partners, and Interested Parties,

It is our pleasure to present the Oregon State Independent Living Council (SILC) 2006 Annual Report. The Oregon SILC is established by Executive Order of the Governor, and consists of up to twenty-one Governor-appointed disability advocates, the majority of whom are persons with disabilities. As our partner agencies, a representative from both Oregon Commission for the Blind (OCB), and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (OVRs) hold non-voting positions on the SILC.

The Mission of the SILC is to promote choice, equal access, and full inclusion of people with disabilities, throughout the State of Oregon. This report shares information about the Oregon State Independent Living Council (SILC), Oregon Centers for Independent Living (CILs), the significance, benefits and cost savings of Independent Living philosophy and services, Oregonians' need for services, and SILC success stories, challenges, and accomplishments.

We hope you find this report and the various pictures, quotes, and accounts of choice, inclusion, independence, and access to be informative and inspiring. We welcome your input and involvement in improving opportunities for Oregonians with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Jan Campbell ~ SILC Chair

Tina Treasure ~ SILC Executive Director

500 Summer Street NE E-87, Salem, OR 97301-1120 ~ (503) 945-6204 (Voice) ~ 1-866-813-3526 (TTY)
(503) 945-8991 (Fax) ~ oregon.silc@state.or.us (E-mail)

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INDEPENDENT LIVING

The term “**Independent Living**” (IL) is commonly used in the disability community to describe specific services that help individuals with disabilities to attain and/or maintain more independence in their lives. These services include: 1) information and referral, 2) skills training, 3) peer counseling, and 4) individual and systems advocacy. These IL services are delivered by local Centers for Independent Living (CILS).

Beyond services, **Independent Living** is an overall LIFE philosophy and a movement that believes:

- ◆ ALL individuals are created equal, with certain unalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness...
- ◆ ALL people have the right, and should not be barred from, equal opportunities to control decisions about their lives and pursue activities of their choosing; and to assume full citizenship, inclusion, and the associated responsibilities and risks that come with this right. They should have the right and responsibility to be active participants in their families, communities, and careers - as peer citizens...
- ◆ Responsibility, self-determination, informed choice, independence, and accountability apply to ALL people ~ regardless of whether a person currently has a disability.

According to the 2000 Census, 1 in 5 Americans ages five and over reported a disability. The percentage of individuals with a disability grew by 8.8 percent between the age of 20 and 65. Of individuals 65 and above, 42 percent reported a disability. It is estimated that about 80% of the general population will eventually have a disability or have a relative who experiences a disability. Promoting and sharing Independent Living philosophy is particularly crucial in the disability community where people often believe they have no choices. However, it is also important for the general population to be reminded that basic rights should not be barred from some individuals, just because they have a disability. The overall role of the State Independent Living Council is to promote and spread IL as a LIFE philosophy ~ advocating to insure that people with disabilities are not excluded from life opportunities, informed choice, equal access, and inclusion ~ all contributing to increasing the independence of people with disabilities.

Independent Living philosophy is the key component of all work and activities of the Oregon State Independent Living Council.

STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL

State Independent Living Councils were mandated as a result of the 1992 amendments to the federal Rehabilitation Act. The Oregon State Independent Living Council (SILC) was officially established by Executive Order of the Governor in 1992.

The Oregon State Independent Living Council (SILC) is a Governor appointed Council of disability advocates, most of whom have disabilities, working together to further our mission of promoting choice, equal access, and full inclusion of people with disabilities throughout the State of Oregon.

The SILC includes current or past consumers of Independent Living services, representatives of Centers for Independent Living (CILs), private business representatives, other persons with disabilities, parents, guardians, and advocates of and for individuals with disabilities, as well as an ex-officio representative from Oregon Commission for the Blind (OCB), and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (OVRS). These two ex-officios represent legally mandated partners.

The SILC meets quarterly, on the first Friday of March, June, September, and December.



SILC MEMBERS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location/Representing</u>
1. Jack Benson	St. Helens
2. Charlotte Buxton	Ontario
3. Jan Campbell ~ Chair	Portland
4. Brad Collins	Eugene
5. Chuck Davis	Portland
6. Sharon Ely	White City
7. Angel Hale	Salem
8. Wendy Howard	CIL Rep-Klamath Falls
9. Kristi Laney	Baker City
10. Martha Simpson ~ Vice Chair	Portland
11. Frank Synoground	Ex-officio ~ OCB
12. Stephaine Parrish-Taylor	Ex-officio ~ OVRS
13. Glenn Van Cise	CIL Rep-Bend
14. Dean Westwood	Portland
15. Ulee Yanok	Huntington

SILC RESPONSIBILITIES

The SILC works towards its Mission of promoting choice, equal access, and full inclusion of people with disabilities, throughout the State of Oregon by:

- ◆ Developing the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) jointly, with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Oregon Commission for the Blind
- ◆ Evaluating the provision of Independent Living services as described in the SPIL
- ◆ Identifying the need for Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and Independent Living services
- ◆ Determining consumer satisfaction with Independent Living services
- ◆ Advising on Independent Living issues, including policy development, review, and comment
- ◆ Working with other disability organizations, in order to advocate for improvements in critical areas such as employment, housing, public accommodations, education, transportation, communication, recreation, de-institutionalization, health care, and public services

SILC members work in partnership with CILs and other Independent Living providers and agencies to further the SILC mission, to accomplish goals of the State Plan for Independent Living, to expand Independent Living services to reach un-served and under-served populations, and to spread Independent Living philosophy.

STATE PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

One of the primary functions of the SILC is the development and implementation of the three-year State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL). This plan is developed in collaboration with mandated partners - the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (OVRs), and the Oregon Commission for the Blind (OCB). It describes how Independent Living services are currently provided in Oregon, identifies un-served or under-served areas of the state, and identifies goals and objectives for the SPIL per

The SILC's work toward accomplishing the goals of the SPIL is completed through the active participation of each council member in one or more committees. Each committee is assigned SPIL goals and then develops a work plan to accomplish the assigned SPIL goals and to support the SILC Mission.

2005-2007 SPIL GOAL SUMMARY

Although many issues need to be addressed, the SILC is committed to developing SPIL goals based on consideration of where a measurable, positive impact can be made. After careful consideration, and statewide input, four main SPIL goals were developed:

- ◆ **ADVOCACY** ~ Advocate for choice, equal access, and full inclusion of people with disabilities.
- ◆ **IL FUNDING** ~ Support funding opportunities for CILs throughout Oregon.
- ◆ **EDUCATION** ~ Educate that disability is a natural part of our shared human experience.
- ◆ **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT** ~ Enhance effective, active, knowledgeable leadership in the movement to further systems change and promote the Independent Living philosophy.

The order of these goals did not indicate priority order. As a disability advocacy council, advocacy is an ongoing top priority, with IL funding a high financial priority.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In order to review accomplishments, it is good to be reminded of the goals within the State Plan for Independent Living, which are **advocacy, IL funding, education, and leadership development.**

Building collaboration is one of the most significant pathways to achieving these goals, and the Oregon SILC saw many new collaborations develop this year through working with partner agencies on an ongoing daily basis via involvement in each other's committees and advisory boards.

COLLABORATION WITH THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

For the past several years, the SILC and OVRS have collaborated to build a strong connection between Vocational Rehabilitation services and Independent Living services. The underlying belief has been that by making available Independent Living services and Vocational Rehabilitation services simultaneously, consumers have access to a holistic set of services that empower them to address the variety of barriers that often prevent reaching both their independence and employment goals.

Based on the OVRS Administrator's ongoing support of the SILC, CILs, and Independent Living philosophy and services, the SILC and OVRS collaborated on a project that enhanced both Independent Living and Vocational Rehabilitation services to Oregonians with disabilities, and at the same time provided much needed additional funding to Oregon's CILs. This project used state Independent Living funding allocations to match additional federal funding. Besides assisting the four Title VII, Part C funded CILs to reach the base funding goal of \$200,000, and the four newer CILs to receive higher funding levels than ever before, it provided dollars as an incentive for each CIL and their local OVRS office to form a partnership through which an additional \$10,000 per area could be utilized for IL services to OVRS clients. Under the agreement, the purchasing OVRS Counselor would pay 25% of the hourly cost for IL services, and the remaining 75% would come out of funds leveraged in the OVRS/SILC match agreement. An additional benefit was that CILs learned to market their unique services, and OVRS counselors were able to experience the value of Independent Living services they may not have previously considered.

CIL Enhancement – The collaborative projects with OVRS provided valuable information to the SILC concerning areas of growth needed in various Oregon CILs. Again, due to the value Oregon's OVRS places on Independent Living philosophy and services, OVRS and the SILC once again collaborated to provide specialized training and consultation services to Oregon's Network of CILs, to further develop their capacity to serve Oregonians with disabilities. In this CIL enhancement project, the funds leveraged through the match funding agreement allowed OVRS to fund a contract with the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL) to conduct a CIL mentoring project with each of Oregon's CILs. Over a one year period, APRIL consultants assisted each CIL in developing an "organizational snapshot" to

identify each CIL's strengths and weaknesses. This led to the development and implementation of a program improvement plan, and customized mentoring to enable CILs to effectively implement the plans. CILs have found this mentoring project to be a valuable educational resource for increasing professionalism, administrative and managerial skills, community partnerships, and sustainability – thereby enhancing their capacity to provide quality services to consumers.

CIL Accountability – In October, the SILC joined OVRs staff to begin a series of bi-annual CIL reviews. These reviews are necessary to fulfill Oregon's responsibility to determine whether CILs listed in the State Plan for Independent Living, and receiving in-direct federal funding are in compliance with specific federal requirements. These reviews are learning opportunities for CILs, the SILC, and OVRs that can lead to further enhancement of Independent Living services, as well as verifying the appropriate use of public funds.

Benefits Planning – Another of the collaborative projects that has been made possible by the match funding agreement between OVRs and the SILC is planning for a Benefits Planning Network in the State of Oregon, in conjunction with the Phase 2 - Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG2) held by OVRs. The project would utilize some of the SILC's portion of the matched funding to fund a number of benefits planning experts and support staff in Centers for Independent Living. Benefits Planning professionals would be able to assist people with disabilities in determining how to achieve their desire for employment while maintaining certain necessary disability related supports. A benefits planning network would be able to take advantage of the SILC's previously completed project of developing WorkBenefits, a Web-based tool for benefits planning.

Budget Processes – For the first time, the SILC collaborated with the Department of Human Services and OVRs (the legally required fiscal agent for public Independent Living funds) to include funding for Independent Living in the Agency's budget request for the biennium. Their budget proposed \$1.3 million for the support of Independent Living services. Whether or not this amount is ultimately allocated by the legislature, SILC appreciates the partnership of the Department of Human Services Director, Dr. Bruce Goldberg, and the OVRs Administrator, Stephanie Parrish-Taylor, in this endeavor to return the funding of Independent Living services to its 2001 level.

COLLABORATION WITH SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (SPD)

Over the past year, the SILC has developed a stronger partnership with Seniors and People with Disabilities (SPD) programs. This partnership has provided opportunities for the SILC to strengthen our role as advisors and educators regarding the incorporation of Independent Living philosophy in the service delivery of all programs for people with disabilities. The SILC served in several capacities during this reporting year within the SPD system. One such opportunity was involvement in the revision of eligibility of a unique Oregon program called, "Oregon Project Independence"(OPI). OPI serves individuals who are age 60 and older or individuals who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder. It provides in-home

services to seniors who require the same level of care as people in nursing homes, but who typically do not qualify for Medicaid. On July 29, 2005, the Oregon House of Representatives funded OPI in the hope of ensuring its stability for future years by providing \$12 million for the 2005-07 biennium. In addition, a bill established a trust fund that will receive excess monies from the senior and disabled property tax deferral program. In this stabilization process, the Oregon Legislature also approved expanding OPI to provide services under this program to people with physical disabilities under the age of 60. The SILC worked with SPD staff to rewrite the Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) to reflect the needs of this new service population.

Other SILC work with SPD included discussions on how to roll-out the Independent Choice program state wide from the current 3 pilot projects in 5 of Oregon's 36 counties. Collaboration with Oregon Centers for Independent Living was fostered during this process and enhanced IL involvement in many committees, policy discussions and considerations in the agency's long-term care future planning.

COLLABORATION WITH THE HOMECARE COMMISSION

One of the projects of the Homecare Commission (HCC) is to train homecare workers who are employed by consumers participating in the following programs for people with disabilities: Medicaid In-Home Services Client-Employed Provider, Oregon Project Independence, State Plan Personal Care, and Spousal Pay programs. The HCC accepted a proposal from the SILC to develop and coordinate a new program for training consumers who employ Home Care Workers through those programs.. The SILC's role in the project was to develop a training curriculum, and then develop subcontracts with eligible CILs or other organizations to provide local consumer/employer trainings across the state, making this another successful example of providing much needed services to Oregonians with disabilities, while diversifying Independent Living funding. The SILC expects to train about 1,000 individuals during the course of the project, via a combination of group trainings, one-on-one trainings, and guide-on-the-side services. The project is designed to give those who utilize in-home services greater understanding of their role in recruiting, interviewing, hiring, managing, and providing a safe working environment for in-home service providers. The project furthers the SILC's goal of increasing independence of people with disabilities by encouraging more consumer direction, choice, and responsibility, thereby enhancing the empowerment of seniors and people with disabilities.

COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS

While attending the SILC Congress, Oregon's SILC joined in the decision to initiate a national committee charged with developing **measurable outcome tools** for Independent Living services, so that future federal reports are better able to demonstrate the positive results of Independent Living programs. The SILC Executive Director served as a member of this national committee, along with representatives of the National Council on Independent Living, the Federal Bureau of Management and Budget, the Rehabilitation Services Administration, and other Independent

Living service representatives. This group's work resulted in a set of draft standards and indicators which are being considered for inclusion and/or to replace in part, the federal annual report required of Centers for Independent Living and State Independent Living Councils. These draft tools are the beginning of a paradigm shift for IL to better demonstrate IL value and effectiveness through outcome-based measures.

The new Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) **State Improvement & Monitoring Division (SIMDiv)** conducted a review of one of Oregon's CILs in September. A SILC member and a SILC staff person participated on the review team in order to contribute to and learn from the review process, which is designed to train CILs at the same time that compliance with federal standards is determined. The review was a valuable opportunity to learn about RSA, CIL programs, federal requirements, the review process, as well as learning about the services provided by that particular CIL, and hear directly from consumers about how they benefitted from Independent Living services that increased their independence, options, and self-empowerment.

SILC Congress Participation - Oregon's ongoing innovative collaborations have resulted in the Oregon SILC and Oregon's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (OVRS) having a reputation as a model partnership, rather than competition between the VR and IL programs, as is the case in some states. This resulted in many conversations and sharing of strategies during our participation at the annual SILC Congress, as well as numerous contacts throughout the year by agencies and councils in other states.

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) presented an opportunity for the SILC to contribute to the Secretary of State's project of collecting and reviewing input for improving accessible voting, as well as developing a Request for Proposals (RFP), reviewing proposals, and selecting vendors to supply technology to make voting more accessible in Oregon. Accessible, independent, and private voting for all Oregonians is the ultimate goal. Although more work needs to be done, many individuals were able to vote independently in November 2006 elections for the first time in their lives ~ a hugely significant step of increased independence and active participation in local, state, and national politics. Due to Oregon being a vote by mail state, and therefore having some unique experiences in trying to meet the needs of Oregon voters with disabilities, we expect the recent work to become a model for ultimate access to voting for many.

COLLABORATION IN EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The SILC partnered with leaders from Oregon's **Youth Leadership Forum** to conduct an interactive presentation to young adults with disabilities, parents, teachers, and professionals at the Building Futures Conference, coordinated by Oregon's Parent Training & Information Center.

Educational material development - Opinion/editorial articles, a public service announcement, and tools for development of Independent Living success stories to assist with public education regarding the benefits of Independent Living services and philosophy have been prepared. These tools were developed by SILC members working with CIL staff and consumers, and will be used in collaboration with other organizations, and through various media outlets.

COLLABORATION WITH CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CILS)

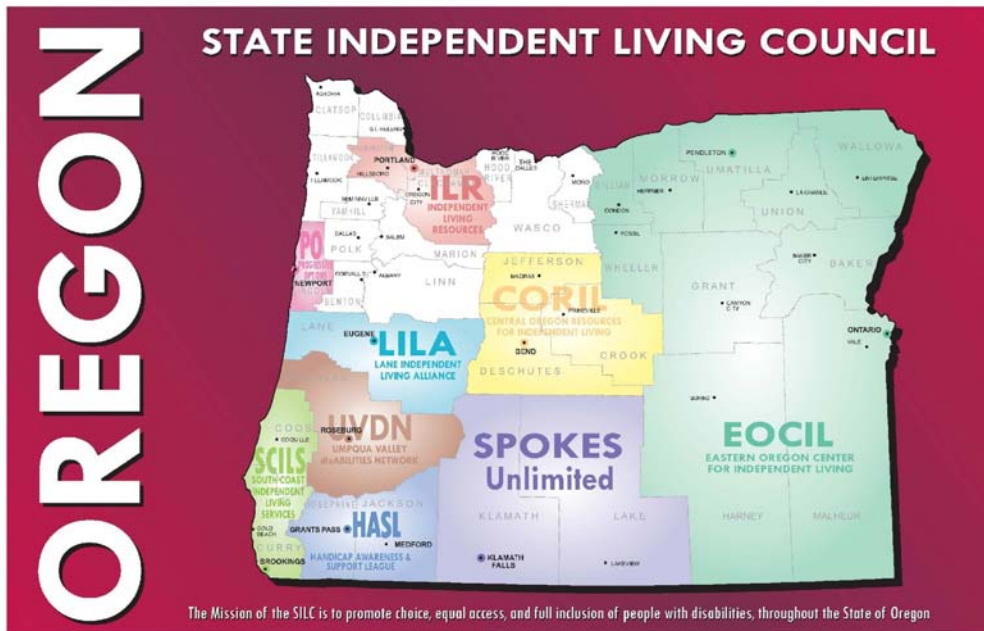
CILs are the primary partners of the State Independent Living Council. CILs are the agencies that deliver Independent Living services to consumers. CILs are non-profit organizations, run by people with disabilities, for people with disabilities. CILs serve all ages and all disability groups. In 2006, Oregon had nine Centers for Independent Living to serve individuals with disabilities across the state. All CIL services are provided with Independent Living philosophy of consumer choice and control. By providing information, options, knowledge, connections, mentoring, technical assistance, and skills training, CILs enable individuals with disabilities to have the means and opportunity to make informed choices about their lives and to live as independently as possible.

Although each CIL may offer specific Independent Living services based on the needs of their community, every CIL provides four federally-required core Independent Living services:

- ◆ individual and systems advocacy
- ◆ information and referral
- ◆ skills training
- ◆ peer counseling

One of the SILC’s focus areas involves facilitation of Oregon’s Network of CILs. Facilitation includes assisting with communication between the network of CILs and the SILC, provision of technical assistance and training opportunities, assistance with compilation of statewide CIL data, development of tools for advocacy on a variety of issues, development of potential statewide collaborators with CILs, and facilitation of strategies for CIL funding.

In 2006, Oregon’s Network of CILs was reduced by one Center, leaving nine CILs to serve consumers across the state. Many populations and areas are still underserved or unserved. The following map shows the service areas of each of Oregon’s nine CILs.



Oregon's 2006 Network of CILs

CORIL (Central Oregon Resources for Independent Living)

PO Box 9425, Bend, OR 97708 (Mailing) - 20436 Clay Pigeon Court, Bend, OR 97702 (Physical)
541-388-8103 (voice/fax) ~ 541-388-1226 (tty) ~ glennvc@coril.org ~ www.coril.org
Service Area: Deschutes, Crook & Jefferson Counties

•••

EOCIL (Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living)

1021 SW 5th Ave., Ontario, OR 97914
541-889-3119 (voice/TTY) ~ 541-889-4647 (Fax) - eocil@eocil.org ~ www.eocil.org

EOCIL Pendleton Satellite Office

17 SW Frazer, Suite 325, Pendleton, OR 97801 ~ (541) 235-2224 (voice) ~ 541-276-1037 (fax)
Service Area: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa and Wheeler Counties

•••

HASL (Independent Abilities Center)

1252 Redwood Avenue, Grants Pass, OR 97527
541-479-4275 (voice) ~ haslstaff@yahoo.com ~ www.haslonline.org
Service Area: Jackson and Josephine County

•••

ILR (Independent Living Resources)

2410 SE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97214
503-232-7411 (voice) ~ 503-232-8408 (TTY), ~ 503-232-7480 (fax) ~ ilrpd@qwest.net ~ www.ilr.org
Service Area: Multnomah, Washington & Clackamas Counties

•••

LILA (Lane Independent Living Alliance)

PO Box 12106, Eugene OR 97440 (mailing) ~ 99 W. 10th Ave. #117, Eugene, OR 97401 (physical)
541-607-7020 (voice) ~ 541-345-7021 (fax) ~ 541-284-9474 (Message)
lila@lilaoregon.org ~ www.lilaoregon.org
Service Area: Lane County

•••

Progressive Options

657 SW Coast Hwy, Newport, Oregon 97365
541-574-0384 (voice) ~ 541-574-1927 (Fax) ~ progop541@yahoo.com ~ www.progressive-options.org
Service Area: Lincoln County

•••

SCILS (South Coast Independent Living Services)

P.O. Box 2338, Brookings, OR 97415 (mailing)
16399 Lower Harbor RD Brookings, Oregon 97415 (physical address)
541-469-5306 x303 (voice) ~ 800-481-5777 (toll free number) ~ 541-469-2928 (Fax)
scils06@yahoo.com
Service Area: Coos & Curry Counties

•••

SPOKES Unlimited

415 Main Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97601 ~ 541-883-7547 (voice) ~ 541-885-2469 (fax)
howard@spokesunlimited.org ~ www.spokesunlimited.org
Service Area: Klamath & Lake Counties

•••

UVDN (Umpqua Valley disAbilities Network)

PO Box 507, Roseburg, OR 97470 (mailing) ~ 419 NE Winchester Street, Roseburg, OR 97470 (physical)
541-672-6336 (voice), ~ 541-440-2882 (TTY), ~ 541-672-8606 (fax) ~ johndegroot@uvdn.org
Service Area: Douglas County

STATISTICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICE DELIVERY

Total individuals served by Oregon’s CILs through an official “Consumer Service Record” (CSR) during October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006: **2,088**

Breakdown by age:

Under 5 years old	6	.29%
5 to 19 years old	54	2.59%
20 to 24 years old	234	11.21%
25 to 59 years old	1,493	71.50%
60 and over	193	9.24%
Age not specified	<u>108</u>	<u>5.17%</u>
TOTALS	2,088	100.00%

Breakdown by race:

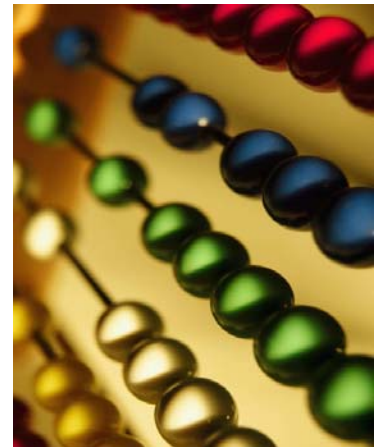
Indian/Alaskan	56	2.68%
Asian	26	1.25%
African American	52	2.49%
Hispanic/Latino	70	3.35%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	34	1.63%
White	<u>1,850</u>	<u>88.60%</u>
TOTALS	2,088	100.00%

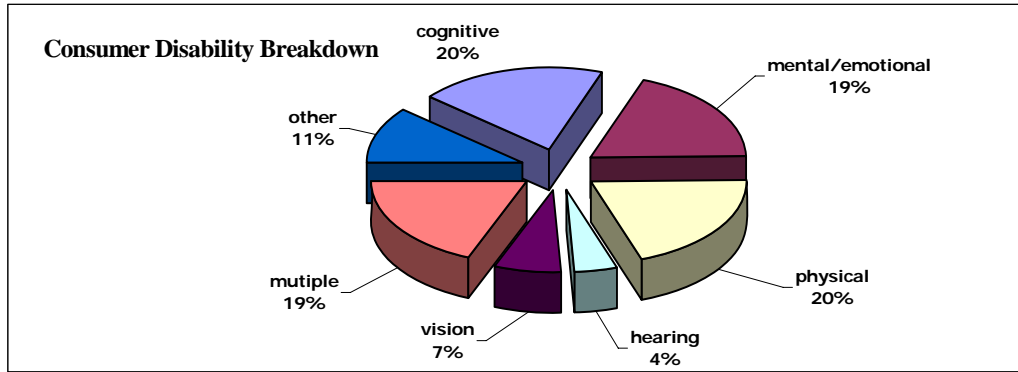
Breakdown by gender:

Female	1,161	55.60%
Male	<u>927</u>	<u>44.40%</u>
TOTALS	2,088	100.00%

Breakdown by disability:

Cognitive	408	19.54%
Mental/emotional	401	19.20%
Physical	415	19.88%
Hearing	92	4.41%
Vision	143	6.85%
Multiple	399	19.11%
Other	<u>230</u>	<u>11.02%</u>
TOTALS	2,088	100.00%



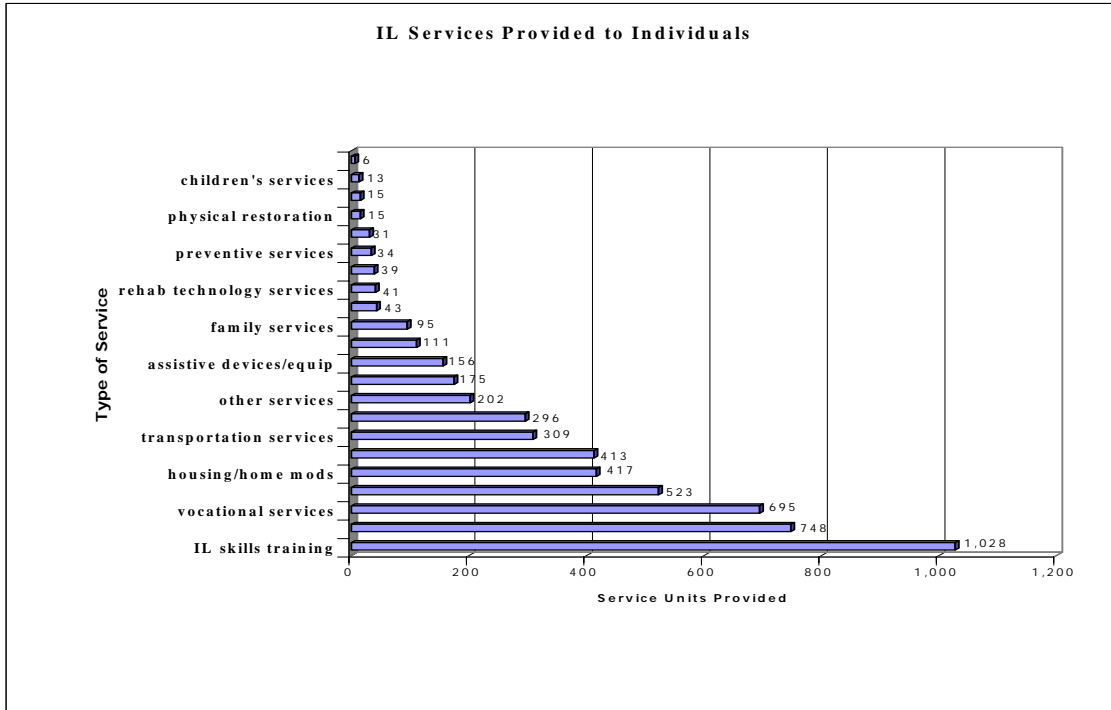


Number of individuals where CIL services increased independence via improved access

Transportation access	458
Health care services access	80
Assistive technology access	1,641

Breakdown by type of individual IL services provided, by unit:

Advocacy/legal	748	6.58%
Assistive devices/equipment	156	1.37%
Children's services	13	.11%
Communication services	175	1.54%
Counseling	111	.98%
Family services	95	.84%
Housing/Home modifications	417	3.67%
IL skills training	1,028	9.04%
Mental restoration	39	.34%
Mobility training	43	.38%
Peer counseling	523	4.60%
Personal assistance	413	3.63%
Physical restoration	15	.13%
Preventive services	34	.30%
Prosthesis	15	.13%
Recreational services	296	2.60%
Rehab technology services	41	.36%
Therapeutic treatment	6	.05%
Transportation services	309	2.72%
Youth services	31	.27%
Vocational services	695	6.11%
Other services	202	1.78%



In addition to the above listed IL services, Oregon CILs also provided 5,961 units of Information and Referral to individuals with disabilities and their families last year.

The SILC collaborated with the Network of CILs to complete a statewide consumer satisfaction survey for consumers with an open Consumer Service Record during the most recent service year (2005). The statistics above reflect some of the responses from those consumer surveys.

Investments in Independent Living services often provide a viable means to reduce the need for public funding of services to people with disabilities. **Every individual who is able to extend the time or the level at which they can live independently, provides a savings in government services.**

- ◆ CILs have proven that many consumers of tax dollars have the desire, potential, and ability to become taxpayers.
- ◆ Vocational Rehabilitation and other public services are more effective when coupled with Independent Living services because of the holistic approach of Independent Living services ~ the whole person is considered to determine appropriate services to promote greater independence, making employment more feasible.
- ◆ Teaching Independent Living skills often allows an individual to remain in their own home or a community-based residence where costs are less than institutional services.
- ◆ Greater independence and activity within the community produces tangible benefits to the physical and emotional health of an individual. Happier, healthier and more active individuals generate fewer health related expenses.

Data was collected from Oregon Centers for Independent Living, which demonstrates a portion of the cost savings resulting from Independent Living services. The data collected represents approximately 3% of the number of consumers who had open Consumer Service Records (CSRs) with Oregon's CILs. (Note: The data does NOT reflect cost savings on every individual, nor does it assure that every element of cost savings was calculated.)

The savings from only 3% of the consumers served in Oregon last year totals \$1,741,312! **Between all state and federal base funding sources, these same Oregon CILs received \$1,521,746 in 2006. Just with savings from 3% of CIL consumers, CIL services are an investment gain of \$219,566! Obviously, the total statewide savings is likely much greater.** Independent Living services are a good public investment!

Below are a few examples of the data compiled by CILs to calculate these estimated savings. *The entire report, "Charting Achievements in Independent Living" is available by contacting the SILC office.*

Consumer	Accomplishment	Items Saved To Date	Estimated Savings	Results & Comments	Services Rendered
DR	Obtained proper assistive listening device necessary to maintain employment	Avoided unemployment and food stamps	Unemployment @ \$600 /mo x 6 months = \$3,600 Food stamps @ \$118 per month x 6 months = \$708 Total savings= \$4,308	Currently living independently and enjoying her job	Peer counseling, information & referral, IL skills training, self-advocacy
TM	Remained out of assisted living	Cost to Medicaid	712.00 X 12 = \$8,544.00	Resides in own home	Information & referral
JW	Mental health consumer self-advocated in a case of justifiable homicide, gained independent living skills	Publicly funded legal costs and emergency room costs	County jail @ \$92/day x 175 days = \$16,100 Monthly emergency room @ \$512 per visit x 2 visits = \$1,024. Total savings = \$17,124	Proper medical care, IL skills in how to live with vertigo (vestibular issues)	Peer counseling, information & referral, IL skills training, advocacy
ND	Consumer with mental health disabilities became independent	Adult foster care costs	Adult foster home costs of \$725/mo x 12 months = \$8,700	Living independently, developing a business	Peer counseling, information & referral, IL skills training, advocacy
RS	Switched from government medical benefits to private pharmaceutical corporate donor	Cost of Oregon Health Plan and OMAP pharmaceutical assistance	Government benefits @ \$800 per/mo x 7 months = \$5,600	Resides in own home	Advocacy, information & referral
BE	Stayed out of foster care	Adult foster care costs	497 x 6 = \$2,982	Resides in own home	Youth mentoring, IL skills training, information & referral

THE PERSONAL SUCCESSES OF IL

Independent Living services can impact an individual's marriage, family, finances, freedom, struggles, confidence, parenting, health, happiness ~ and heart! The following story is just one example of Independent Living services impacting a life.

Here is the story of **Angel Hale ~ Independent Living Advocate, SILC Member, Life Coach and so much more!!!!**

Angel Hale ~ I am completely unsighted due to retinal detachment. I lost vision in my right eye at age 2 (after tumbling down a flight of stairs), and I lost vision in my left eye at age 13 (after running smack into a door jam). Doctors don't know why these minor incidents caused my retinas to detach. Early surgeries saved some vision in my left eye, but surgeries after the second accident resulted in loss of all vision in both eyes.

After my vision loss, I had at least a year of suffocating sorrow, intense grieving, and fear ~ fear of separation from others; fear of the impact it would have on my ability to live a happy successful life; and fear of the unknown. The grieving was a necessary but heart-wrenching time that changed me forever. Grieving enabled me to accept my vision loss, come out the other side, feel the gift of life again, and move towards independence.

Although they didn't have a name for their philosophy, I was blessed to have parents who lived and gifted me with Independent Living philosophy ~ the belief that ALL people have the right

and the opportunity to make decisions about their lives and pursue activities of their choosing, with the associated responsibilities and consequences that come with this right. That philosophy was important before my vision loss, but it was even more important after my vision loss ~ they never let themselves or me believe that I was "less" or my life would need to be limited because of my loss of vision. They always gave me freedom, options, and enough rope to hang myself, but with access to their loving reach to save me.



They loved and honored me enough to set aside their own fears, try out my wings, fall at times, get back on my feet, and then eventually fly high. They taught me how to research and acquire skills training, peer mentoring, assistive technology, and other resources. Along my journey, I met individuals who, with and without disabilities, were independent, capable and happy! The mixture of IL philosophy, IL core services, assistive technology, and the influence and support of my parents and others who served as peer mentors, role models, and teachers, provided skills and inspiration that enabled me to be courageous enough to make conscious choices to go past my comfort zone ~ even if I was shaking in my boots.

Now that I have made it to my mid thirties, have my Bachelor's degree in Social Psychology, am founder of my own business, am happily married, and experience so many other amazing blessings, my initial fears about living with blindness are pretty well alleviated. Today I am an independent, competent woman who is not only confident in her future, but who coaches others in the development and pursuit of their own dreams ~ paying forward the IL philosophy, IL skills training, and peer mentoring that benefited me so greatly.

The biggest challenge I still face is misperceptions about my abilities (or lack of), and apprehension and fear of others upon our first encounter. However, it has been delightful and encouraging to discover that people quickly conquer their fears and in almost no time at all they forget that I'm unsighted. I often find myself having to remind my friends and colleagues not to just take off without me in an unfamiliar place, because, though I'm pretty independent, I do need an arm or a little direction here and there. I am often told by my slightly embarrassed friends that they even wave at me when they're driving by. Once people get to know me, my blindness seems to become a non-issue. I love it when this natural transition happens ~ we become just people, who are working together, playing together, and connecting on a purely human level, as it was meant to be.

Here is one of my absolute favorite quotes that captures how I feel about myself and others:

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? Your playing small doesn't serve the world. There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others." ~ Marianne Williamson



Oregon SILC Budget Report

For period of October 1, 2005-September 30, 2006

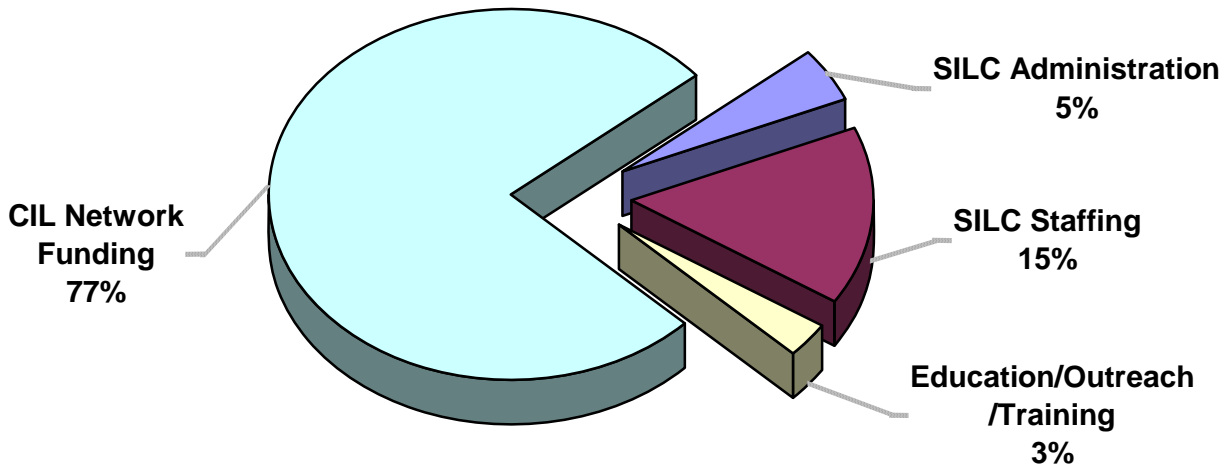
Revenues	Budget
Title VII Part B 04/05 Carryover	\$285,021.83
Title VII Part B 05/06	\$293,102.22
Title I Part C OVRS & OCB 04/05 Carryover	\$12,407.86
Title I Part C OVRS & OCB 05/06	\$14,600.00
State G/F – From 2005-2007 Biennium	\$250,000.00
PSU Violence Prevention Project Carryover	\$4,363.47
WorkBenefits (DBPIC) Project Carryover	\$13,053.75
OVRS/SILC Collaboration 06	\$359,060.00
HCC Training Project	\$492,295.00
TOTAL SILC REVENUES	\$1,723,904.13
Expenditures	Expenses
Committees	\$4,787.69
Accommodations	\$3,323.29
SILC Training	\$7,858.98
SILC Meetings	\$26,208.17
Public Education	\$4,407.87
Equipment/Supplies	\$1,174.01
General Expenses (Dues, utilities, etc.)	\$1,044.60
Total SILC Administration	\$48,804.61
SILC ED	\$71,838.86
SILC Admin Staff (AS1 .6 FTE)	\$32,702.61
SILC Support Staff (OS2 .25 FTE)	\$8,092.29
Contract Services	\$41,689.27
Total Staffing Expenses	\$154,323.03
CIL Training	\$9,623.37
Advocacy Support	\$129.39
Leadership Development	\$0.00
Education/Outreach	\$1,721.68
PSU Violence Prevention Project	\$4,363.47
WorkBenefits Website Project	\$13,053.75
Other	\$415.00
Total Education/Outreach/Training	\$29,306.66
Total CIL Base Funding	\$728,939.00
Total CIL Match Project	\$41,925.88
Total HCC Training Project (STEPS)	2061.06
Total CIL Network Funding	\$772,925.94
TOTAL SILC EXPENDITURES	\$1,005,360.24
FUND BALANCE/CARRYOVER*	\$718,543.89

* Most SILC funding is federal or special project dollars so carryover amounts reflect planned expenditures past

**budget period.



OREGON SILC EXPENDITURE ALLOCATION



WHAT NEXT?

The SPIL goals, objectives, and activities reflect the SILC's ongoing belief that in order to spread the Independent Living philosophy, and create additional Centers for Independent Living, the SILC must focus on increasing individual, agency, and community awareness about, and practice of, the Independent Living philosophy of service delivery, **and** as a LIFE philosophy.

As we turn our focus to planning and drafting the 2008-2010 SPIL, we will reflect on where we've been, and consider how to improve and build on our accomplishments. Our upcoming work will include the following activities as ways to keep planting seeds and facilitating the growth of Independent Living services.

- ◆ Ongoing work, collaboration, and advocacy to develop Independent Living funding strategies
- ◆ Outreaching to youth and promoting leadership development
- ◆ Continuing and expanding collaboration, networking, infusion of Independent Living philosophy, and systems change advocacy activities through ongoing involvement in key disability and high level policy making agencies, committees, and boards at the state, regional, and national levels
- ◆ Ongoing education and outreach through presentations about the SILC, CILs, and Independent Living philosophy and benefits
- ◆ Ongoing peer mentoring, with established CILs mentoring newer CILs, and our SILC working with other SILCs - exchanging ideas and collaborating on systems change

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

The SILC is extremely grateful to the many public officials and private citizens who have contributed to the growth and development of Independent Living services and philosophy. Thanks to each of you, and to the many others whose names we may not know, but we are deeply grateful nonetheless...

Oregon Independent Living supporters in the Legislature

Dr. Bruce Goldberg ~ DHS Administrator

Stephaine Parrish-Taylor ~ OVRs Administrator

Linda Mock ~ Oregon Commission for the Blind

Frank Synoground ~ Oregon Commission for the Blind

James Toews ~ SPD Administrator

Oregon CIL Directors

PAC ~ CIL lobbyist

(With special tribute to the late Bill Linden)

Portland State University

Oregon Secretary of State's HAVA Office

Oregon Home Care Commission

Oregon Cross-Disability Coalition

Senator Gordon Smith

We look forward to working with these and many new partners in the upcoming year as the Independent Living philosophy grows, and more people with disabilities are grafted back into their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness ~ exercising the same choice, independence, and responsibility as their non-disabled peers.



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and many thanks to our long-term special projects contractor,
Lynelle Wilcox