

**NYS ILC COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLANS**  
**CONTRACT PERIOD: October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017**

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# **1. ATI-CORTLAND**

## **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Access to Independence of Cortland County
Address:	26 North Main Street, Cortland, NY 13045
Contract Number:	CO12367
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Chad W. Underwood, Chief Executive Officer
Board President Authorization:	Dr. Judy K. C. Bentley

### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

#### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. At least one local school system or Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make a policy change in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities, so that plans will include information on Access to Independence, independent living centers, ACCES-VR, and/or agency linkages.
2. At least one school district will change its policies and procedures to include in its community resource referral packet information about Access to Independence, independent living centers, ACCES-VR and/or other agency linkages.
3. As a result of ATI's establishment of a youth transition partnership with an institute of higher learning, the institute of higher learning will establish a new program to address transition issues for youth with disabilities (i.e., mentoring, training, volunteering, and teacher training).
4. At least one school district will incorporate information about ATI services or IL into their website, newsletter or student handbook.

#### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one agency, organization or business will incorporate an ATI developed or endorsed disability awareness and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) component into its staff training program.
2. At least one area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
3. ATI will establish a written agreement with the local Department of Labor / One Stop to provide a work-based learning site for youth or adults with disabilities.
4. At least one Chamber of Commerce or other business membership organization in Central New York will provide Disability Awareness Training to its members, provided by ATI.
5. The Governor will either sign into law legislation or issue an executive order that will incorporate language that includes people with disabilities under the Minority/Women Business Employment law.

6. The Governor will either sign into law legislation or issue an executive order that will create tax incentives to small businesses to encourage employment of people with disabilities.
7. The Governor will either sign into law legislation or issue an executive order that will waive the State's sovereign immunity, the sovereign immunity of all instrumentalities and political subdivisions of the State for violations of the ADA and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one new local healthcare facility will change their policies to include information on community independent living resources, which allow individuals to remain in the community.
2. ATI will sign a contract with at least one managed care organization to provide services for people with disabilities.
3. At least one hospital, nursing facility or physician's office will incorporate as part of its training for medical personnel a disability awareness curriculum either developed or endorsed by ATI.
4. There will be an increase in the number of health care providers that are universally accessible.

### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of businesses that are fully accessible.
2. There will be an increase in the number of crosswalks in the City of Cortland which are fully accessible.
3. There will be an increase in accessible transportation options in Cortland (e.g. Cortland Transit will procure additional Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant buses, will expand its service hours, and will implement accessible, cross-county service.
4. There will be an increase in the number of affordable, integrated, and accessible housing options for people with disabilities.
5. There will be an increase in the number of public eating establishments that are accessible to people with disabilities.

### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated social activities in the community for persons with disabilities.
2. There will be an increase in the number of faith-based organizations in Cortland County which are accessible to people with disabilities.
3. At least one community recreational facility will increase its accessibility to allow for people with disabilities to enjoy its use.
4. At least one new recreation / faith-based organization will change their policies to include information on community independent living resources, which allows individuals to remain included in community activities.

### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of people with disabilities who serve on community or statewide boards, committees, and task forces which have not previously included representation from the disability community.
2. Cortland County will adopt disaster preparation and relief plans which address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities.
3. As a result of ATI advocacy, at least one new national law (based on NCIL priorities) will be passed which benefits the rights of people with disabilities.
4. As a result of ATI advocacy, at least one new New York State law (based on NYAIL and NYSILC priorities) will be passed which benefits the rights of people with disabilities.
5. As a result of ATI advocacy, at least one local (County or municipal) law will be passed which benefits the rights of people with disabilities.

## **2. ATI-SULLIVAN**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Action Toward Independence
Address:	309 E. Broadway, Suite A, Monticello, NY 12701
Contract Number:	C012610
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Stephen McLaughlin, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Linda Aumick

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one local school system or Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make a written agreement for the development of transition plans for students with disabilities to include information on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and community-based service agency linkages.
2. There will be an increase in the number of consumers and/or Center staff that serve on education related boards and/or committees that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
3. At least one Committee on Special Education (CSE) in a culturally diverse community will establish a policy and procedures to routinely include an ATI Spanish speaking advocate in Individualized Education Program (IEP) development activities for students with disabilities.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. ATI will establish a written agreement with an employment or job placement agency to provide onsite benefits advisement services to its consumers with disabilities.
2. Through ATI's participation in the Pathstone Senior Employment program, there will be an increase in the availability of competitive employment opportunities, outside of ATI, for seniors with disabilities by employers that have not previously hired seniors with disabilities.
3. ATI will establish a written agreement with the local Department of Labor Programs in Orange and Sullivan counties to provide a Work Based Learning Site for disadvantaged youth.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one long or short term care facility will change its policies and procedures to ensure patients with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of home care services, including information about funding such services.

2. As a result of community education and training to promote awareness and prevention of suicide conducted by ATI, at least one community agency providing suicide prevention services will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.
3. ATI will establish a written agreement with at least one emergency response agency that works with youth to offer regular onsite Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainings for its staff.
4. At least one nursing home, adult home, or assisted living facility will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community based living services, including Independent Living Center services and resources.
5. At least one community agency will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.
6. At least one community health education organization will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of affordable, accessible and integrated housing units available to persons with disabilities.
2. Sullivan County will establish a transportation plan that will increase the availability of transportation to people with disabilities.
3. The Sullivan County Department of Family Services will make changes to the Home Energy Assistance Program HEAP (HEAP) to improve access for applicants for benefits who are disabled.
4. At least one legal service provider will improve its physical and/or client services access for people with disabilities.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the availability of integrated and accessible recreational facilities and venues.
2. At least one social or recreational facility will change its policies and procedures to allow the Center to regularly conduct an onsite support group for individuals with disabilities.
3. At least one Town Park will become either more accessible or accessible to individuals with disabilities.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. Increase participation of individuals with disabilities and/or center staff on civic related community, regional and state boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
2. ATI will participate in Emergency Preparedness committees or taskforces that previously have not had representation from the disability community to address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities during a natural or manmade disaster.
3. At least one local government in Sullivan County will start providing its agenda(s) in an alternate format for/at publicly attended meetings.

### **3. AIM**

#### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	AIM Independent Living Center
Address:	271 East First St, Corning, NY 14830
Contract No.:	C012376
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	René Snyder, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Sabrina Mineo-O'Connell

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one High School in AIM's service area will increase its level of programming and/or physical access for students with disabilities.
2. At least one college in AIM's service area will incorporate a Disability Awareness component either developed or endorsed by AIM into their curriculum for students in the field of education or business.
3. A local school (Elementary, Middle or High School) will incorporate a disability awareness component either developed or endorsed by AIM into their programming.
4. At least one college or vocational school in AIM's service area will adopt a disability awareness component either developed or endorsed by AIM into their curriculum for nurses or other health care workers.
5. There will be an increase in opportunities for school aged persons living with a disability to participate in extracurricular school based activities such as sports teams, clubs, performances, etc.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one local employer will change its recruitment policies and procedures to create new supported employment opportunities for people with significant disabilities.
2. There will be an increase in employment training opportunities in schools in AIM's service area.
3. As a result of cooperating with other agencies such as ACCES-VR, BOCES, Workforce NY and/or other local agencies, AIM will establish an employment related Independent Living Skills training program for persons living with a disability supported by grant funding and/or self-sustaining fee-for-service agreements.
4. At least one employer in the Center's service area will make documented changes in its employment policies and procedures to offer AIM services as a supplement to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) in relation to disability services for the employee or the family members.

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. AIM will establish a written agreement with at least one agency providing services to victims of crime, abuse or domestic violence to provide on-site Disability Awareness training for their staff.
2. AIM will enter into a contract to provide Consumer Directed Personal Assisting Services in a county that is not contracted to provide those services.

### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. A diner, restaurant, bakery, or laundry in AIM's service area will become more accessible by installing a ramp, automatic doors or some other architectural improvement.
2. At least one local restaurant will provide its menu in an alternative format such as Braille, and make it available to its customers.
3. A local municipality will become more accessible by installing curb cuts in a public or business area.

### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. As a result of working with other agencies, there will be an increase in the number of integrated recreational opportunities in AIM's service area.
2. At least one special event in AIM's service area will become more accessible to persons living with a disability.

### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. At least one area agency serving people with disabilities will change its policies and procedures to adopt AIM's educational tool related to disability rights history as part of its voter registration materials provided to consumers to assist them in making an informed decision on registering to vote.
2. There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.



## **4. ARISE-SYRACUSE**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center: ARISE  
Address: 635 James St., Syracuse, NY 13203  
Contract No.: C012368  
Contract Period: October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017  
Contact Person: Nina Lutz, Director of Independent Living Services  
Board President Authorization: Sue Judge

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one school district will incorporate a transition event where families, students, school staff and agency personnel can come to learn about community resources, employment, higher education and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.
2. In order to increase parental awareness of services for students with disabilities, a local public school will add the ARISE website address to their website, under the "Helpful Links."
3. At least one school will make a procedural change that allows for a disability awareness class either developed or endorsed by ARISE to be taught as part of their curriculum.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. Increase supported employment opportunities and availability for underserved communities, outside the Syracuse Metropolitan area of Onondaga, Oswego and Madison County.
2. There will be an increase in the availability of flexible, individualized supported services (e.g. intensive vocational service coordination, flex funds, transportation and child care assistance) designed to address issues outside of work that directly bear upon placement stabilization.
3. There will be an increase in the number of competitive employment opportunities that are made available to persons with significant disabilities, by employers that have not previously hired persons with disabilities.
4. At least one area employer will make its employment application available in alternative accessible formats for applicants with disabilities.
5. As a result of ARISE's community education to businesses regarding the availability of persons with disabilities as potential employees, at least one business will change its policies and procedures to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. Improve access to medical facilities, including accessible parking and interior access, such as restrooms and signage.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. Improve public and Para-transportation access in the Center's service area.
2. ARISE will increase Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in the business community, including parking areas.
3. Achieve a measurable increase in the accessibility of public right-of-ways in the Center's service area such as curb cuts constructed for people with disabilities.
4. There will be an increase in the number of affordable, accessible, integrated housing options for people with disabilities.
5. At least one municipality will establish the position of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator and develop and publish an ADA grievance procedure and compliance policy.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. At least one (1) area recreation facility will improve access for people with disabilities.
2. At least one (1) area special event will improve access for people with disabilities.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. Increase participation of individuals with disabilities and/or center staff on community, regional and state boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
2. Disaster preparation and relief plans which address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted by one county in the Center's service area.

## **5. ARISE-AUBURN SUBSIDIARY**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

IL Service Center:	ARISE-A (Auburn)
Address:	75 Genesee Street, Auburn, NY 13021
Contract Number:	C012369
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Catherine Budlong, Director
Board Chair Authorization:	Sue Judge

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. A local school district will make procedural changes to transition plans for students with disabilities to include developing information on a Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS), ACCES-VR, Independent Living advocacy, and linkages to other community based agencies and organizations.
2. At least one school district will incorporate a transition event where families and students can come to learn about community resources, employment, higher education and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. As a result of collaboration with ARISE-A, a community agency will provide presentations either developed or endorsed by ARISE-A to consumers and/or case workers about work incentives.
2. As a result of advocacy by ARISE-A, one business will produce an audio/taped version of its employee handbook.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. As a result of advocacy by ARISE-A, at least one new local healthcare facility will change their policies to include information on community independent living resources, which allow individuals to remain independent in the community.
2. As a result of advocacy by ARISE-A, one medical facility will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation, approved by ARISE-A, into curriculum for its discharge planning staff.

##### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. As a result of advocacy by ARISE-A, at least one local business will increase the number of adequate, well-designed, accessible parking spaces for their patrons with disabilities.
2. With technical assistance from ARISE-A, at least one local restaurant or catering hall will improve access by providing its menu to customers in an alternative format such as large print or Braille.
3. As a result of ARISE-A identifying parking lots that do not have proper accessible signage, and providing information on accessible parking space guidelines, at least one local parking lot will be brought up to code.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. As a result of advocacy by ARISE-A, there will be an increase in the number of opportunities for people to participate in integrated fitness programs in the community.
2. One community service organization will establish a formal agreement with ARISE-A to provide disability awareness training for all of its members.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. At least one municipality will pass appropriate legislation establishing and promoting the date of July 26<sup>th</sup> as a day of celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. ARISE-A will continue to ensure that polling places are fully accessible to all people with disabilities and that poll workers are trained in assisting people with disabilities.
3. Disaster preparation and relief plans which address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted by Cayuga County.

## **6. BILS**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center: Bronx Independent Living Services  
Address: 4419 Third Avenue Suite 2C Bronx, NY 10457  
Contract No.: C012370  
Report Period: October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017  
Contact Person: Brett Eisenberg, Executive Director  
Board President Authorization: Barbara Linn

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one school in Bronx County will change its policy to allow BILS to assist in the transition process of students.
2. At least one local school will make a policy change in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities, so that plans will include information on independent living centers, ACCES, and agency linkages.
3. In order to increase parental awareness of services for students with disabilities, a local public school district will add BILS' website and mission statement to their website, under the link for "Helpful Student Links for Parents."

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one employer in the Bronx will make its employment application available in large print for applicants who are visually impaired.
2. One area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
3. There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs, and job readiness training programs for persons with disabilities.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one patient based facility will make the information being provided to the general public available in alternate formats.
2. At least one healthcare provider during the program year will make its facility more accessible to their patients with disabilities.

##### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of public eating establishments that are accessible to people with disabilities.
2. Local catering halls and restaurants will improve access by making menus available in large print, and/or Braille.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. At least one area special event will improve access for people with disabilities.
2. One social venue will become accessible to individuals with disabilities.
3. At least one recreational facility/program will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for consumers with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. At least one local government agency in Bronx counties will start providing agendas in an alternate format for/at publicly attended meetings.
2. BILS will continue to make sure that polling places are truly accessible to all people with disabilities and that poll workers are trained in assisting people with disabilities.
3. There will be an increase in the number of people with disabilities who serve on community or statewide boards, committees, and task forces which have not previously included representation from the disability community.

## **7. BCID**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Brooklyn Center For Independence Of The Disabled
Address:	27 Smith Street, Suite 200, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Contract No:	C012371
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Joseph Rappaport, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Heidi Hirschfeld

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one school district or Early Intervention Program will change its policies and procedures for referring families to additional community services by making available informational materials on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages.
2. At least one school district or Early Intervention Program will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation, either developed or endorsed by BCID, into a training curriculum for its staff and parents.
3. At least one Brooklyn school will increase its physical accessibility through the removal of existing barriers.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one union or business council will improve its access by providing materials in alternate formats and holding meetings at an accessible location.
2. One area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
3. Establish formal agreements whereby more community agencies have presentations to consumers about work incentives.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. Increase access to health care services for people with mobility, visual, hearing, cognitive, and mental health disabilities.
2. Increase accessibility at hospitals, clinics, private doctors' and dental offices to persons with disabilities e.g. examination table, dental chairs and mammography equipment.
3. At least one patient based facility will make the information being provided to the general public available in alternate formats.
4. At least one nursing home will improve its physical and programmatic access to increase its compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and to increase the civil rights of its patients.

5. A nursing home will change its policies and procedures to include in its admission literature information about community supports available to maintain independence in the community.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. Local catering halls and restaurants will improve access by making menus available in large print, and Braille.
2. Improve public and para-transportation access in Brooklyn for inter-borough and inner-borough trips.
3. At least one television, news, radio, newspaper and/or internet service provider will change its policies and procedures to adapt to “person first language” and/or increase the provision of captioning services.
4. Increase the availability of accessible taxi and community car service in Brooklyn.
5. At least one business district in Brooklyn will adopt a “disability friendly” policy for community restaurants and businesses to encourage business owners to provide accommodations to customers with disabilities.
6. The New York City Police Department, Fire Department or other emergency first responder organization will modify its in-service training plan to include the training of all personnel on disability awareness and sensitivity for people with disabilities.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated community social activities that become accessible.
2. There will be an increase in the number of recreation and fitness facilities and programs that are accessible to people with disabilities.
3. Increase the number of theaters providing closed captioning and audio description.
4. Increase access to public parks, botanical gardens and museums.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. Political candidates and elected officials will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
2. There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
3. The New York City Board of Elections will make inaccessible polling sites in Brooklyn compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Guidelines.
4. New York City will adopt disaster preparation and relief plans which address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities.



## **8. CDCI**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Capital District Center for Independence
Address:	845 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206
Contract No.:	C012372
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Laurel Lei Kelley, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Kim Verner

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one school district will change its policies and procedures to include in its community resource referral packet information about independent living centers, ACCESVR and other agency linkages.
2. At least one school district will incorporate information about CDCI services or IL into their website, newsletter and/or school year calendar.
3. At least one (1) area shelter will change its policies and procedures to routinely provide information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages that nurture financial independence for people with disabilities.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. Establish formal agreement(s) whereby CDCI will provide community agencies with presentations to consumers about work incentives and SSDI / SSI.
2. An agency in the center's service area will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process of consumers who are looking for employment services or SSA work incentive information to Independent Living Center services, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages.
3. CDCI will establish a written arrangement with a local food pantry or soup kitchen to provide on-site outreach services including: information and referral, benefits advisement and information about employment support programs for the disabled participants who desire the Center's assistance.
4. At least one area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
5. At least one area business will change its recruitment process to eliminate questions that discriminate in regards to a person's disability.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one senior living center will change its policies and procedures to allow CDCI to conduct a support group and training programs for healthy living.
2. As a result of providing technical assistance, at least one community agency will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community services, including Independent Living Center services, and resources.
3. As a result of collaborating with local agencies, at least one community agency will establish a new Peer Program or Healthy Living Program to provide options for Living a healthier lifestyle through peer services to the disability community in the Capital Region.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of affordable integrated and accessible housing options for people with disabilities.
2. One local housing complex will create a written agreement with CDCI to provide core IL services on site.
3. There will be an increase in the number of public eating establishments that increase their accessibility for people with disabilities.
4. Local catering halls and restaurants will improve access by making menus available in large print, and/or Braille.
5. The proper standing signage will be added to designate disabled parking spaces throughout Albany and Schenectady County.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. A fitness center will change its marketing policies and procedures to more effectively reach persons with disabilities in order to promote inclusion and supply information about its accessible programs and services.
2. There will be an increase in the number of faith-based organizations in Albany and Schenectady County which are accessible to people with disabilities.
3. There will be an increase in the number of opportunities for people to participate in integrated fitness programs in the community.
4. A local church will make a policy and procedural change in how it makes referrals for community resources to facilitate the integration of its parishioners in the community, including Independent Living Center services.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. As a result of CDCI advocacy, at least one new national law (based on NCIL priorities) will be passed which benefits the rights of people with disabilities.
2. As a result of CDCI advocacy, at least one new NYS law (based on NYAIL and NYSILC priorities) will be passed which benefits the rights of people with disabilities.
3. Disaster preparation and relief plans addressing the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted by a local county.

## **9. CCFI**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Catskill Center for Independence
Address:	PO Box 1247, Oneonta, NY 13820
Contract No.:	C012373
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Meghan Staring, Assistant Director
Board President Authorization:	Don Gersch

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. Schools will add an independent living component either developed or endorsed by CCFI to their curriculum.
2. At least one school will make a procedural change that allows for a disability awareness class either developed or endorsed by CCFI to be taught as part of their curriculum.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. Physical and program access will improve throughout the Center's service area.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one local county health or social service department will change their policies to allow as many hours as needed of self-directed home health care to avoid placement in nursing homes.

##### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. The Center will increase accessibility to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities in the community.

##### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. The Center will increase accessibility to places of worship.
2. The Center will increase accessibility to recreation facilities.

##### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. At least one political candidate or incumbent will adopt a policy or make a procedural change to hold their meetings and rallies in accessible locations.

## **10. CDR**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Center for Disability Rights
Address:	497 State Street, Rochester, NY 14608
Contract No.:	C012609
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Bruce Darling, President / CEO
Program Contact:	Rebecca Payton, Assistant Director of IL Programs
Board President Authorization:	Roberta Wallach

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. At least one community health care based training program will adopt a disability awareness Independent Living philosophy developed by CDR into its curriculum for its health care workers.
2. At least one local school system or Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make a policy change in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities to include bilingual information on Independent Living services, ACCES-VR, and community-based service agency linkages.
3. There will be an increase in the number of people with disabilities and/or center staff that serve on education related non-profit community based agency or organization boards, committees, and task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. The US Congress will pass the TIME Act; and the President will sign it.
2. At least one employer or job placement agency will incorporate into its curriculum or onboarding process, a peer-written, user friendly guide developed by CDR to educate employees with disabilities about their rights under Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
3. At least one employer will change its policies and procedures for hiring disabled job applicants and retaining employees with disabilities.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. A local nursing facility or rehabilitation center will change policies and procedures to routinely provide information about community resources, including Independent Living services, to its residents.

2. At least on Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) Plan, nursing facility, hospital, or rehabilitation center will contract with CDR to provide nursing facility transition and diversion services.
3. The local Regional Resource Development Center (RRDC) will change its policies and procedures to routinely provide information on Independent Living services, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages to Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) Medicaid Waiver applicants.
4. A County Department of Social Services will change its policies and procedures regarding the Verification of Deposits for individuals using a trust in order to stop people with disabilities having their Medicaid deactivated at the beginning of the month and being placed at risk of losing their services.
5. The US Congress will pass the Disability Integration Act; and the President will sign it.
6. CDR will prevent legislation legalizing assisted suicide from passing in New York State.
7. As the result of a peer, web-based campaign to discourage disabled people from committing suicide conducted by CDR, at least one community agency providing suicide prevention services will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.
8. At least one domestic violence shelter will change its policies and procedures and/or physical environment to accommodate women with disabilities who are victims of domestic violence.
9. NYS will enact legislation requiring information about pooled trust eligibility to be included in the Medicaid eligibility letters disseminated by the Department of Health.
10. NYS will implement the Community First Choice Option in a way that ensures people with disabilities receive all of the services necessary to ensure that they remain in the community, including robust, independent service coordination.
11. NYS will eliminate incentives to institutionalize people with significant disabilities by creating a high needs community rate cell in the managed care system.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. One local housing complex will create a written agreement with CDR to provide core IL services on site.
2. NYS will enact legislation to allow for a tax credit for homeowners who make modifications that will make their home visitable.
3. There will be an increase of housing programs that expand their definition of homelessness to include individuals with disabilities who have been in nursing facilities for more than 90 days and have no other place to live.
4. Rochester City Council will pass a visitability ordinance; and the Mayor will sign it.
5. Public and para-transportation access for Monroe County residents with disabilities will demonstrate measurable improvement.
6. At least five area businesses will make modifications compliant with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act to improve access for people with disabilities.
7. As a result of CDR's efforts to identify accessibility violations by public accommodations, an accessibility discrimination lawsuit or complaint with the NYS Division of Human Rights will be filed and will be successfully settled.
8. The City of Rochester will increase code enforcement of sidewalk snow removal to improve sidewalk accessibility in the winter.
9. There will be an increase in accessible taxis in Monroe County.
10. NYS will enact legislation requiring ride sharing companies to offer rides in wheelchair accessible vehicles.

## **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated social activities in the community for persons with disabilities and their family members.
2. At least one church will change its physical environment or practices to be more accessible and welcoming to people with disabilities.
3. At least one major media outlet will incorporate into its policies and procedures a peer-written, user friendly guide developed by CDR to educate writers and reporters about appropriate disability language to use in stories.

## **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. At least one area agency serving people with disabilities will change its policies and procedures to make its accessible vans and buses available to transport persons with disabilities not affiliated with the agency to the polls on election days, and this will become an ongoing election day service.

# 11. CIDNY-MANHATTAN

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center:	Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York
Address:	841 Broadway, Suite 301, New York, NY 10003
Contract No.:	C012374
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Susan Dooha, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Martin Eichel

### I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

#### A. Education Advocacy

1. The New York City Department of Education will revise its policies to permit students with mental health conditions to have extra time to complete assignments upon return from an absence due to a hospitalization.
2. Through CIDNY's formal complaint and advocacy, the NYC Department of Education will change its policy regarding the use of quiet rooms as discipline for youth with disabilities to limit its use to occasions when an individual is a danger to themselves or others.

#### B. Employment Advocacy

1. ACCES-VR will issue a Technical Assistance Brief for District Offices on serving individuals who are involved in the criminal justice system that will lead to a change in practices resulting in a demonstrated increase in services for this population.
2. The Governor will either sign into law legislation or issue an executive order that will create tax incentives to small businesses to encourage employment of people with disabilities.

#### C. Health Care Advocacy

1. The New York State Health Benefit Exchange will adopt policies and procedures regarding the enrollment of the non-MAGI (modified adjusted gross income) population (e.g. Medicaid Buy-in, Medicaid Spenddown, elderly and disabled, Cancer Services Program, and several other categories).
2. New York State's legislature will pass and the Governor will sign into law legislation that adopts the ACCESS Board standards created pursuant to the Affordable Care Act for accessible diagnostic medical equipment.
3. The New York State Legislature will amend the 2011 state law, and the Governor will sign it, regarding limits on Medicaid benefits and services including physical therapy, to provide physician override of the limits when medically necessary.



4. New York State will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, to merge the individual direct pay and small group health insurance pools resulting in lower premiums for people who must purchase comprehensive coverage on their own.
5. New York State's Health Benefit Exchange will adopt policies and procedures related to discrimination based on race, ethnicity, primary language, gender and disability status.
6. The New York State Legislature will adopt legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that will give access to a clear and convenient override process for drug therapy protocols when medically in the best interests of a patient.
7. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that closes the loophole that allows insurance plans to require that people get their medications through mail order pharmacies and ensures that New Yorkers have the option to access their medications from a retail pharmacy.
8. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that prohibits health care plans from removing a prescription drug from a formulary or changes the cost sharing tier during the enrollment year.
9. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that extends the transition period during which Health Plan enrollees may continue to receive services from a provider who is dropped from the network from 60 or 90 days to one year.
10. New York state will amend the State invitation to health plans to strengthen its Network Adequacy Standards to include minimum appointment availability times.
11. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation and the Governor will sign into law the establishment of an Advanced Home Health Aide program.
12. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation and the Governor will sign into law new guidelines for Nursing Facility Closures.
13. The New York State Department of Health will create a training program to train nursing facility staff on the HHS/OCR guidance on the MDS Section Q to ensure that nursing facility residents are given an opportunity to speak with someone about the possibility of leaving a nursing facility.
14. The New York State Legislature will pass and the Governor will sign into law legislation that will preserve access to state of the art assistive technology, respite care and home modifications for families of children with significant disabilities participating in the State Medical Indemnity Fund.
15. The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will implement and expand on data collection standards required by Section 4302 of the Affordable Care Act by including detailed reporting on the six disability questions used in the 2011 American Community Survey (ACS), to identify health disparities experienced by people with disabilities.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) will restore the "health related priority" it had for housing applicants until 2007, which aided individuals with disabilities whose current living conditions presented a direct threat to their lives.
2. As a result of CIDNY's negotiation or litigation, the New York City Department of Homeless Services will modify procedures related to acceptance of housing placements to ensure that placements offered are accessible to people with disabilities and that refusal of inaccessible placements does not result in demotion on the housing placement list.

3. As a result of collaboration between CIDNY and Green Markets, AAR will accept Green Market cross street addresses to bring riders to farmers' markets across the city.
4. Through CIDNY surveys and assessments, NYC food banks, pantries and soup kitchens will include accessibility information and documentation requirements on their website listing and will provide alternate formats and other accommodations for information and registration at their sites.
5. As a result of CIDNY surveys and assessments, the City will correct curb cut violations in at least one major Manhattan business district and establish and implement a plan for assessing all city curb cuts and performing any necessary remedies to make them ADA compliant.
6. As a result of CIDNY's litigation, New York City's Department of Homeless Services will implement policies and procedures requiring staff to provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities in New York City homeless shelters.
7. As a result of CIDNY surveys and assessments Workforce One offices' located in New York City will change its policy of offering services to people with disabilities only by referral.
8. The New York City Council will pass and the Mayor will sign Intro. 214 creating a right to counsel in housing court for low-income eligible tenants who are subject to eviction proceedings.
9. The New York State legislature will pass and the Governor will sign legislation giving people with physical disabilities priority for first floor apartments in public housing if they have a mobility disability.
10. The National Fire Protection Association will adopt the recommended amendments to its guidance on Mass Evacuation and Sheltering, incorporating changes promulgated by CIDNY that will bring these national advisory standards into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## **E. Social Advocacy**

NO GOALS

## **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will create an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance plan for all polling sites, with input from the disability community. That compliance plan will be prominently displayed on their website and reviewed annually. The plan will be distributed to all polling site supervisors and deputies. The NYCBOE will monitor compliance with the ADA plan and report publicly after each election all poll sites that do not meet the plan's standards.
2. New York City will ensure that 8 evacuation centers and co-located shelters are fully accessible to people with disabilities and will provide information on locating shelters in alternate, accessible formats on their website.
3. As a result of CIDNY's litigation, the New York State Board of Elections will make its online voter registration website accessible for voters who are Blind.
4. New York City will provide accessible links and resources on its Advanced Warning System online so that New Yorkers who are blind can read and understand instructions and resources during emergencies and disasters.

## **12. CIDNY-QUEENS SUBSIDIARY**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York Queens
Address:	80-02 Kew Gardens Road, Kew Gardens, NY 11415
Contract No.:	C012375
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Susan Dooha, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Martin Eichel

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. The New York City Department of Education will revise its policies to permit students with mental health conditions to have extra time to complete assignments upon return from an absence due to a hospitalization.
2. Through CIDNY-Queens' formal complaint and advocacy, the NYC Department of Education will change its policy regarding the use of quiet rooms as discipline for youth with disabilities to limit its use to occasions when an individual is a danger to themselves or others.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. ACCES-VR will issue a Technical Assistance Brief for District Offices on serving individuals who are involved in the criminal justice system that will lead to a change in practices resulting in a demonstrated increase in services for this population.
2. The Governor will either sign into law legislation or issue an executive order that will create tax incentives to small businesses to encourage employment of people with disabilities.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. The New York State Health Benefit Exchange will adopt policies and procedures regarding the enrollment of the non-MAGI (modified adjusted gross income) population (e.g. Medicaid Buy-in, Medicaid Spenddown, elderly and disabled, Cancer Services Program, and several other categories).
2. New York State's legislature will pass and the Governor will sign into law legislation that adopts the ACCESS Board standards created pursuant to the Affordable Care Act for accessible diagnostic medical equipment.

3. The New York State Legislature will amend the 2011 state law, and the Governor will sign it, regarding limits on Medicaid benefits and services including physical therapy, to provide physician override of the limits when medically necessary.
4. New York State will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, to merge the individual direct pay and small group health insurance pools resulting in lower premiums for people who must purchase comprehensive coverage on their own.
5. New York State's Health Benefit Exchange will adopt policies and procedures related to discrimination based on race, ethnicity, primary language, gender and disability status.
6. The New York State Legislature will adopt legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that will give access to a clear and convenient override process for drug therapy protocols when medically in the best interests of a patient.
7. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that closes the loophole that allows insurance plans to require that people get their medications through mail order pharmacies and ensures that New Yorkers have the option to access their medications from a retail pharmacy.
8. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that prohibits health care plans from removing a prescription drug from a formulary or changes the cost sharing tier during the enrollment year.
9. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that extends the transition period during which Health Plan enrollees may continue to receive services from a provider who is dropped from the network from 60 or 90 days to one year.
10. New York state will amend the State invitation to health plans to strengthen its Network Adequacy Standards to include minimum appointment availability times.
11. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation and the Governor will sign into law the establishment of an Advanced Home Health Aide program.
12. The New York State Legislature will pass legislation and the Governor will sign into law new guidelines for Nursing Facility Closures.
13. The New York State Department of Health will create a training program to train nursing facility staff on the HHS/OCR guidance on the MDS Section Q to ensure that nursing facility residents are given an opportunity to speak with someone about the possibility of leaving a nursing facility.
14. The New York State Legislature will pass and the Governor will sign into law legislation that will preserve access to state of the art assistive technology, respite care and home modifications for families of children with significant disabilities participating in the State Medical Indemnity Fund.
15. The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will implement and expand on data collection standards required by Section 4302 of the Affordable Care Act by including detailed reporting on the six disability questions used in the 2011 American Community Survey (ACS), to identify health disparities experienced by people with disabilities.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) will restore the "health related priority" it had for housing applicants until 2007, which aided individuals with disabilities whose current living conditions presented a direct threat to their lives.
2. As a result of CIDNY-Queens' negotiation or litigation, the New York City Department of Homeless Services will modify procedures related to acceptance of housing placements to

ensure that placements offered are accessible to people with disabilities and that refusal of inaccessible placements does not result in demotion on the housing placement list.

3. As a result of collaboration between CIDNY-Queens and Green Markets, AAR will accept Green Market cross street addresses to bring riders to farmers' markets across the city.
4. Through CIDNY-Queens surveys and assessments, NYC food banks, pantries and soup kitchens will include accessibility information and documentation requirements on their website listing and will provide alternate formats and other accommodations for information and registration at their sites.
5. As a result of CIDNY-Queens surveys and assessments, the City will correct curb cut violations in at least one major Manhattan business district and establish and implement a plan for assessing all city curb cuts and performing any necessary remedies to make them ADA compliant.
6. As a result of CIDNY-Queens' litigation, New York City's Department of Homeless Services will implement policies and procedures requiring staff to provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities in New York City homeless shelters.
7. As a result of CIDNY-Queens surveys and assessments Workforce One offices' located in New York City will change its policy of offering services to people with disabilities only by referral.
8. The New York City Council will pass and the Mayor will sign Intro. 214 creating a right to counsel in housing court for low-income eligible tenants who are subject to eviction proceedings.
9. The New York State legislature will pass and the Governor will sign legislation giving people with physical disabilities priority for first floor apartments in public housing if they have a mobility disability.
10. The National Fire Protection Association will adopt the recommended amendments to its guidance on Mass Evacuation and Sheltering, incorporating changes promulgated by CIDNY-Queens that will bring these national advisory standards into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## **E. Social Advocacy**

NO GOALS

## **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will create an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance plan for all polling sites, with input from the disability community. That compliance plan will be prominently displayed on their website and reviewed annually. The plan will be distributed to all polling site supervisors and deputies. The NYCBOE will monitor compliance with the ADA plan and report publicly after each election all poll sites that do not meet the plan's standards.
2. New York City will ensure that 8 evacuation centers and co-located shelters are fully accessible to people with disabilities and will provide information on locating shelters in alternate, accessible formats on their website.
3. As a result of CIDNY-Queens' litigation, the New York State Board of Elections will make its online voter registration website accessible for voters who are Blind.

4. New York City will provide accessible links and resources on its Advanced Warning System online so that New Yorkers who are blind can read and understand instructions and resources during emergencies and disasters.

# 13. DIL

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center:	Directions in Independent Living
Address:	512 West State Street, Olean, NY 14760
Contract No.:	C012377
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 –September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Leonard Liguori, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Marcella Richmond

#### I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

##### A. Education Advocacy

1. A school in the Center's service area will adopt an after school mentoring program, developed or endorsed by DIL, for students with disabilities, their peers and siblings.
2. An advocacy network/infrastructure is established in the Center's catchment area with organized teams of trained consumer advocates available to address after school social issues involving disabled young people in the community as they arise.

##### B. Employment Advocacy

1. A business located in the Center's catchment area will adopt a mentoring program, developed or endorsed by DIL, which provides practical employment experiences for young people with disabilities.
2. A peer component developed or endorsed by Directions in Independent Living will be adopted and implemented by the local One Stop or Department of Labor, to assist young people with disabilities seeking employment.

##### C. Health Care Advocacy

1. A new peer run veteran's support group will be implemented by a community agency in the Center's catchment area.

##### D. Commerce Advocacy

1. A new accessible cross walk will be installed to assist individuals with mobility **and/or** visual impairments to safely navigate street crossing.

##### E. Social Advocacy

1. DIL will become a member of a newly established independent task force made up of peers, family, and community members in the Center's catchment area to provide support, input, and oversight in the development of plans to implement local, social, and recreational activities that provide greater inclusion for individuals with disabilities.
2. A new river ramp for boats, canoes, and kayaks that is ADA compliant will be established in the Center's catchment area.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. A new polling site in Directions in Independent Living's catchment area will be brought into ADA compliance.
2. A local municipality in the Center's catchment area will appoint an individual with a disability and/or center staff to an ADA advisory board/committee/task force that previously has not had representation from the disability community.
3. A video system will be implemented by at least one local government (village/township) in the Center's catchment area to accommodate the local hearing impaired/deaf population at municipal meetings.



# 14. FLIC

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center:	Finger Lakes Independence Center
Address:	215 Fifth Street, Ithaca, NY 14850
Contract No.:	C012378
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 –September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Jan Lynch, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Kathryn Wunderlich

### I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

#### A. Educational Advocacy

1. At least one school district will incorporate information about FLIC services or Independent Living (IL) into their website, brochures, newsletter and/or school year calendar.
2. At least one school district will incorporate a transition event where families and students can come to learn about community resources (including FLIC services), employment, higher education and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.
3. At least one college or university will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation, approved by FLIC, into its curriculum for professional preparation programs that work with persons with disabilities.
4. FLIC will establish a written arrangement with at least one school to provide an on-site student self-advocacy training program that will enable students to better understand their rights, options, choices concerning their education and transition to adult services.

#### B. Employment Advocacy

1. At least one area employer will make its employment application available in alternative accessible formats for applicants with disabilities.
2. Establish an MOU with a local food pantry or soup kitchen to provide on-site outreach services including: information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages that nurture financial independence through employment for people with disabilities including benefits advisement and information and referral for individuals with disabilities.

#### C. Health Care Advocacy

1. There will be an increase in the number of local human service agencies and public health services that provide brochures and pertinent program information in accessible formats.
2. At least one patient-based facility will make the information being provided to the general public available in alternate formats.

3. At least one local dental and health care provider office will improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
4. At least one nursing home will change its procedures to include in its admission literature, information about community supports available to maintain independence in the community.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of crosswalks in the city of Ithaca which are fully accessible.
2. At least one local restaurant will provide its menu in an alternative format such as Braille, and make it available to its customers.
3. There will be an increase in the number of integrated and accessible housing choices available for people with disabilities in Tompkins County.
4. A local municipality will adopt policies and/or procedures in increased installation and/or maintenance of local curb cuts.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. At least one recreational facility/program will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for consumers with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.
2. A fitness center will change its marketing procedures to effectively reach persons with disabilities in order to promote inclusion and supply information about its accessible programs and services.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. Continue to make sure that polling places are fully accessible to all people with disabilities.
2. The Tompkins County Board of Elections will establish procedures to train poll workers on accessible voting machines.
3. As a result of FLIC advocacy, the revised Tompkins County Emergency Plan will include provisions that address specific needs of people with disabilities and that the final plan will be posted on the county website and be accessible.

# 15. HILC

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Harlem Independent Living Center  
Address: 289 St. Nicholas Avenue, lower level, NY, NY 10027  
Contract Number: C012380  
Report Period: October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017  
Contact Person: Christina Curry, Executive Director  
Board President Authorization: Vanessa Young

#### I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

##### A. Education Advocacy

1. At least one area high school will incorporate a New York State Independent Living History and Philosophy DVD training provided by HILC, with assistance from the Manhattan Community Board 10 education subcommittee, as a regular part of disability awareness training for Committee on Special Education (CSE) members, high school personnel and/or students
2. A local college will become accessible for disabled and Deaf students. This includes disability sensitivity training for relevant personnel within the college.

##### B. Employment Advocacy

1. At least one Employment Network will provide brochures and pertinent program information in accessible formats at every consumer orientation.
2. At least one employer will change its policies and procedures to ensure employees with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of and procedures for obtaining assistive technology and devices.
3. Establish formal agreements whereby more community agencies have presentations to consumers about work incentives.
4. One business will produce an audio/taped version of its employee handbook.

##### C. Health Care Advocacy

1. At least one community or governmental agency providing health care services to victims of crime, abuse and domestic violence will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.
2. At least one local medical facility will make a policy and procedural change in how it identifies and refers patients who are Deaf to community resources that include sign language interpretive services.

3. As a result of providing technical assistance, at least one community agency will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community services, including Independent Living Center services and resources.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the center's service area.
2. A private and/or a public reentrant housing community will improve access by making its resident's handbook available in alternate formats.
3. The NYC Department of Transportation will install audio crossing signals and/or enhanced crosswalks for persons with visual disabilities in at least one major intersection within the Village of Harlem.
4. A business entity will become accessible by installing automatic door openers.
5. A local restaurant/business entity will add a ramp to the main entrance to accommodate people with disabilities.
6. A local municipality will adopt policies and/or procedures resulting in increased installation and/or maintenance of local curb cuts.
7. At least one additional restaurant will provide its menu in an accessible format.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. At least one community club or service organization will adopt a policy assuring that meeting places are fully accessible.
2. At least one senior center will expand its physical and sensory access for members who are disabled.
3. One or more community service organizations will establish a formal agreement with HILC to provide disability awareness training for all of its members.
4. A local church will make a policy and procedural change in how it makes referrals for community resources to facilitate the integration of its parishioners in the community, including Independent Living Center services

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. Political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
2. There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
3. At least one local government covering the village of Harlem will start providing agendas in an alternate format for/at publicly attended meetings.

## **16. ILCHV**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley
Address:	15-17 Third Street, Troy, NY 12180
Contract No.:	C012381
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Denise A. Figueroa, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Sean Turley

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEM ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. A school district will make procedural changes to transition plans for students with disabilities to include developing information on program options toward graduation, PASS, ACCES-VR, Independent Living advocacy, access to assistive technology and linkages to other community based agencies and organizations.
2. Congress will pass and the President will sign into law the Keeping All Students Safe Act, HR 1893 and S2036. This bill will create standards to limit the use of physical restraint and seclusion of children, by establishing safety standards in schools that will be similar to those already set in place by hospitals and other community-based facilities. It also will prohibit mechanical restraints and other restraints that restrict breathing.
3. At least one school district will incorporate into its curriculum a Transition/Career Fair where students and parents can learn about opportunities available to students with disabilities after graduation.
4. At least one school district will incorporate information about ILCHV services or IL into their website, newsletter and/or school year calendar.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. New York State will establish a small business tax credit for the employment of people with disabilities.
2. The Governor will either sign into law legislation or issue an executive order that will incorporate language that includes people with disabilities under the Minority/Women Business Employment law.
3. The Governor will either sign into law legislation or issue an executive order that will waive the State's sovereign immunity, the sovereign immunity of all instrumentalities and political subdivisions of the State for violations of the ADA and the Fair Labor Standards Act.
4. The Governor will either sign into law legislation or issue an executive order that will enact and implement a policy that requires State contractors to employ people with disabilities.

5. The Governor will sign into law an amendment to the Education Law to provide communication support services as a vocational rehabilitation service in order to improve the ability of consumers to secure gainful and meaningful employment outcomes. (Currently, A05141)

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. The Center will increase physical and communication access within health care facilities including physicians' offices, clinics and hospitals.
2. At least one local hospital will incorporate disability awareness/sensitivity training either developed or endorsed by ILCHV as part of their training procedures for all new employees.

### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated accessible/adaptable housing units available to persons with disabilities.
2. The NYS Legislature will pass legislation to require access to taxicabs for persons with disabilities; and the Governor will sign it.
3. There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
4. New York State will incorporate the housing provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act into state law.
5. The NYS Legislature will pass legislation, Assembly Bill A.1121 (Bing) and Senate Bill S.83 (Squadron), to make discrimination by landlords based on a tenant's source of income illegal under the State Human Rights Law; and the Governor will sign it
6. NYS Legislature will establish standards for "inclusive design" in State law to require all newly constructed residential housing built with public funds to be made accessible.
7. The City of Troy will adopt an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) policy.
8. The Troy police department will adopt an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) policy.
9. The City of Troy will adopt a snow removal policy to improve access to sidewalks and streets during inclement winter weather.
10. NYS will adopt legislation that requires parity between fixed route and paratransit fares.

### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of social and recreational facilities that comply with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in the Center's service area.

### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. Bring Rensselaer and Columbia County into compliance with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).
2. One county Board of Elections in the center's service area will incorporate materials on access for people with disabilities either developed or endorsed by ILCHV into its poll site workers training curriculum and poll site surveying instruments.

# 17. ILI-Newburgh

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name Of Center:	Independent Living, Inc.
Address:	5 Washington Terrace, Newburgh, NY 12550
Contract No.	C012382
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Persons:	Douglas Hovey, Executive Director and Suzanne Tremper, Director of Programs
Board President Authorization:	Charles Walwyn III

### I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

#### A. Educational Advocacy

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result universal access to educational opportunities and related supportive services for children ages birth to 21, and to ensure a successful transition of students with disabilities from school to adult life. Continue to advocate for an end to educational services that segregate children with disabilities, denying them the right to equally choose, equally participate and equally benefit.

- Will identify and promote transition processes that ensure that preschool children suspected of having a disability are referred, evaluated, and have eligibility determined by the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) within 60 calendar days of receipt of the parental request for evaluation.
- As the Mid-Hudson Regional Early Childhood Direction Center, we will continue to advocate for increasing access to early intervention and preschool education services by families of children with disabilities birth to age five, with emphasis on those residing in traditionally underserved and unserved neighborhoods in culturally diverse communities in Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and Sullivan Counties.
- Identify and promote typical early childhood settings that service preschool students with disabilities and increase the percent of children with IEPs who receive special education and related services with typically developing peers to meet and/or exceed the state target work plan for each year.
- Advocate to increase the number of parents and students actively participating in the IEP process in public school districts served by the Orange Ulster Board of Cooperative Educational Services, and in Parent trainings throughout Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and Sullivan Counties.
- Identify and promote processes that ensure children, who are found eligible, transition from early intervention to preschool special education services with an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthday.

- Continue to advocate, to reduce the incidence of segregated special education services for students with psychiatric disabilities by advocating for the adoption of inclusive educational practices and demand responsive supportive services that enable these students to learn in regular classroom settings.
- Provide training and technical assistance to families and CPSEs to increase parent and district skill in partnering for the success of preschool students with disabilities.
- IL's ECDC, in coordination and collaboration with local school districts and county preschool coordinators, will provide regional forums to identify improvement activities and learning opportunities for CPSE chairpersons, preschool providers and families.
- Provide researched-based instructional programs to improve outcomes for preschool children with disabilities in areas of early literacy and communication, social-emotional skills and positive behaviors.
- Advocate to improve school districts' compliance with the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Parts 200 & 201 and support parents and students with Due Process when a school district has violated a requirement of Part B of IDEA.
- Provide student self-advocacy training that will enable students to better understand their rights, options, choices concerning his/her education and transition to adult services.
- Advocate with Orange County School Districts to provide collaborative efforts to ensure the equal dissemination of promotional materials and educational opportunities for the middle schools students who would like to participate in Independent Living's (LEAP) program: a Learning Enrichment Afterschool Program.
- Advocate that all educational interpreters be NAD/RID or NY State certified and are evaluated by a reputable interpreter agency for the appropriate level of skill necessary to efficiently and effectively interpret for all mainstream Deaf students.
- Advocate to eliminate harmful restraint and seclusion in schools.
- Advocate to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to make improvements to the individualized education program under that Act and facilitate the transition of children with disabilities to adulthood, and for other purposes.
- Advocate to amend the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 to provide assistance to States for development and implementation of an individual transition plan for each individual with a developmental disability in the State who is making the transition from the secondary school system into adulthood, and for other purposes.
- Advocate for the inclusion of Independent Living, Inc. brochures and information in the community resource materials provided to transition age youth in Orange County school districts.
- Advocate to increase parental awareness of ILC services for students with disabilities to support and promote community integration.
- Advocate for students with disabilities, in out of school placements, to equally participate and have access to school district web based programming, sports and social events.
- Advocate for children in homeless shelters or temporary housing to receive necessary supports and services that will allow them to live a healthy and productive lives.
- Advocate with school administration and instructional staff to create effective Individual Education Programs (IEP) and 504 Plans for students with disabilities at school districts throughout Orange County.

## **OUTCOMES**



1. At least one school district in the counties served will change its policy to engage parents in a child's transition from Early Intervention to Preschool Special Education planning process.
2. One or more neighborhood-based organizations in culturally diverse community will establish a policy to include as part of its informational materials, information about disability and early intervention/education services in both English and Spanish.
3. A local school district will make policy and procedural changes and provide transportation to after school learning enrichment programs to facilitate increased participation by students with disabilities.
4. One or more school districts in Orange County will institute a disability awareness track developed by ILI as part of the school personnel-training curriculum.
5. One school district will change its policies and procedures to facilitate increased participation by students with disabilities in the Committee on Special Education (CSE) process.
6. To reduce NY State complaints and due process requests, one school district will make policy and procedural changes to improve its physical and program access.
7. One (or more) preschool(s) serving non-disabled children will develop and implement an integrated co-teaching program to serve children with disabilities.
8. At least one school district in the counties served will change or adopt policy that requires all sign language interpreters to be certified and evaluated prior to being hired to serve in the classroom.
9. The NYS Legislature or Congress will adopt a law defining the use of restraints and seclusion in schools; and the Governor or President respectively will sign it.
10. Congress will pass the THR 602 TEAM Education Act; and the President will sign it.
11. Congress will pass the THR 603 TEAM Empowerment Act; and the President will sign it.
12. At least one school district in Orange County will change policy and procedures to include information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages in the community resource materials provided to transition aged students with disabilities.
13. At least one school district in Orange County will change policy and procedure and include ILI staff in transition planning activities.
14. At least one school district in Orange County will add ILI's website and mission statement to their website, under the link for "Parent links and resources"
15. At least one school district in Orange County will change policy and procedures to provide students with disabilities, in out-of-school placement, equal participation and have access to school web-based programming, sports and social events.
16. One or more community organizations providing emergency shelter will establish an agreement with ILI- Newburgh to provide parent orientation on child development and positive guidance and discipline for parents and children as an intervention that addresses associated experiences of children who are homeless.
17. At least one school district in Orange County will establish an agreement with ILI-Newburgh to provide annual staff training on the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act to improve the development of meaningful and effective 504 Plans for students with disabilities.

## **B. Employment Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, sheltered workshops. Increase the capacity of persons with disabilities to obtain and retain competitive employment.

- Continue to advocate for a shift in funding that will provide greater financial incentives to programs and agencies providing integrated employment services, than to those operating sheltered, segregated employment programs.
- Will continue to advocate for the closure of sheltered workshops.
- Continue to advocate for an increase in the availability of supported work opportunities for persons with significant disabilities – that have historically been excluded from consideration as candidates for integrated employment.
- Continue to advocate for physical and procedural changes at One-Stops in the Cities of Newburgh and Middletown that facilitate increase participation by persons with significant disabilities.
- Continue to advocate for on-site advocacy services for persons with disabilities, at the local One-Stops.
- Continue to advocate for an increase in the availability of flexible, individualized supportive services (e.g. intensive vocational service coordination, flex funds, transportation and child care assistance) designed to address issues outside of work that directly bear upon placement stabilization.
- Advocate for increased participation by individuals with significant disabilities in the New York State Medicaid Buy-In for Working People with Disabilities Program which is designed to reduce or eliminate fear of losing important medical benefits when entering employment.
- Continue to advocate for a measurable increase in the number of competitive employment opportunities that are made available to persons with significant disabilities, by employers that have not previously hired persons with disabilities.
- Advocate for an ongoing collaboration with the Orange County Employment and Training Administration that will provide an annual job fair within Orange County that will highlight the benefits of hiring persons with disabilities to local employers.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who are blind or visually impaired.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons with developmental disabilities.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons with significant psychiatric disabilities.
- Provide orientation and training opportunities to transitioning special education students to help them to become familiar with ILI employment services and to jump start their transition plan.
- IL, Inc. will advocate against efforts by NYSDOT and USDOT in prohibiting Deaf persons pursuing truck driver licensing, and encourage both NYS and USDOT to reconsider archaic policies and develop licensing procedures for Deaf truck drivers.
- Advocate to amend the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to authorize grants for the transition of youths with significant disabilities to adulthood.
- Advocate with employers to provide electronic employment applications in an alternate, accessible format that are appropriate for applicants with disabilities.
- Advocate for Federal contract employers to fulfill Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, to establish 7% utilization goal for qualified individuals with disabilities.
- Advocate for an increase in the availability work opportunities for persons with criminal backgrounds who have historically been excluded from consideration as candidates for employment.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. At least one local business will change its recruitment process so as to create new supported employment opportunities for people with significant disabilities.
2. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons who are deaf.
3. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons who are blind.
4. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodation to employees with developmental disabilities.
5. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with significant psychiatric disabilities.
6. ILI will establish a written agreement with at least one local school district to conduct an annual orientation presenting pertinent employment programs and services available to transitioning special education students.
7. NYS Department of Transportation and US Department of Transportation will establish policies that allow Deaf persons to obtain truck driving licensure, thus expanding employment opportunities.
8. Congress will pass the HR 604 TEAM Employment Act and the President will sign it.
9. At least one employer will make their electronic employment application available in alternate, accessible formats that are appropriate for applicants with disabilities.
10. At least one employer, with Federal contracts of more than \$10,000, will change its employment policies and demonstrate enforcement of these policies to ensure an increase in the number of employees with significant disabilities hired as a result of training and support provided by Newburgh-ILI.
11. At least one local business will reform recruitment and hiring processes to create Employment opportunities for people with criminal history.

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Continue to advocate for increasing the capacity of community-based supportive services to a level sufficient to enable persons presently confined to nursing homes and other restrictive settings, or at-risk of confinement, to return to, or remain in the community as an alternative to institutionalization – consistent with the Olmstead decision of 1999.

- Will advocate for changes in the local institutional policies and practices in the area of Long Term care needs assessment, and work in close collaborative effort with local government agencies.
- Will continue to advocate for the closure of OPWDD Developmental centers and other state run institutions that have been previously designated for closure by the state.
- Will continue to advocate to government agencies and other providers for the most integrated setting for people with disabilities when providing programs and services, including housing.
- Continue to advocate for changes in local institutional policies and practices that will result in increased referrals to community based living options.
- Continue to advocate for changes in local institutional policies and practices that will result in significantly increasing the number of nursing home residents engaged in discharge planning.
- Continue to advocate for changes in local and state mental health system policies and practices that refocus services on recovery and wellness.

- Continue to advocate with community organizations to produce a measurable increase in the number of such organizations referring consumers to Consumer Directed Personal Assistance services that have not previously done so.
- Continue to advocate for changes in the policies and practices of providers in the local health care system that will ensure full access to health services by individuals who are Deaf.
- Continue to advocate for changes in the policies and practices of providers in the local mental health care system that will ensure equal access to mental health services by individuals who are Deaf.
- IL Inc. will advocate and position itself to be part of housing education and information through the Money Follows the Person program.
- Will continue to advocate for the passage of the Community Choice Act in Congress.
- ILI, Inc. will advocate for passage of the Hearing Aid Bill requesting that NYS legislature require insurance companies doing business in NYS to provide hearing aid coverage policies as an alternative to more costly cochlear implants. Additionally, to support any NYS tax credits that can be provided to users of hearing aid devices.
- ILI, Inc. will advocate to establish peer run programs to work directly with people with psychiatric diagnosis and/or substance abuse history incorporating person-centered planning that will improve the quality of life and achievement of personal goals.
- ILI, Inc. will advocate to establish peer run programs to provide better access to health care, wellness activities and peer support to individuals and their families who are recovering from alcohol and/or chemical addiction.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. At least one community or governmental agency providing mental health services will improve its accessibility to people who are Deaf.
2. At least one hospital or community health care center will change its policies and practices to ensure full access to health services by individuals who are Deaf.
3. One or more ILI staff will become a member of a key Long Term Care Task Force that will set the direction and tone of how the county will adopt changes from the state to provide services to the disability population and that previously has not had representation from the disability community.
4. At least one local physician's office will improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
5. NYS Department of Health will change policies and procedures to establish Fair Hearing proceedings to ensure equity relating to community discharge from institutions.
6. One or more county departments of social services will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities in the Long Term Care services system, to make informed choices as to where they would like to reside.
7. A local health care facility will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
8. One or more local departments of social services will establish an agreement with the independent living center to adopt an ongoing practice of providing periodic disability awareness training to all DSS personnel.
9. One or more Managed Long Term Care Organizations (MLTCs) and/or Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities in the Long Term Care services system, to make informed choices as to where they would like to reside utilizing Money Follows the Persons (MFP) initiatives.

10. One or more Managed Long Term Care Organizations (MLTCs) and/or Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities in the Long Term Care services system, to make informed choices as to where they would like to reside utilizing nursing home transition and diversion initiatives.
11. Congress will pass the Community Choice Act; and the President will sign it.
12. One or more behavioral health units at community hospitals will establish an agreement and change their protocol, to enable on-site inpatient participation of Mental Health Peers regarding inpatient engagement and discharge planning to ensure reduction in recidivism of inpatient care and better consumer connection to community supports and resources.
13. NY State will pass the Hearing Aid Bill, and the Governor will sign it, requiring insurance companies to provide Hearing Aid Coverage and support NYS tax credits that can be provided to users of hearing aid devices.
14. One or more local departments of mental health, mobile mental health teams and hospital emergency departments will change policies and procedures to allow ILI trained mental health peers to assist in hospital diversion initiatives and supports, thus reducing recidivism and first time psychiatric admissions.
15. The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of Orange County (ADAC) will incorporate Peer Recovery Coach training jointly developed with ILI-Newburgh into its Recovery Coaching Academy curriculum for Certified Peer Recovery Coaches.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Continue to advocate for systemic changes that result in universal access to public transportation, public buildings, communication systems and other amenities. Increase the capacity of people with disabilities to engage in local marketplace activities including shopping, dining out, using recreational facilities and participating in community events by increasing the number of Title III entities that are accessible in the Orange County area.

- Continue to advocate with local municipalities regarding the consistent enforcement of accessible/adaptable requirements in new construction.
- Provide ADA training and technical support to local code enforcement officials and or other municipal departments.
- Continue to advocate with federal and state legislators on technology and accessibility bills in Congress and the state legislature, including Making Title II of the ADA part of state law.
- Continue to advocate with state and federal legislators on housing issues for people with disabilities, including visitability, Section 504, and source of income legislation.
- Continue to advocate for increased accessible housing options for persons with disabilities.
- Continue to participate in the Orange County Housing Consortium which addresses homelessness and the housing crisis, especially for people with disabilities.
- Advocate for greater access to community amenities by persons who are Deaf.
- ILI-Newburgh will continue to advocate for increased accessible public transportation in Orange County.
- Continue to advocate for compliance under the previously enacted state law and the ADA, requiring physical accessibility to local marketplace activities.
- Continue to advocate with local legislators on transportation issues, including accessibility of taxis. Advocate for this legislation to become New York State law.

- ILI-Newburgh will continue to assist the county to be in compliance with the ADA, through access to facilities, training to employees regarding disability awareness, and the ADA.
- Advocate with Orange County to update the Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (from 2002).
- Advocate for agencies to provide a policy of “Housing First” providing living arrangements for individuals with psychiatric disabilities.
- Advocate to end landlord discrimination against potential tenants who receive rental subsidies and other subsidies that are included in their source of income.
- Advocate for ILI-Newburgh to provide consultation for the renovation and restoration of the Orange County Government Center.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
2. The NYS Legislature will pass the accessible taxi legislation; and the Governor will sign it.
3. At least one municipal police department will establish a written agreement with the Center that implements the ongoing practice of providing Deaf and disability awareness as part of the training/orientation for law enforcement officers.
4. A local housing organization will maintain an accessible housing program that makes home modification services available to residences throughout Orange County, with technical support provided under contract with the independent living center.
5. At least one local landlord will make additional, accessible housing units available for persons with physical disabilities.
6. One or more Orange County municipalities will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities to have and make accessible transportation choices.
7. Independent Living will establish a written agreement with Orange County to conduct scheduled trainings for all county departments regarding disability awareness training.
8. Independent Living will establish a written agreement with Orange County to provide training on compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act to improve access to their facilities.
9. Orange County Department of Social Services (DSS) brochures for the Americans With Disabilities Act/grievance policy will be printed so that they are available in large print and Braille.
10. Orange County will update its Americans With Disabilities Act Self Evaluation and Transition Plan (originally drafted in November 2000).
11. Orange County Department of Social Services (DSS) will establish policies and procedures to improve access specifically for consumers with sight disabilities and hearing disabilities.
12. The Orange County Planning Commission will purchase and utilize hybrid buses for county transportation that will include a sounding device to announce bus arrival as an accommodation for people with visual impairments.
13. NYS will pass legislation establishing standards for “visitability” (H.R.2353) into State law.
14. NYS will incorporate the housing provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act into state law.
15. NYS will make discrimination by landlords based on a tenant’s source of income illegal under State Human Rights Law.
16. As a result of ILI-Newburgh providing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) consultation, the Orange County Government Center will improve its accessibility.

## **E. Social Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Continue to advocate for systemic changes that control resources necessary to engage in integrated and community based social, recreational, special interest organizations, and other integrated community activities for people with disabilities.

- Continue to advocate for changes in funding policies and practices as necessary to encourage the creation of an on-going, “free-market” driven process for providing individuals receiving day services the opportunity to evaluate and, potentially change service providers based upon individually determined criteria.
- Continue to advocate for changes in funding policies and practices as necessary to create incentives for day service providers to develop integrated community based program models and eliminate segregated day services.
- Continue advocating to increase the number of community clubs and service organizations that are accessible by individuals with significant disabilities
- Continue to advocate with local municipalities to ensure that stadiums, auditoriums, parks and other public recreational facilities are fully accessible.
- Create integrated community activities that increase opportunity for people with disabilities to increase their self-sufficiency, wellness and self-worth.
- Advocate for increased utilization of waiver services that will allow individuals to participate in person-centered planning that provides choice and individualizes responsibility and ability to choose more inclusive, integrated service options.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. At least one community club or service organization will adopt a policy assuring that meeting places are fully accessible.
2. One or more community service organizations will establish a written agreement with ILI-Newburgh to provide disability awareness training for all of its members.
3. A municipal recreation department will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel in the areas of disability awareness and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
4. A local health club/fitness center will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
5. There will be an increase in the number of integrated social and recreational activities in the community for persons with disabilities.

## **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result in universal voter access to polling places. Increase self-advocacy and leadership skills among youthful and adult citizens with disabilities.

- Continue to advocate for the local Board of Elections to adopt policies and processes that ensure the training of all newly hired election officials about persons with disabilities at polling places, and the issues of accessibility at the polling site and at the machines.

- Continue to advocate for an increase in the participation of individuals with significant disabilities on governing boards of community organizations responsible for making decisions about the funding of disability services that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
- Continue to advocate for increased participation by individuals with significant disabilities on governing boards of community organizations responsible for making decisions affecting the lives of persons with disabilities, in the areas of employment, recreation, citizenship, education, housing, and health care that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
- Continue to advocate and provide means to help register the underserved and non-registered voters of Orange County, especially persons with disabilities.
- Continue to advocate with state legislators to pass legislation requiring all polling sites to be accessible and eliminating the waiver currently allowed in NYS elections law.
- Continue to advocate with the Orange County Board of Elections and local municipalities to ensure that ballot marking devices and the accessible voting machines are fully used in 2013 and 2014. Continue to advocate with the Orange County Board of Elections and local municipalities to achieve 100% polling place accessibility.
- Advocate that all polling sites in Orange County remain accessible.
- Continue to advocate that the accessible voting machines for 2011 and 2012 elections will be available and monitored by knowledgeable election poll workers, so that people with disabilities are able to vote privately and independently.
- Continue to advocate that more people with disabilities be registered to vote.
- Conduct voter awareness presentations at Self Advocacy workshops.
- Work with collaborative local agencies to provide a Candidates Forum for the upcoming elections in part to finalize and publicize positions on disability related issues
- Advocate for the community youth organizations to include youth with disabilities in programs and provide individualized modifications and accommodations, as needed.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. One or more political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
2. The Orange County Board of Elections will establish policies and procedures to train poll workers on the accessible voting machines.
3. There will be an increase in the number of individuals with disabilities serving on community boards/committees and task forces to help shape the content and character of the organization that previously have not had consumer representation.
4. The Orange County Board of Elections will have no inaccessible locations listed on its polling sites.
5. A community youth service organization will establish a written agreement with ILI-Newburgh to provide disability awareness training for members.



# 18. ILI-MIDDLETOWN SUBSIDIARY

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name Of Center:	Independent Living, Inc.
Address:	441 East Main Street, Middletown, NY 10940
Contract No.	C012383
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 31, 2017
Contact Persons:	Judi Cooney, Program Site Manager and Suzanne Tremper, Director of Programs
Board President Authorization:	Charles Walwyn, III

### I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

#### A. Educational Advocacy

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result universal access to educational opportunities and related supportive services for children ages birth to 21, and to ensure a successful transition of students with disabilities from school to adult life. Continue to advocate for an end to educational services that segregate children with disabilities, denying them the right to equally choose, equally participate and equally benefit.

- Advocate to reduce the incidence of segregated special education services for students with psychiatric disabilities by advocating for the adoption of the inclusive educational practices and demand responsive supportive services that enable these students to learn in regular classroom settings.
- Provide student self-advocacy training that will enable students to better understand their rights, options, choices concerning his/her education and transition to adult services.
- Advocate to eliminate harmful restraint and seclusion in schools.
- Advocate to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to make improvements to the individualized education program under that Act and facilitate the transition of children with disabilities to adulthood, and for other purposes.
- Advocate to amend the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 to provide assistance to States for development and implementation of an individual transition plan for each individual with a developmental disability in the State who is making the transition from the secondary school system into adulthood, and for other purposes.
- Advocate for the inclusion of Independent Living, Inc. brochures and information in the community resource materials provided to transition age youth in Orange County school districts.
- Advocate with the Orange Ulster BOCES public school districts to increase the required engagement of community agencies to benefit students ages 14-21 involved in the transition process.

- Advocate to increase the enforcement of the rights and responsibilities of schools under laws related to special education, especially Section 504 and IDEA. Specifically advocate with school administration and instructional staff to create effective Individual Education Program (IEP) and 504 Plans for students with disabilities at school districts throughout Orange County.
- Advocate for students with disabilities, in out of school placements, to equally participate and have access to school district web based programming, sports and social events.
- Advocate with the Orange Ulster BOCES public school districts to increase the required engagement of community agencies in the transition planning process for students with disabilities, ages 14-21.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. One or more school districts in Orange County will institute a disability awareness track developed by ILI-Middletown as part of the school personnel-training curriculum.
2. One school district will change its policies and procedures to facilitate increased participation by students with disabilities in the Committee on Special Education (CSE) process.
3. The NYS Legislature will pass legislation defining the use of restraint and seclusion in schools; and the Governor will sign it.
4. Congress will pass THR 602 TEAM Education Act; and the President will sign it.
5. Congress will pass THR 603 TEAM Empowerment Act; and the President will sign it.
6. One or more community agencies, working with transition aged youth, will change policy and procedure to include Middletown-ILI staff in transition planning activities.
7. One or more school districts in Orange County will change policy and procedures to include information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages in the community resource materials provided to transition aged students with disabilities.
8. At least one school district in Orange County will change policy and procedure and include ILI-Middletown staff in transition planning activities.
9. At least one school district in Orange County will change policy and procedures to provide students with disabilities, in out-of-school placement, to equally participate and have access to web based programming, sports and social events.
10. One or more school districts in Orange County will change policies and procedures to have transition plans for students with disabilities routinely include appropriate, measurable postsecondary goals relating to employment, training, education and living skills and identify the needed activities to support the movement from school to post school activities that includes community agencies supports and services for students, ages 14-21 and the families.
11. ILI Middletown will establish a written agreement with one or more local public libraries to provide on-site life skills training, resources and support to patrons to increase access to community services, employment, health care and attainment of personal goals.

## **B. Employment Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result in an increased capacity of persons with disabilities to obtain and retain competitive employment.

- Advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, sheltered workshops.

- Increase the capacity of persons with disabilities to obtain and retain competitive employment.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who are blind or visually impaired.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons with developmental disabilities.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons with significant psychiatric disabilities.
- Advocate for an increase in the availability of flexible, individualized supportive services (e.g. intensive vocational service coordination, flex funds, transportation and child care assistance) designed to address issues outside of work that directly bear upon placement stabilization.
- Advocate for increased participation by individuals with significant disabilities in the New York State Medicaid Buy-In for Working People with Disabilities Program which is designed to reduce or eliminate fear of losing important medical benefits when entering employment.
- IL, Inc. will advocate against efforts by NYSDOT and USDOT in prohibiting Deaf persons pursuing truck driver licensing, and encourage both NYS and USDOT to reconsider archaic policies and develop licensing procedures for Deaf truck drivers.
- Advocate to amend the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to authorize grants for the transition of youth with significant disabilities to adulthood.
- Advocate for on-site advocacy services at community food distributions sites to increased capacity of people with disabilities to obtain and retain employment.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons who are deaf.
2. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons who are blind.
3. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodation to employees with developmental disabilities.
4. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with significant psychiatric disabilities.
5. NYS Department of Transportation and US Department of Transportation will establish policies that allow Deaf persons to obtain truck driving licensure, thus expanding employment opportunities.
6. Congress will pass the HR 604 TEAM Employment Act and the President will sign it.
7. ILI-Middletown will establish a written agreement with a local food pantry or soup kitchen to administer job development skills, job training and benefits advisement to participants to increase the number of participants who gain employment.

## **C. Health Care Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for increasing the capacity of community-based supportive services to a level sufficient to enable persons presently confined to nursing homes and other restrictive settings, or at-risk of confinement, to return to, or remain in the community as an alternative to institutionalization – consistent with the Olmstead decision of 1999.

- Advocate to government agencies and other providers for the most integrated setting for people with disabilities when providing programs and services, including housing.
- Advocate for changes in local institutional policies and practices that will result in increased referrals to community based living options.
- Advocate with community organizations so as to produce a measureable increase in the number of such organizations referring consumers to the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services that have not previously done so.
- Advocate for improved access to health care services for individuals with disabilities who are victims of violence, crime, abuse and domestic violence.
- Advocate for changes in local mental health system policies and practices that refocus services on recovery and wellness
- Advocate for changes in the policies and practices of providers in the local mental health care system that will ensure equal access to mental health services by individuals who are Deaf.
- Advocate for the passage of the Community Choice Act in Congress.
- Advocate for passage of the Hearing Aid Bill requesting that NYS legislature require insurance companies doing business in NYS to provide hearing aid coverage policies as an alternative to more costly cochlear implants. Additionally, to support any NYS tax credits that can be provided to users of hearing aid devices.
- ILI, Inc. will inform and educate Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and Managed Long Term Care organizations (MLTCs) of the nature and purpose of the CDPA Program.
- Advocate to establish peer run programs to work directly with people with psychiatric diagnosis and/or substance abuse history incorporating person-centered planning that will improve the quality of life and achievement of personal goals.
- ILI-Middletown will advocate and educate the Orange County Judicial system on Disability sensitivity; particularly to persons with psychiatric disabilities, to recognize the need for treatment instead of incarceration.
- Advocate with Orange County Correctional Facility to allow on-site participation of ILI-Middletown Peer Recovery Specialists regarding engagement of inmates with psychiatric diagnosis and discharge planning to ensure reduction of recidivism
- Advocate with Orange County Department of Mental Health and Mobile Mental Health to include ILI-Middletown Peer Diversion Specialist as First Responders.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. At least one local physician's office will improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
2. A local health care facility will adopt a practice assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
3. At least one community or governmental agency providing health care services to victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.
4. At least one community or governmental agency providing mental health services will improve its accessibility to people who are Deaf.
5. At least one hospital or community health care center will change its policies and practices to ensure full access to health services by individuals who are Deaf.
6. One or more local departments of social services (DSS) will establish an agreement with the independent living center to adopt an ongoing practice of providing periodic disability awareness training to all DSS personnel.

7. Congress will pass the Community Choice Act; and the President will sign it.
8. One or more medical facilities will establish a policy requiring discharge planners to include information about Independent Living Centers and agency linkages in its discharge planning packets
9. NY State Legislature will pass the Hearing Aid Bill, and the Governor will sign it, requiring insurance companies to provide Hearing Aid Coverage and support NYS tax credits that can be provided to users of hearing aid devices.
10. ILI-Middletown in collaboration with CDPAANYS (Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Association of NY State), will contract with individual Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and Managed Long Term Care organizations (MLTCs) to provide Fiscal Intermediary services for individuals with CDPAP home care to maintain continuity of their current service
11. 11. Orange County Correctional Facility will change policy and procedure to allow on-site participation of ILI-Middletown Peer Recovery Specialists regarding engagement of inmates with psychiatric diagnosis and discharge planning to ensure reduction of recidivism of incarceration and promote better connections to community supports and resources.
12. Orange County Department of Mental Health and Mobile Mental Health will adopt a policy to include ILI-Middletown Peer Diversion Specialist as First Responders to community interventions.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result in universal access to public transportation, public buildings, communication systems and other amenities. Increase the capacity of people with disabilities to engage in local marketplace activities including shopping, dining out, using recreational facilities and participating in community events by increasing the number of Title III entities that are accessible in the Orange County area.

- Advocate with local municipalities regarding the consistent enforcement of accessible/adaptable requirements in new construction.
- Provide ADA training and technical support to local code enforcement officials and or other municipal departments.
- Advocate for increased accessible housing options for persons with disabilities
- Advocate for compliance under the newly enacted state law and the ADA, requiring physical accessibility to local marketplace activities.
- Advocate for increased accessible transportation in the City of Middletown and seek to establish an accessible transportation program, including accessible transportation in all new city development planning and neighborhood development.
- Advocate with local legislators on transportation issues, including accessibility of taxis. Advocate for this legislation to become New York State law.
- Advocate with Orange County to have an agreement for Independent Living to assist the county to be in compliance with the ADA, through access to facilities, training to employees in all departments regarding disability awareness, and rebirth of the ADA Advisory committee.
- Advocate to provide “Housing First” model living arrangements for individuals with psychiatric disabilities.
- Advocate with federal and state legislators on technology and accessibility bills in Congress and the state legislature, including Making Title II of the ADA part of state law.

- Advocate with state and federal legislators on housing issues for people with disabilities, including visitability, Section 504, and source of income legislation.
- Advocate for increased accessible housing options for persons with disabilities.
- Advocate for “Complete Streets” design in City of Middletown to make community safer and accessible to all users.
- Advocate with City of Middletown to ensure state and federal funding is available to support families and individuals face with eviction, foreclosure, and homelessness.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
2. A local housing organization will establish an accessible housing program that makes home modification services available to residences throughout Orange County, with technical support provided under contract with the independent living center.
3. NYS will incorporate the housing provisions of Section 504 of the national Rehabilitation Act Into State law
4. NYS Legislature will establish standards for “visitability” in State law to require all newly constructed single-family house, townhouses and ground floor units of duplexes and triplexes built with public funds to be made accessible.
5. The NYS Legislature will pass the accessible taxi legislation; and the Governor will sign it.
6. At least one local landlord will make additional, accessible housing units available for persons with physical disabilities.
7. At least one local landlord will make additional, housing units available for persons with psychiatric disabilities and/or substance abuse issues.
8. The County of Orange and the City of Middletown will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities in Middletown and County of Orange, to have and make accessible transportation choices.
9. NYS and local transportation agencies in Orange County will adopt a "Complete Streets" policy to make the streets safer and accessible to all users.
10. The City of Middletown will change its policies and procedures to ensure families are fully informed about the funding to decrease and eliminate foreclosure, eviction and homelessness and the procedures for obtaining it.
11. At least one court in the Orange County Judicial system will change its policies and procedures to improve treatment for people with psychiatric disabilities and provide treatment options in place of incarceration.
12. ILI Middletown will establish a written agreement with the Juvenile Justice System to provide on-site mentoring for young adults who are incarcerated and transitioning to community life to support the integration and reduce the recidivism rate.

## **E. Social Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Continue to advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, dead-end day programs, and the increased inclusion of people with disabilities in service and social clubs, special interest organizations, and other integrated community activities.

- Advocate to increase the number of community clubs and service organizations that are accessible by individuals with significant disabilities.

- Advocate with local municipalities to ensure that stadiums, auditoriums, parks and other public recreational facilities are fully accessible.
- Advocate for an increase in the number of integrated social and recreational activities in the community for persons with disabilities.
- Create integrated community activities that increase opportunity for people with disabilities to increase their self-sufficiency, wellness and self-worth.
- ILI will advocate with the Juvenile Justice System to allow on-site mentoring and life skills classes for Young Adults who are incarcerated.
- ILI will advocate with community libraries to provide on-site, community resources and support to library patrons by Independent Living staff.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. At least one community club or service organization will adopt a policy assuring that meeting places are fully accessible.
2. One or more community service organizations will establish a formal agreement with Middletown-ILI to provide disability awareness training for all of its members.
3. A municipal recreation department will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel in the areas of disability awareness and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
4. A local health club/fitness center will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
5. One or more community club or service organizations will create integrated community programs for the purpose of increasing the self-sufficiency, wellness and self-worth of individuals with disabilities.
6. There will be an increase in the number of integrated social and recreational activities in the community for persons with disabilities.

## **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result in universal voter access to polling places. Increase self-advocacy and leadership skills among youthful and adult citizens with disabilities.

- Advocate for the local Board of Elections to adopt policies and processes that ensure the training of all newly hired election officials about persons with disabilities at polling places, and the issues of accessibility at the polling site and at the machines.
- Advocate and provide means to help register the underserved and non-registered voters of Orange County, especially persons with disabilities.
- Advocate that more people with disabilities be registered to vote.
- Advocate for increased participation by individuals with significant disabilities on governing boards of community organizations responsible for making decisions affecting the lives of persons with disabilities, in the areas of employment, recreation, citizenship, education, housing, and health care that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
- Advocate with state legislators to pass legislation requiring all polling sites to be accessible and eliminating the waiver currently allowed in NYS elections law.

- Advocate with community agencies to increase awareness of the challenges faced by Community youth; 14-21, and develop solutions to the barriers will result in positive youth development.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. One or more political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
2. The Orange County Board of Elections will establish policies and procedures to train poll workers on the accessible voting machines.
3. There will be an increase in the number of individuals with disabilities serving on community boards/committees and task forces that previously have not had consumer representation.
4. As a result of Middletown-ILI establishing an interagency coalition and its establishment of a strategic outreach plan for youth ages 14-21, at least one community agency serving youth will change its policies and procedures to ensure access to self- advocacy, self- determination and responsible decision making skills resulting in responsible adult citizens.



# 19. ILI-SULLIVAN SUBSIDIARY

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name Of Center:	Independent Living, Inc.
Address:	10 Prince Street Suite 12, Monticello, NY 12701
Contract No.	C012384
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Persons:	Nora Shepard, Site Manager and Suzanne Tremper, Director of Programs
Board President Authorization:	Charles Walwyn, III

### I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

#### A. Educational Advocacy

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result universal access to educational opportunities and related supportive services for children ages birth to 21, and to ensure a successful transition of students with disabilities from school to adult life. Continue to advocate for an end to educational services that segregate children with disabilities, denying them the right to equally choose, equally participate and equally benefit.

- Advocate to reduce the incidence of segregated special education services for students with psychiatric disabilities by advocating for the adoption of inclusive educational practices and demand responsive, supportive services that enable these students to learn in regular classroom settings.
- Provide student self-advocacy training that will enable students to better understand their rights, options, choices concerning their education and transition to adult services.
- Advocate to increase the number of parents and students actively participating in the IEP process in public school districts served by the Sullivan Board of Cooperative Educational Services.
- Advocate to increase the enforcement of the rights and responsibilities of schools under laws related to special education, especially Section 504 and IDEA. Specifically advocate with school administration and instructional staff to create an effective Individualized Education Program (IEP) and 504 Plans for students with disabilities at school districts throughout Sullivan County.
- Advocate to eliminate harmful restraint and seclusion in schools.
- Advocate to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to make improvements to the individualized education program under that Act and facilitate the transition of children with disabilities to adulthood, and for other purposes.
- Advocate to amend the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 to provide assistance to States for the development and implementation of an individual

transition plan for each individual with a developmental disability in the State who is making the transition from the secondary school system into adulthood, and for other purposes.

- Advocate for the inclusion of Independent Living, Inc. brochures and information in the community resource materials provided to transition age youth in Sullivan County school districts.
- As the Mid-Hudson Regional Early Childhood Direction Center, we will continue to advocate for increasing access to early intervention and preschool education services by families of children with disabilities, birth to age five, with emphasis on those residing in traditionally underserved and unserved neighborhoods in culturally diverse communities in Sullivan County.
- Advocate with the Sullivan County Correctional facilities to allow on-site participation of Sullivan ILI staff regarding engagement of inmates with disabilities and discharge planning to ensure reduction of recidivism.
- Advocate for children in the foster care system to receive necessary supports and services that will allow them to live a healthy and productive adult life.
- Advocate with local school districts to include suicide prevention curriculum to educate students, staff and faculty and reduce the number of suicides in Sullivan County.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. One or more school districts in Sullivan County will institute a disability awareness track developed by ILI-Monticello as part of the school personnel-training curriculum.
2. One school district will change its policies and procedures to facilitate increased participation by students with disabilities in the Committee on Special Education (CSE) process.
3. At least one school district will change or adopt policy that requires all sign language interpreters to be certified and evaluated prior to being hired to serve in the classroom.
4. At least one school district will incorporate a bullying awareness, sensitivity track for individuals with disabilities either developed or endorsed by ILI-Monticello.
5. Sullivan Community College will adopt a track on increasing awareness and acceptance for people with disabilities either developed or endorsed by ILI-Monticello.
6. One (or more) preschool(s) serving non-disabled children will develop and implement an integrated co-teaching program to serve children with disabilities.
7. The NYS Legislature will pass the (S. 2860), the Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in Schools Act; and the Governor will sign it.
8. Congress will pass the THR 602 TEAM Education Act; and the President will sign it.
9. Congress will pass the THR 603 TEAM Empowerment Act; and the President will sign it.
10. At least one school district in Sullivan County will change policy and procedures to include information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages in the community resource materials provided to transition aged students with disabilities.
11. At least one school district in Sullivan County will change policy and procedure and include ILI-Monticello staff in transition planning activities.
12. One or more neighborhood-based organizations in culturally diverse community will establish a policy to include as part of its informational materials, information about disability and early intervention/education services in both English and Spanish.
13. At least one Sullivan County Correctional Facility will change policy and procedure to allow on-site participation of ILI-Monticello to provide engagement of inmates with disabilities and discharge planning to ensure the reduction of recidivism and promote better connections to community supports and resources in transition to returning to the community.

14. Sullivan County Department of Family Services will establish an agreement with ILI-Monticello to provide systemic life skills orientation for children, ages 14-21, as a preventative intervention that addresses associated experiences of children in foster care.
15. At least one School district in Sullivan County will adopt Suicide Prevention training either developed or endorsed by ILI-Monticello to educate students, staff and faculty and reduce the number of suicides in Sullivan County.

## **B. Employment Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, sheltered workshops. Increase the capacity of persons with disabilities to obtain and retain competitive employment.

- Advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, sheltered workshops.
- Increase the capacity of persons with disabilities to obtain and retain competitive employment.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who are blind or visually impaired.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons with developmental disabilities.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons with significant psychiatric disabilities.
- Advocate for physical and procedural changes at One-Stops in Sullivan County that facilitate increase participation by persons with significant disabilities.
- Advocate for an increase in the availability of flexible, individualized supportive services (e.g. intensive vocational service coordination, flex funds, transportation and child care assistance) designed to address issues outside of work that directly bear upon placement stabilization.
- Advocate for increased participation by individuals with significant disabilities in the New York State Medicaid Buy-In for Working People with Disabilities Program which is designed to reduce or eliminate fear of losing important medical benefits when entering employment.
- Advocate for a measurable increase in the number of competitive employment opportunities that are made available to persons with significant disabilities, by employers that have not previously hired persons with disabilities.
- Provide orientation and training opportunities to transitioning special education students to help them to become familiar with ILI employment services and to jump start their transition plan.
- IL, Inc. will advocate against efforts by NYSDOT and USDOT in prohibiting Deaf persons pursuing truck driver licensing, and encourage both NYS and USDOT to reconsider archaic policies and develop licensing procedures for Deaf truck drivers.
- Advocate to amend the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to authorize grants for the transition of youth with significant disabilities to adulthood
- Advocate for on-site advocacy services for persons with disabilities at local One Stops.
- Advocate for on-site advocacy services at community food distributions sites to increased capacity of people with disabilities to obtain and retain employment.
- Advocate for the Local One-Stop to include disability awareness and sensitivity training to students participating in the Youth Employment Program.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. ILI-Monticello will establish a written agreement with at least one local school district to conduct an annual orientation presenting pertinent employment programs and services available to transitioning special education students.
2. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons who are deaf.
3. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons who are blind.
4. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodation to employees with developmental disabilities.
5. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with significant psychiatric disabilities.
6. The Center will establish a written arrangement whereby the local One-Stop will include hand- outs and brochures for Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages in the community resource materials.
7. NYS Department of Transportation and US Department of Transportation will establish policies that allow Deaf persons to obtain truck driving licensure, thus expanding employment opportunities.
8. Congress will pass the HR 604 TEAM Employment Act and the President will sign it.
9. At least one local employer will make documented changes in its employment policies and procedures to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as a result of participating in an annual job fair jointly conducted by ILI-Monticello and Sullivan Works One-Stop Center.
10. Sullivan Works One-Stop will establish a written agreement with ILI- Monticello to assist individuals with disabilities with independent living skills in preparation for work.
11. At least one community food distribution's site will establish a written agreement with ILI-Monticello to provide on-site advocacy services to increase the capacity of people with disabilities to obtain and retain employment.
12. A Local One-Stop in Sullivan County will establish an agreement with ILI-Monticello to incorporate disability awareness/ sensitivity training either developed or endorsed by ILI-Monticello as part of their training procedures for the students who will participate in the Youth Employment Program.

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Continue to advocate for increasing the capacity of community-based supportive services to a level sufficient to enable persons presently confined to nursing homes and other restrictive settings, or at-risk of confinement, to return to, or remain in the community as an alternative to institutionalization – consistent with the Olmstead decision of 1999.

- Advocate to government agencies and other providers for the most integrated setting for people with disabilities when providing programs and services, including housing.
- Advocate for changes in local institutional policies and practices that will result in increased referrals to community based living options.

- Advocate with community organizations so as to produce a measurable increase in the number of such organizations referring consumers to Consumer Directed Personal Assistance services that have not previously done so.
- Advocate for improved access to health care services for individuals with disabilities who are victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence.
- Advocate for changes in local and state mental health system policies and practices that refocus services on recovery and wellness.
- Advocate with community organizations so as to produce a measurable increase in the number of such organizations referring consumers to Consumer Directed Personal Assistance services that have not previously done so.
- Advocate for changes in the policies and practices of providers in the local health care system that will ensure full access to health services by individuals who are Deaf.
- Advocate for changes in the policies and practices of providers in the local mental health care system that will ensure equal access to mental health services by individuals who are Deaf.
- Advocate for the passage of the Community Choice Act in Congress.
- ILI, Inc. will advocate for consumers by organizing and attending a Fair Hearing session when an unjust ruling is submitted.
- Advocate for the passage of the Hearing Aid Bill requesting that NYS legislature require insurance companies doing business in NYS to provide hearing aid coverage policies as an alternative to more costly cochlear implants. Additionally, to support any NYS tax credits that can be provided to users of hearing aid devices.
- ILI, Inc. will inform and educate Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and Managed Long Term Care organizations (MLTCs) of the nature and purpose of the CDPA Program.
- ILI, Inc. will advocate to establish a peer run organization to work directly with people with psychiatric diagnosis and/or substance abuse history incorporating person-centered planning that will improve the quality of life and achievement of personal goals.
- ILI Monticello will advocate with long term care facilities to become part of the discharge planning to assist individuals to return to the community.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. At least one local physician's office will improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
2. A local health care facility will adopt a practice, assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
3. At least one community or governmental agency providing health care services to victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.
4. At least one community or governmental agency providing mental health services will improve its accessibility to people who are Deaf.
5. At least one hospital or community health care center will change its policies and practices to ensure full access to health services by individuals who are Deaf.
6. One or more local department of social services (DSS) will establish an agreement with ILI-Monticello to adopt an ongoing practice of providing periodic disability awareness training to all DSS personnel.
7. Congress will pass the Community Choice Act; and the President will sign it.
8. One or more behavioral health units at community hospitals will establish an agreement, and change their protocol, to enable on-site inpatient participation of Mental Health Peers

- regarding inpatient engagement and discharge planning to ensure reduction in recidivism of inpatient care and better consumer connection to community supports and resources.
9. One or more local departments of mental health, mobile mental health teams and hospital emergency departments will change policies and procedures to allow ILI-Monticello trained mental health peers to assist in hospital diversion initiatives and supports, thus reducing recidivism and first time psychiatric admissions.
  10. One or more ILI-Monticello staff will become a member of a key Long Term Care Task Force that will set the direction and tone of how the county will adopt changes from the state to provide Long Term Care services to the disability population and that previously has not had representation from the disability community.
  11. NYS Department of Health will change policies and procedures to establish Fair Hearing proceedings to ensure equity relating to community discharge from institutions.
  12. One or more community service organizations will establish a written agreement with ILI-Monticello to provide disability awareness training for all of its members.
  13. NY State will pass the Hearing Aid Bill, and the Governor will sign it, requiring insurance companies to provide Hearing Aid Coverage and support NYS tax credits that can be provided to users of hearing aid devices.
  14. ILI-Monticello, in collaboration with CDPAANY (Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Association of NY State), will contract with individual Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and Managed Long Term Care organizations (MLTCs) to provide Fiscal Intermediary services for individuals with CDPAP home care to maintain continuity of their current service.
  15. One or more local or state run psychiatric hospitals will establish an agreement, and change their protocol, to enable ILI-Monticello Peer Diversion Specialists to provide support and integration to community resources, and reduce recidivism of inpatient care.
  16. One or more Long Term Care facilities will establish a written agreement with ILI-Monticello to provide Transition options for the residents to be integrated back into the community through a support group facilitated by ILI-Monticello.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Continue to advocate for systemic changes that result in universal access to public transportation, public buildings, communication systems and other amenities. Increase the capacity of people with disabilities to engage in local marketplace activities including shopping, dining out, using recreational facilities and participating in community events by increasing the number of Title III entities that are accessible in the Sullivan County area.

- Advocate with local municipalities regarding the consistent enforcement of accessible/adaptable requirements in new construction.
- Provide ADA training and technical support to local code enforcement officials and or other municipal departments.
- Advocate for increased accessible housing options for persons with disabilities.
- Advocate for compliance under state law and the ADA, requiring physical accessibility to local marketplace activities.
- Advocate with state and federal legislators on housing issues for people with disabilities, including visitability, Section 504, and source of income legislation.
- Continue to advocate for increased accessible housing options for persons with disabilities.

- Advocate for agencies to provide a “Housing First” policy of living arrangements for individuals with disabilities.
- Advocate for increased accessible transportation in Sullivan County and seek to establish an accessible transportation program, including accessible transportation in all new city development planning and neighborhood development.
- Advocate with local legislators on transportation issues, including accessibility of taxis and for this legislation to become New York State law.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
2. A local housing organization will establish an accessible housing program that makes home modification services available to residences throughout Sullivan County, with technical support provided under contract with the independent living center.
3. At least one local landlord will make additional, accessible housing units available for persons with physical disabilities.
4. At least one local landlord will make additional, housing units available for persons with psychiatric disabilities and/or substance abuse issue.
5. Sullivan County Department of Family Services will make environmental improvements for access at their various sites.
6. ILI-Monticello will establish an accessible transportation program, including accessible transportation in all new planning and development throughout Sullivan County, supported by grant funding and/or self-sustaining fee-for-service agreements.

## **E. Social Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Continue to advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, dead-end day programs, and the increased inclusion of people with disabilities in service and social clubs, special interest organizations, and other integrated community activities.

- Advocate to increase the number of community clubs and service organizations that are accessible by individuals with significant disabilities.
- Advocate with local municipalities to ensure that stadiums, auditoriums, parks and other public recreational facilities are fully accessible.
- Advocate for an increase in the number of integrated social and recreational activities in the community for persons with disabilities.
- Create integrated community activities that increase opportunity for people with disabilities to increase their self- sufficiency, wellness and self- worth.
- Advocate for the inclusion of ILI brochures and information at local churches to increase community support and resources for people with disabilities.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. At least one community club or service organization will adopt a policy assuring that meeting places are fully accessible.
2. One or more community service organizations will establish a formal agreement with ILI-Monticello to provide disability awareness training for all of its members.

3. A municipal recreation department will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel in the areas of disability awareness and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
4. A local health club/fitness center will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
5. One or more community club or service organizations will create integrated community programs for the purpose of increasing the self-sufficiency, wellness and self-worth of individuals with disabilities.
6. There will be an increase in the number of integrated social and recreational activities in the community for persons with disabilities.
7. One or more local churches will make a policy or procedural change in how it makes referrals to community resources, including Independent Living, for support services to assist them to remain in the community.

## **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

**ACTIVITIES:** Advocate for systemic changes that result in universal voter access to polling places. Increase self-advocacy and leadership skills among youthful and adult citizens with disabilities.

- Advocate for the local Board of Elections to adopt policies and processes that ensure the training of all newly hired election officials about persons with disabilities at polling places, and the issues of accessibility at the polling site and at the machines.
- Advocate and provide means to help register the underserved and non-registered voters of Sullivan County, especially persons with disabilities.
- Advocate that more people with disabilities be registered to vote.
- Advocate that all polling sites in Sullivan County remain accessible.
- Continue to advocate that the accessible voting machines for 2012 and 2013 elections will be available and monitored by knowledgeable election poll workers, so that people with disabilities are able to vote privately and independently.
- Work with collaborative local agencies to provide a Candidates Forum for the upcoming elections in part to finalize and publicize positions on disability related issues
- Advocate for an increase in the participation of individuals with significant disabilities on not-for profit governing boards to participate in making decisions about the content and character of the organization.

## **OUTCOMES**

1. One or more political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
2. The Sullivan County Board of Elections will establish policies and procedures to train poll workers on the accessible voting machines.
3. ILI-Monticello will continue to ensure that the Sullivan County Board of Elections will have no inaccessible locations listed on its polling sites.
4. One or more boards of not-for-profit agencies will include individuals with psychiatric disabilities to help shape the content and character of the organization that previously did not have representation from the disability community.



## **20. LICIL**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center: Long Island Center for Independent Living  
Address: 3601 Hempstead Turnpike, Suite 208  
Levittown, NY 11756  
Contract No.: C012385  
Report Period: October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017  
Contact Person: Joan Lynch, Executive Director  
Board President Authorization: Lynette Perez

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one school district will incorporate information about LICIL services or IL into their website, newsletter and/or school year calendar.
2. At least one college or vocational school/training program in LICIL's service area will adopt a disability awareness component either developed or endorsed by LICIL into their curriculum for nurses or other health care workers.
3. At least one school in LICIL's service area will increase its level of programming and/or physical access for students with disabilities.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one local Chamber of Commerce will change its policies and procedures to routinely include materials on the benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities in the information packet provided to employers.
2. At least one employer in the Center's service area will make changes in its employment policies and procedures to routinely provide informational materials on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages as a supplement to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) in relation to disability services for the employee or the family members.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. Hospitals and rehabilitation center facilities will change their policies to include information on community resources, which allow people to remain in the community.
2. As a result of LICIL's advocacy efforts, at least one community agency providing suicide prevention services will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.

3. There will be an increase in the number of local human services agencies or public health services that provide brochures and pertinent program information in accessible formats.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. A local business in the Center's service area will increase its accessibility through the removal of existing architectural, programmatic or policy-related barriers to equal access.
2. A local business will re-stripe its current disabled parking spaces and cross hatches, add standing signage and/or install a curb cut in order for their customers to access its goods and services.
3. As a result of LICIL advocacy, a local transportation provider will increase equal access to information about its services through the use of technology.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. At least one community recreational facility will increase its accessibility to allow for people with disabilities to enjoy its use.
2. At least one area special event will improve access for people with disabilities.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. As a result of LICIL's involvement in an advisory committee, the Nassau County Office of Emergency Management will amend its emergency response and preparedness plan to address the critical needs of people with disabilities during emergencies, disasters and in recovery.
2. At least one civic group will establish policies and procedures to increase communications access by making one of its key printed materials available in Alternative Format.
3. At least one local government in Nassau County will start providing its agenda(s) in an alternate format for/at publicly attended meetings.
4. There will be an increase in accessible polling sites within LICIL's service area.

## **21. MILC**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Massena Independent Living Center, Inc.
Address:	156 Center Street, Massena, New York 13662
Contract No.:	C012386
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Jeff Reifensnyder, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Gail Santimaw

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. As a result of MILC advocacy, a local school district will change one of its facilities' programs, services, policies, and/or procedures to offer or reflect a more integrated and inclusive approach.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
2. Change a Department of Social Service Policy directed at increasing their compliance to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations relative to recipients of Welfare.
3. At least one area employer will make its employment application available in alternative accessible format(s) for applicants with disabilities.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one institution will make a policy and procedural change in how it makes referrals to community resources, including Independent Living, during the discharge planning process to facilitate more successful transitions from the facility to the community.
2. Increase accessibility at hospitals, clinics, private doctor's offices and/or dental offices for persons with disabilities.

##### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. The Massena Independent Living Center, Inc. will increase Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in the business community.
2. A local law enforcement or first responder agency will modify its in-service training plan to include Disability Awareness and Sensitivity Training developed, endorsed, or conducted by MILC.

### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. Increase the number of integrated recreational activity opportunities for people with disabilities in the Center's area.
2. As a result of MILC advocacy, a recreational facility or community-sponsored recreation program will increase their Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.

### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of individuals with disabilities or Center staff serving on community boards/committees and task forces that previously had no consumer/disability representation.
2. MILC will increase the number of accessible polling locations in Franklin County.

## **22. NCCI**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	North Country Center for Independence
Address:	80 Sharron Avenue, Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Contract Number:	C012387
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Robert Poulin, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Norman Koslofsky

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least 1 college or university will incorporate NCCI's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into its curriculum for professional preparation programs that work with people with disabilities.
2. A local university will change its policies and procedures to ensure that its students and alumni with disabilities are fully informed about its Department of Career Support and the procedures for obtaining services.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one agency, organization, or business will incorporate NCCI developed or endorsed disability awareness and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) components into their staff training programs.
2. At least one employer will make a policy and procedural change to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as a result of the recommendations of a community supportive employment committee established by NCCI comprised of stakeholders in the employment field.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of physician/dentist's offices, clinics, and hospitals that improve physical and communications access for people with disabilities.
2. One nursing facility will change policies and procedures to ensure individuals with disabilities are fully informed about availability of the NYS Department of Health Nursing Facility Transition and Diversion (NFTD) Waiver including information about applying for such services.

##### **D. Commerce: Advocacy**

1. At least one Fire Department will modify its in-service training plan to include Disability Awareness & Sensitivity Training either developed, endorsed or conducted by NCCI staff.
2. At least one local bank will produce an audio-tape or CD-ROM version of its products and services brochure so that it is accessible for visually-impaired consumers.
3. NCCI, or as a result of NCCI'S efforts another agency, will apply for and be awarded funding through the NYS Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to conduct a Mobility Management program that will coordinate transportation in Clinton County to improve accessibility and mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities.
4. At least one local business will improve its wheelchair accessibility to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**E. Social Advocacy:**

1. The accessibility of recreational facilities in Clinton and/or Essex counties will be increased.
2. Increase the number of integrated community social events that become accessible to the disability community in Clinton and Essex County.
3. Increase access to public parks and museums.

**F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of consumer and/or NCCI staff that serves on a community or statewide board that previously has not had representation from the disability community.
2. The Clinton County Board of Elections will incorporate disability awareness training, either developed or endorsed by NCCI, to train consumers and/or NCCI staff as election poll workers.
3. Candidates for political office will improve the access on their websites for persons with disabilities.

## **23. NRCIL**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Northern Regional Center for Independent Living
Address:	210 Court Street, Suite 107, Watertown, NY 13601
Contract No.:	C012388
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Aileen Martin, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Ronald Griffin

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one low performing school district will change its policies and procedures to allow the Center to become a member of the transition team in order to provide transition assistance for all students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), to develop coordinated measurable annual goals, and to coordinate transition services with outside agencies as per the State Performance Plan.
2. A local school district will make procedural changes to transition plans for students with disabilities to include developing information on a Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS), ACCES-VR, Independent Living advocacy, and linkages to other community based agencies and organizations.
3. One low performing school district will incorporate NRICL as part of its transition team, to provide Youth Advocacy Leadership and Empowerment (YALE) in order to meet the school's CDOS requirements for students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), to develop coordinated measurable annual goals, and to coordinate transition services with outside agencies as per the State Performance Plan.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs, and job readiness training programs for persons with disabilities.
2. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with psychiatric disabilities, developmental disabilities, and/or who are deaf.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one long-term care or healthcare facility will change its policies to routinely provide information about community supports available to maintain independence and for NRCIL to regularly conduct presentations about community support services.
2. As a result of NRCIL becoming an integral part of at least one Performing Provider System, the Provider System will change its policies and procedures to create a health care delivery system in the service region that integrates behavioral and primary care with a focus on evidence-based medicine and population health management.
3. At least one senior living center will change its procedures to allow NRCIL to conduct a support group and training programs for healthy living.
4. NRCIL will be invited by two facilities licensed either under NYS PHL Article 28 or 31 to serve on internal review committees that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. NRCIL will increase accessibility to at least one business, agency or public entity in Jefferson and Lewis County.
2. As a result of NRCIL's efforts to identify parking lots in Jefferson and Lewis Counties out of compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) in regards to reserved spaces and to provide information on accessible parking space guidelines to property owners, there will be an increase in the number of parking lots with adequate, well-designed, handicapped accessible parking spaces.
3. As a result of NRCIL's advocacy and education efforts, the NYS Legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that will require visitability be included into new public housing built in New York.
4. As a result of NRCIL's advocacy and education efforts, Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise procurement regulations will include disability as a classification under the definition of minority to encourage growth of small businesses owned by people with disabilities in New York.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated community social activities that are accessible.
2. As a result of NRCIL working collaboratively with other community agencies to develop and host an annual Mental Health Awareness Walk in Jefferson and Lewis County, at least one social club or recreational facility will increase access to its programs and services for people with mental health diagnosis.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
2. Disaster preparation and relief plans addressing the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted by local counties.



## **24. RCIL-ROCHESTER**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Regional Center for Independent Living
Address:	497 State Street, Rochester, NY 14608
Contract No.:	C012389
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Bruce Darling, President / CEO
Program Contact:	Rebecca Payton, Assistant Director of IL Programs
Board President Authorization:	Roberta Wallach

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one additional school will incorporate RCIL's Youth Leadership curriculum, D3: Disability Rights, Disability Culture, Disability Pride into their curriculum.
2. At least one area High School will change its policies and procedures to regularly conduct the annual graduation ceremony at an accessible venue to accommodate students who use wheelchairs.
3. NYS will enact legislation establishing testing for language benchmarks for Deaf and hard of hearing children that are five and under to ensure the child has acquired language necessary to be kindergarten ready.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one area employment agency will improve access for people with disabilities.
2. New York State legislature will amend the vehicle and traffic law to permit licensing and employment of truck drivers who are Deaf.
3. As a result of the Center's efforts to identify employers that discriminate against people with disabilities, an employment discrimination complaint will be filed with the NYS Division of Human Rights, U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) or other appropriate authority and will be successfully settled.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. The US Congress will pass the Disability Integration Act and the President will sign it into law.
2. Increase the accessibility of health care services in the community by increasing the availability of qualified sign language interpreters and other forms of effective communication in health care settings.

3. New York State Department of Health will adopt a new MLTC policy developed in consultation with RCIL that ensures additional protections for MLTC members.
4. As a result of the Center's efforts to transition individuals from institutional settings, an Olmstead Complaint will be filed with the U.S. Department of Justice or other appropriate authority and will be successfully settled.
5. As a result of establishing a Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) advocacy coalition comprised of advocates and people with disabilities to educate agencies on policies that need to be developed, revised or enforced, a MLTC provider will adopt policies and procedures that enable individuals with disabilities in the Long Term Care services system, to make informed choices as to where they would like to reside.
6. At least one health care provider will contract with RCIL to train its staff on Medicaid, Medicare, and Medicaid Managed Care programs.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of affordable, accessible, integrated housing options for people with disabilities.
2. At least three area businesses will improve access for potential consumers with disabilities with the provision of technical assistance equipment and/or ramps, wider doors, and grab handle doorknobs etc.
3. Monroe County Courts and/or the Rochester City Court will improve access to appropriate communication services or technology for people who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing.
4. At least one television, news or other program and/or internet service provider will change its policies and procedures to increase the provision of captioning services and/or bubble interpreting.
5. RCIL will ensure that local law enforcement agencies revise their policies and procedures for interact and communicate effectively with people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated social activities in the community for persons with disabilities and their family members.
2. Increase the accessibility of social events in the community by increasing the availability of sign language interpreters and live captioning.
3. RCIL will establish a program supported by grant funding and/or assigned human resources to assist people with disabilities to participate in social and recreational activities/events.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. Increase the amount of accessible polling places in Monroe County.
2. Increase the availability, provision and/or quality of captioning services in public hearings.
3. The County of Monroe and/or the City of Rochester will implement an emergency communication policy that incorporates interpreting and/or captioning in its public information dissemination.

## **25. RCAL**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center: Resource Center for Accessible Living, Inc.  
Address: 727 Ulster Avenue, Kingston, NY 12401  
Contract Number: CO12390  
Report Period: October 01, 2016 - September 30, 2017  
Contact Person: Susan J. Hoyer, Chief Executive Officer  
Board President Authorization: Paula Kindos-Carberry

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. RCAL will establish a written agreement with one Ulster County Human Service organization or school district to offer on-site Special Education Advocacy Training. This will be a regular part of its staff training for professionals who work with high risk children.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one employer in RCAL's service area will make documented changes in its employment policies to comply with Title I of the ADA

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. RCAL will increase the accessibility of health care providers in Ulster County.
2. RCAL will increase access to health insurance to persons with disabilities.

##### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. RCAL will increase the accessibility of businesses and for public facilities in Ulster County.

##### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. RCAL will increase accessible recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.

##### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. RCAL will cause inaccessible polling sites within Ulster County to be made accessible and usable by persons with disabilities.

## **26. RCIL-Utica**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Resource Center for Independent Living
Address:	409 Columbia Street, P.O. Box 210, Utica, NY 13503
Contract No.:	C012391
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Zvia McCormick, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Michael Wade

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. At least one (1) school district will incorporate a transition Fair /Transition Event where families and students can come to learn about community resources, employment, higher education and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.
2. To increase parental awareness of services for students with disabilities, a local school district will add a link to RCIL's website to its "Parent/Student Resource's" page.
3. One or more neighborhood-based organizations in a culturally diverse community will establish a policy to include, as part of its informational materials, information about disabilities and early intervention/education services in both English and Spanish.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. RCIL will establish a new employment service program for people with disabilities in the Center's service area supported by grant funding and/or self-sustaining fee-for-service agreements.
2. Increase supported employment opportunities and availability in rural and/or underserved communities.
3. RCIL will establish a written arrangement with a local food pantry or soup kitchen to provide on-site outreach services including: information and referral, benefits advisement and information about employment support programs for the disabled participants who desire the Center's assistance.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one long or short term care facility will change its policies and procedures to ensure patients with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of home care services, including information about funding such services.

2. RCIL Utica will contract with individual Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and Managed Long Term Care organizations (MLTCs) to provide Fiscal Intermediary services for individuals with CDPAP home care to maintain continuity of their current service.
3. At least one local community-based Domestic Violence agency will change policy and procedures to include a disability sensitivity training developed, endorsed, or conducted by RCIL as a regular part of their employee training procedures.
4. RCIL Utica will ensure that at least one (1) health care facility is fully accessible.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. RCIL will increase accessibility to at least one business, agency or public entity in Oneida County.
2. There will be an increase in the number of affordable, accessible, integrated housing options for people with disabilities.
3. RCIL will establish a written agreement with a local housing developer to make available our supports and services as requested by residents of apartment complexes.
4. The regional NYS Department of Transportation office will change its project review policies and procedures to routinely include RCIL as a consulting source for any upcoming projects that could or will affect access for individuals with disabilities prior to project approval/start-up.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated social activities in the community for persons with disabilities.
2. Increase access to public parks and museums.
3. At least one community club or service organization will adopt a policy assuring that meeting places are fully accessible.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. RCIL will continue to make sure that polling places are fully accessible to all people with disabilities and that poll workers are trained in assisting people with disabilities.
2. At least one municipality will pass appropriate legislation establishing and promoting the date of JULY 26TH as a day of celebration of the American with Disabilities Act.
3. At least one local legislator will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.

## **27. RCIL-AMSTERDAM SUBSIDIARY**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Resource Center for Independent Living
Address:	347 West Main Street, Amsterdam, NY 12010
Contract No.:	C012392
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Zvia McCormick, Executive Director Joe Franco, RCIL Amsterdam Director
Board President Authorization:	Michael Wade

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one college or university will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation, approved by RCIL-Amsterdam, into its curriculum for professional preparation programs that work with persons with disabilities
2. At least one (1) area school will adopt or change policies and procedures to add American Sign Language as a regular part of the menu of second language options for students
3. A local school district will change policies and procedures to incorporate as a regular part of its curriculum for students with disabilities an annual event where RCIL-Amsterdam will bring its Loan Out Library and provide demonstrations of assistive technology and augmentative communication devices.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs and job readiness training programs, for persons with disabilities.
2. At least one agency, organization or business will incorporate an RCIL-Amsterdam developed or endorsed disability awareness and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) component into its staff training program.
3. RCIL-Amsterdam will establish a written arrangement with a local food pantry/soup kitchen to provide onsite outreach services including information and referral, benefits counseling, and information on employment support programs.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one community agency serving individuals with Alzheimer's disease will provide information about Independent Living Centers and Agency Linkages to the individual's caregivers.

2. A local Department of Social Services will incorporate disability awareness/sensitivity training, developed or endorsed by RCIL-Amsterdam, as part of their employee annual training program.
3. At least one (1) private physician or dentist practice will provide interpreter services as part of their standard operating procedures.
4. At least one Medical Supply company/store will offer its customer base information about Independent Living Centers/Philosophy and Agency Linkages.
5. At least one hospital, nursing facility or physician's office will incorporate as part of its training for medical personnel a disability awareness curriculum either developed or endorsed by RCIL-Amsterdam.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. At least one local newspaper will agree to develop a series of articles on accessibility issues for people with disabilities attending public venues and patronizing community businesses.
2. At least one additional restaurant in Montgomery or Fulton County will provide its menu in an accessible format.
3. At least one local utility company will change its customer service policies and procedures to more effectively assist persons with disabilities by routinely providing on-site representation and training in its policies and practices relevant to consumer billing and debt collection.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. As a result of RCIL-Amsterdam advocacy efforts, there will be an increase of recreational opportunities for persons with sight disabilities.
2. At least one local taxi company will make an accessible taxi available to persons with disabilities in the Montgomery/Fulton county to attend social, recreational and leisure activities that they previously could not attend.
3. There will be an increase in the number of recreation, fitness facilities and programs that are accessible to people with disabilities in Montgomery/Fulton counties.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. To increase the number of residents becoming aware of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Montgomery or Fulton County will pass appropriate legislation, and the County Executive will sign it, establishing and promoting the date of July 26<sup>th</sup> as a day of celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. A local college will incorporate a voter rights and disability awareness component either developed or endorsed by RCIL-Amsterdam into its curriculum for students in the field of political science.
3. Montgomery County will adopt a disaster preparation and disaster relief plan that addresses the needs and concerns of people with disabilities.

## **28. RCIL-HERKIMER SUBSIDIARY**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc.
Address:	401 E. German Street 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Suite 208 Herkimer, NY 13350
Contract No.:	C012393
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Zvia McCormick, Executive Director Donna Gillette, RCIL Herkimer Director
Board President Authorization:	Michael Wade

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. At least one school district will incorporate a transition event where families, students and/or teachers can come to learn about community resources, employment, higher education and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.
2. At least one school will change its policies and procedures to allow RCIL-Herkimer to conduct an on-site youth guided young adult social and advocacy group that will provide a venue for peer-to-peer socialization and empowerment through self-advocacy training. The group will enable young adults with disabilities to better understand their rights, options, and choices concerning their education and transition to adult services.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one major employer in Herkimer County will incorporate Disabilities Awareness and Sensitivity Training conducted by RCIL-Herkimer staff as an annual in-service program for all personnel.
2. At least one employer in the Center's service area will make documented changes in its employment policies and procedures to routinely provide informational materials on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages as a supplement to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) in relation to independent living services and information on independent living centers to employees and their families.
3. At least one employer will adopt diversity policies and procedures which attract and employ people with disabilities.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**



1. RCIL-Herkimer will establish a written agreement with at least one new hospital, nursing facility or physician's office for the Center to provide on-site disability awareness training for its medical personnel as a regular part of its curriculum.
2. At least one new local healthcare facility will change their policies to include information on independent living centers and resources.
3. RCIL-Herkimer will establish a written arrangement with at least one food pantry or soup kitchen serving Herkimer County residents to provide at least once every 60 (sixty) days on-site information and referral assistance for connection to healthcare, housing, employment, benefits and other resources.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. RCIL-Herkimer will establish a written agreement to provide on-site disability-sensitivity training to at least one law enforcement agency in its coverage area to be a regular part of their training curriculum for employees.
2. One real estate brokerage firm will provide their rental application in large print.
3. There will be increased access to affordable accessible housing options for people with disabilities in Herkimer County.
4. At least one municipality in the Mohawk Valley will adopt a plan developed with residents with disabilities to include audible walk signals at a major pedestrian/vehicle intersection.
5. At least one transportation provider will increase access to its information and services for riders with disabilities including providing schedules and other route information in alternative formats including electronic medium.
6. As the result of working cooperatively with a Herkimer County transportation provider, scheduled travel routes will be modified to better accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities and other riders to access services and goods in the community

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. At least one recreational/gym/fitness facility will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for individuals with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance and direction to access programs and services offered.
2. At least one theater will increase access to movies, events, or productions through offering use of assistive listening and amplification devices.
3. There will be an increase in the number of integrated social and/or recreational opportunities in the community for individuals with disabilities.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. As the result of RCIL-Herkimer advocacy, at least one new state/federal law or regulation benefitting individuals with disabilities will be passed, and the Governor or President respectively will sign it.
2. Disaster preparation and relief plans which address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted within a Herkimer County municipality.

## **29. RILC**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Rockland Independent Living Center
Address:	873 Route 45, Suite 108, New City, NY 10956
Contract No.:	C012394
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Dr. David Jacobsen, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	David Goldwasser

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. One local school district or independent school will incorporate Disability Awareness and Sensitivity Training, developed by RILC, as part of its staff in- service training curriculum.
2. A local high school or independent school will establish policies and procedures to conduct an annual Disability Awareness Day celebration, developed by RILC, to promote disability awareness for its students.
3. A local school will change its policies and procedures to incorporate parent information nights as an educational component for families with children with an Individual Education Plan (IEP).
4. A local school system or Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make a policy change in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities, so that plans will include information on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, NYSCB, and agency linkages.
5. One NYS Corrections Facility will offer on-site presentations on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages as a regular part of preparing inmates who have a disability for their transition back to the community.
6. Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) or an Early Intervention Program in Rockland County will incorporate a Disability and Sensitivity Training/Independent Living Philosophy Presentation developed by RILC, into a training curriculum for its' staff and/or students' parents.
7. At least one school district will incorporate information about RILC services into their website, newsletter, and or school year calendar.
8. A student/parent advocacy network/infrastructure will be established in one school district to address Special Education issues as they arise.
9. One or more neighborhood-based organizations in a culturally diverse community will establish a policy to include, as part of its informational materials, information about disabilities and early intervention/education services in both English and Spanish.

10. A local school district will incorporate a transition event with a bi-lingual advocate where families and students can come to learn about community resources, employment, higher education, and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.
11. A local high school that serves students classified with emotional disturbances will change policies and procedures to routinely provide information on various benefit programs.
12. A local school district that serves students with disabilities in conjunction with RILC will establish a program supported by grant funding and/or assigned human resources to offer work readiness and other supports to address the Career Development Occupational Studies (CDOS) requirement and better prepare students with disabilities who are aging out of the education system to enter the workforce.

## **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. One business will make changes to its employment policies and procedures to comply with Title 1 of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).
2. One business in Rockland County will produce an accessible version of its employee handbook.
3. One major employer in Rockland County will incorporate Disability Awareness and Sensitivity Training, conducted by RILC, as an annual in-service program for new personnel.
4. One business/employer will make its employment application available in an accessible format for applicants with disabilities.
5. One Chamber of Commerce or other business membership organization in Rockland County will provide Disability Awareness Training to its members, provided by RILC.
6. As a result of RILC and the NYS Office of People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) collaboratively working to change hiring policies, at least one company in Rockland County will change its hiring policies to become compliant with Title 1 of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).
7. An employment agency will establish an outreach policy directed towards finding employment opportunities for people with disabilities.
8. At least one corporation will establish policies and procedures to improve outreach to people with disabilities for employment opportunities.
9. RILC will establish a formal agreement whereby more community agencies have presentations to individuals about work incentives.
10. There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs, and job readiness training programs for people with disabilities.
11. RILC will establish a written arrangement with a local food pantry to provide on-site outreach services including information and referral, benefits advisement, and information about employment support programs for people with disabilities.
12. RILC will establish a written agreement with local Veteran associations to provide work readiness and support programs for veterans with disabilities.

## **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. A long term care facility in Rockland County (hospital, nursing home or a rehabilitation center) will change its policies and procedures to include information on community resources, which will allow people (its residents/patients) to transition to or remain in the community.

2. One community agency in Rockland County will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community services, including Independent Living Center services and resources.
3. One medical facility that does not have accessible parking spaces will create appropriate parking spots for people with disabilities as per ADA regulations.
4. A local nursing home will include a peer group to explore issues regarding community living as part of its community transition process.
5. A community agency in Rockland County will change its policies and procedures to ensure that the individuals with disabilities that they serve are fully informed about the services available to help them transition from an institution or remain in the community.
6. A mental health provider in Rockland County will increase the availability of psychiatric/evaluation and other mental health services (including services for individuals with dual diagnoses), as well as non-psychiatric diagnosis and evaluate medical services for children and/or adults with disabilities.
7. A patient-based facility in Rockland County will make the information being provided to the general public available in alternate formats.
8. Medical offices will create information about their services in an accessible format.
9. At least one community or government agency providing health care services to victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.
10. At least one community-based organization in Rockland County that refers individuals to Self-Directed Personal Assistant (SDPA) services will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for SDPA services.
11. A health care provider in Rockland County will become compliant with Title I and/or Title III of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).
12. A Veteran's Affairs Hospital will change its policies and procedures to have information packets which include information on RILC, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages as a regular part of preparing Veterans who have a disability for their transition back to the community.
13. An organization that supports individuals with Alzheimer's or dementia issues will change its policies, procedures and practices to ensure individuals and their family members are fully informed about available community services, RILC and the Self-Directed Personal Assistant Services (SDPAS).
14. RILC will establish a contract to provide Consolidated Supports and Services through the NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).
15. The Office for the Aging will change its policies and procedures to have informational packets with include information on RILC, Open Door, and agency linkages as a regular part of the intake process.
16. One agency that provides homebound meals will, with guidance from RILC, change its policies and meal delivery procedures to better serve their clients who have mobility issues by providing additional training to volunteers.
17. At least one medical office will change its facilities and policies to insure privacy and respect while accommodating their patients with mobility issues.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. One local media outlet will make a policy and procedural change to report on accessibility for people with disabilities when reviewing local restaurants/eateries.
2. The Rockland County Planning Department will change its project review policies and procedures to address compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) when

offering recommendations and guidance to local municipalities and developers prior to project approval.

3. In Rockland County there will be an increase in the number of affordable, integrated and accessible housing options for people with disabilities.
4. One restaurant in Rockland County will provide its menu in an accessible format.
5. RILC will establish a written arrangement whereby all law enforcement agencies will offer on-site disability sensitivity training conducted by RILC as a regular part of its training curriculum for employees.
6. A private and/or a public retirement community will improve access by making its residents' handbook available in accessible formats.
7. One agency working in the Rockland County Family Court system will integrate an Independent Living Philosophy Presentation, either developed or endorsed by RILC, into their training for professionals working in Family Court.
8. At least one municipality will establish the position of an Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Coordinator and develop and publish an ADA grievance procedure and compliance policy.
9. The Rockland County Legislature will adopt an ordinance, sponsored by RILC and the County Executive will sign it into law that prohibits source of income discrimination in public housing facilities throughout the County.
10. At least one (1) television, news, radio, newspaper and/or internet service provider will change its policies and procedures to adapt to "people first language" and/or increase the provision of captioning services.
11. As a result of a collaborative effort by RILC and local law enforcement to raise awareness about accessible parking abuse, a police department or sheriff's office will enact and implement policy and procedures to improve reporting of violations to ensure that accessible parking regulations are followed and those violations are addressed in an appropriate manner.
12. One Real Estate Brokerage Firm will provide their rental application in large print.
13. A local municipality will provide accessible postings about opportunities for individuals with visual impairments.
14. A written arrangement will be established whereby a library will regularly offer on-site disability awareness training for its employees, conducted by RILC.
15. A local taxi company will adopt a staff training policy and procedures to routinely train and educate their staff of accommodating users of their services who have mobility issues with comfort, dignity and safety in mind.
16. One restaurant will adopt a staff training policy and procedures to routinely educate and train their staff concerning the acceptance of Service Animals in the facility. The restaurant will post signage to make this information available to their customers.

## **E. Social Advocacy**

1. One public fitness facility in Rockland County will become accessible to persons with disabilities.
2. One playground in Rockland County will improve its access by installing a therapeutic and accessible piece of playground equipment to better serve persons with disabilities.
3. A recreational facility/program in Rockland County will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for visitors/clients with disabilities to request and receive individual Assistant ensuring equal service.

4. A municipal recreation department in Rockland County will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel in the areas of disability awareness and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).
5. RILC will establish a program supported by grant funding and/or assigned human resources, to peer mentor individuals with disabilities to increase their participation in social and recreational activities/events.
6. A local public transportation company will provide accessible transportation to persons with disabilities enabling them to attend social activities that were previously inaccessible.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. The Rockland County Board of Elections will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of polling site workers to appropriately assist people with disabilities to participate in the voting process.
2. The Rockland County Board of Elections will change its outreach and marketing policies and procedures to more effectively reach persons with disabilities in order to promote inclusion and supply information about the voting process.
3. A local government in Rockland County will routinely provide agendas in an accessible format for/at publicly attended meetings.
4. There will be an increase in the number of individuals/staff/Board that serves on community and statewide Boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the community of people with disabilities.
5. A local government agency will adopt Disaster Preparation and Relief Plans addressing the needs and concerns of people with disabilities.

## **30. SAIL**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center: Glens Falls Independent Living Center, operating as  
Southern Adirondack Independent Living Center  
Address: 71 Glenwood Avenue, Queensbury, NY 12804  
Contract No.: C012379  
Report Period: October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017  
Contact Person: Karen A. Thayer, Executive Director  
Board President Authorization: David Bogue

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one (1) area school district will add disability awareness education and training developed or approved by SAIL to their curriculum.
2. At least one (1) area school district will change policies and procedures to add SAIL as a listed resource for students with disabilities to the information provided to students/families through the Committee on Special Education (CSE).
3. At least one (1) area school district will change policies and procedures to include staff from SAIL in transition planning activities.
4. At least one (1) area school district will add a Transition Fair where families and students can learn about community resources, employment supports, higher education supports and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one (1) area employment agency will improve access for people with disabilities.
2. At least one (1) area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
3. There will be a measurable increase in the number of small businesses that implement Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) policies for employees with disabilities.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one (1) area medical provider will improve accessibility for patients with disabilities.
2. As a NYS Department of Health (DOH) Regional Resource Development Center (RRDC), SAIL will increase the number of agencies providing services through the NYS Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waiver and Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) Waiver programs.
3. State agencies will change policies, practices and/or procedures to allow individuals with co-occurring psychiatric and other disabilities to receive appropriate mental health services.

4. NY will pass legislation that will be signed by the Governor and/or adopt regulations to increase access to and use of consumer-directed models of service for community-based long term care to ensure people with disabilities of all ages are served in the most integrated setting.
5. Prevent any changes to the Medicaid program that restrict or limit eligibility, services, and/or choice.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. There will be a measurable increase in affordable, accessible and integrated housing units for individuals with disabilities.
2. At least one (1) area Chamber of Commerce will make a policy and procedural change to routinely provide accessibility information for people with disabilities.
3. At least one (1) newspaper will make a policy and procedural change to report on accessibility for people with disabilities when reporting on local restaurants/eateries.
4. The downtown areas in the Saratoga, Warren, and Washington County region will become more accessible.
5. NYS will pass legislation establishing standards for “visitability” in State law to require all newly constructed single-family houses, townhouses and ground-floor units of duplexes and triplexes built with public funds to be made accessible; and the Governor will sign it.
6. NYS will pass legislation requiring disability awareness training for law enforcement and/or Fire Fighters; and the Governor will sign it.
7. At least one local law enforcement agency will change its in-service training plan to include crime victim’s awareness training, either developed or endorsed by SAIL, for all personnel.
8. There will be a measurable increase in the number of small businesses that implement Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) policies for patrons with disabilities.
9. At least one local municipality will amend its Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Plan to increase the number of Compliance Officers identified and registered.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be a measurable increase in the number of accessible houses of worship that people with disabilities can attend.
2. There will be a measurable increase in the number of accessible outdoor recreational venues for individuals with disabilities.
3. At least one (1) area special event will improve access for people with disabilities.
4. There will be a measurable increase in accessible and integrated social, recreational and leisure events that promote Mental Health Wellness.
5. There will be a measurable increase in the number of community organizations that incorporate training in disability etiquette for their recreation staff either developed or endorsed by SAIL.
6. There will be a measurable increase in the number of accessible recreation opportunities and facilities.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. There will be a measurable increase in the number of accessible polling sites for individuals with disabilities.



2. There will be a measurable increase in the number of Towns that hold Town Board Meetings in accessible venues.
3. Area Boards of Elections will incorporate a disability awareness training either developed or endorsed by the Southern Adirondack Independent Living Center to election workers.
4. Disaster preparation and relief plans addressing the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted by local counties.
5. There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and local boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
6. Political candidates and elected officials will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.

# 31. STIC

## NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center:	Southern Tier Independence Center
Address	135 East Frederick Street, Binghamton, NY 13904
Contract No.:	C012396
Contract Year:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Maria Dibble, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Tinamarie Gunther

### I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

#### A. Education Advocacy

1. The NYS Legislature or Congress will adopt a law defining the use of restraints and seclusion in schools; and the Governor or President respectively will sign it.
2. A local school district will change policies, procedures and or practices to provide appropriate use of Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS), Functional Behavioral Assessments (FBA) and/or Behavioral Interventions (BIP).
3. As a result of STIC's advocacy efforts, a local school district will change one of its facilities' programs, services, policies, practices and/or procedures to offer or reflect a more integrated inclusive/accessible approach.

#### B. Employment Advocacy

1. Increase the availability of integrated employment options and services for people with disabilities in the Center's service area.
2. Achieve a reallocation of employment related funding from sheltered to integrated employment programs on a statewide basis.
3. Through STIC's participation on the Inclusive Workforce Alliance, NY will implement an "Employment First" Policy for people with Developmental and other disabilities.
4. The Governor will sign a bill waiving the State's Sovereign Immunity in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Rehabilitation Act section 504 cases.
5. The governor will sign a bill \*\*or establish a policy\*\* granting higher tax credits to businesses that hire people with disabilities.
6. The governor will sign a bill \*\*or establish a policy\*\* to add disability-owned businesses to the Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise program.
7. The Governor will establish a position of Section 55-b and c Coordinator.
8. Congress will pass the Transitioning to Integrate and Meaningful Employment (TIME) Act, and the President will sign it.

9. Congress will pass and the president will sign the Transition to Independence Act, which will help states move people with disabilities out of segregated work settings and into competitive, integrated employment.

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. Increase the availability of medical, mental health and related health services for children and/or adults with disabilities in the Center's service area.
2. Prevent any changes to the Medicaid program that restrict or limit eligibility, services and/or choice.
3. Achieve a measurable improvement in the communication, physical and programmatic accessibility of medical providers/facilities in the Center's service area.
4. NY will implement the Community First Choice Option (CFCO).
5. NY will adopt legislation or regulations, change practices, and/or implement policies/procedures to increase access to and use of consumer-directed models in community-based long term care, new waivers, and/or other programs and/or services as appropriate.

### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. Achieve a measurable increase in the number of accessible local businesses or integrated and/or accessible housing options in the Center's service area.
2. The Governor will sign a bill establishing standards for "visitability".
3. Broome County will restore recent cuts/services to its Transit and/or other transportation programs, and/or create new options.
4. NY will adopt legislation and regulations, change practices, and/or implement policies/procedures that will reduce the use of solitary confinement for people with disabilities in NY prisons/jails.
5. A local jail will establish a written agreement for STIC to regularly provide peer and other beneficial services to inmates with disabilities, and increase supports available to them upon discharge.

### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of stadiums, auditoriums, theaters, parks and/or other recreational facilities that are accessible to people with all types of disabilities.
2. There will be an increase in the number of integrated social and/or recreational activities in the Center's service area for people with disabilities.

### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. As a result of STIC advocacy, the revised Broome County Emergency Plan will include provisions that address the specific needs of people with disabilities.
2. As a result of STIC's advocacy, Tioga County's Emergency plan will address Personal Care Service, accessible vehicles for evacuations, accessible announcements to those who are blind or Deaf, and other issues related to meeting the needs of people with disabilities.
3. Congress will pass and the President will sign the Disability Integration Act (DIA).

4. Increase participation of people with disabilities and/or center staff on community, regional and state entities that previously haven't had representation from the disability community.

## **32. SILC**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Southwestern Independent Living Center
Address:	843 N. Main St., Jamestown, NY 14701
Contract No.:	C012397
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Marie Carrubba, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Rita Carson

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of consumers and/or Center staff that serve on education related boards and/or committees that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. At least one agency, organization or business will incorporate an SILC developed or endorsed disability awareness and ADA component into its staff training program.
2. SILC will establish a written arrangement with a local food pantry or soup kitchen to provide on-site outreach services including: information and referral, benefits advisement and information about employment support programs for the disabled participants who desire the Center's assistance.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one new local healthcare facility will change their policies to include information on community independent living resources, which allow individuals to remain in the community.
2. At least one patient-based facility will make the information being provided to the general public available in alternate formats.
3. At least one medical facility or nursing home will establish a policy requiring discharge planners to routinely provide information about Independent Living Centers and agency linkages in its discharge planning packets.
4. At least one community agency providing health care services to veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan will improve its access to veterans with disabilities to facilitate their reentry.

##### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. A restaurant, bookstore, or library in SILC's service area will become more accessible by installing a ramp, automatic doors or some other architectural improvement.
2. At least one low-income, senior, or mixed housing unit will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process to connect tenants needing assistance and supports to stay independent and avoid unnecessary or premature nursing home placement.
3. At least one area Chamber of Commerce will make a policy and procedural change to routinely provide accessibility information for people with disabilities.
4. At least one (1) area shelter will change its policies and procedures to routinely provide information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages that nurture financial independence for people with disabilities.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. Increase access to public parks and museums.
2. SILC will establish a program to peer mentor individuals with disabilities and mental health disabilities to increase their participation in social and recreational activities/events supported by grant funding and/or self-sustaining fee-for-service agreements.
3. A local theater will improve its access to alternative communication formats (i.e. programs, etc.)
4. At least one (1) area special event will improve access for people with disabilities.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. Political candidates and elected officials will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
2. At least one local government in Chautauqua County will start providing agendas in alternate format for/at publicly attended meetings.

## **33. SICIL**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Staten Island Center for Independent Living
Address:	470 Castleton Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301
Contract No.:	C012398
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Lorraine De Santis, LCSW, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Anna Williams

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

##### **GOAL 1**

**Issue:** At the present time, only one high school is allowing SICIL to attend transition planning meetings with students and parents that occur at the school.

**Activities:**

- SICIL staff will reach out to high schools on Staten Island to have them allow our staff to regularly attend transition planning meetings that occur with students and parents at the school.

**Goal:** Two high schools will allow our staff to regularly attend transition planning meetings that occur with students and parents at the school.

##### **GOAL 2**

**Issues:** Although Workforce 1 Career Center has computers equipped with JAWS, many Workforce 1 employees do not know how to instruct someone on its use.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will collaborate with the director of training for workforce 1 to determine their needs and provide trainings.

**Goal:** SICIL will establish a written arrangement with Workforce 1 Career Center to offer on-site computer trainings as a regular part of employee training.

##### **GOAL 3**

**Issues:** At the present time, there is no act to amend the education law, in relation to instruction on the history of people with disabilities.

**Activities:**

- Although this bill was sponsored by Assemblyman Michael Cusick, it did not pass in the education committee because laws about curriculum cannot be passed through legislation, but must be put into place by the New York State Department of Education.
- Due to advocacy efforts, Assemblyman Cusick's chief of staff is working with several stakeholders, changing the language of the bill and it will be presented to the education committee again.

**Goal:** New York State legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, to promote greater awareness and understanding of people with disabilities by amending current NYS Education Law (Chapter 265 of the Laws of 2000) to require the NYS Education Department to make available to all students, grades kindergarten through twelve, suitable curriculum materials to aid in the instruction, understanding and acceptance of students with disabilities.

#### **GOAL 4**

**Issues:** At this time, there are only three elementary schools that incorporate a disability awareness component either developed or endorsed by SICIL into their programming.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with elementary school principals to incorporate a disability awareness component either developed or endorsed by SICIL into their programming.

**Goal:** At least two more elementary schools will incorporate a disability awareness component either developed or endorsed by SICIL into its programming.

#### **GOAL 5**

**Issue:** The local Committee on Special Education (CSE) does not routinely use the New York State Independent Living Philosophy and History DVD as a regular part of disability awareness training for committee members.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with our local CSE committee to have them incorporate the New York State Independent Living Philosophy and History DVD as a regular part of disability awareness training for committee members.

**Goal:** At least one local (CSE) committee will incorporate the New York State Independent Living Philosophy and History DVD as a regular part of disability awareness training for committee members.

#### **GOAL 6**

**Issue:** At this time, there is only one elementary schools that marks Disability Awareness Week



with any special educational programs regarding disability

**Activities:**

- The director will advocate with principals to have them change their policies to mark Disability Awareness Week with a special educational program regarding disability.

**Goal:** Another elementary school will change its policies and procedures to incorporate a regularly scheduled SICIL endorsed storybook reading and discussion event during Disability Awareness Week to increase age-appropriate understanding and acceptance of disability among pupils in the second grade.

**GOAL 7**

**Issue:** Only two high schools have their community resource referral packet include information and brochures about the Staten Island Center for Independent Living and its transition services.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with high school principals to get them to change their policies to include this information in their resource referral packets.

**Goal:** At least one school will change its policies and procedures to have the community resource referral packet include information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages to facilitate successful transition from high school.

**GOAL 8**

**Issue:** There is presently only one Nursing Program on Staten Island that incorporates into their curriculum special needs patient training specifically regarding treating individuals with autism and those who are dual diagnosed.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with the chair of the nursing department at Staten Island Colleges for them to change their policies and incorporate a curriculum special needs patient training specifically regarding treating individuals with autism and those who are dual diagnosed.

**Goal:** Another college on Staten Island will agree to change their policies to incorporate a curriculum special needs patient training specifically regarding treating individuals with autism and those who are dual diagnosed.

**B. Employment Advocacy**

**GOAL 1**

**Issue:** There are still some small businesses that aren't totally accessible.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will determine what businesses need modifications.

**Goal:** At least one area small business will become accessible for employees, or potential employees, with disabilities with the provision of a ramp, wider doors, grab handle doorknobs, etc.

## **GOAL 2**

**Issue:** There are very few businesses on Staten Island that employ individuals with learning/developmental disabilities after they transition from high school.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will work with Assemblyman Michael Cusick and with Linda Baron, President of the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce to encourage businesses to hire these individuals.

**Goal:** At least two businesses on Staten Island will change their policies to hire individuals who are transitioning out of high school.

## **GOAL 3**

**Issue:** At this time, there is only one food pantry on Staten Island have who allow SICIL staff members on site to provide outreach services to individuals with disabilities.

**Activities:**

- The director will advocate with directors of food pantries to encourage them to have SICIL staff on site to provide outreach services.

**Goal:** SICIL will establish a written arrangement with another local food pantry or soup kitchen to provide on-site outreach services including: information and referral, benefits advisement and information about employment support programs for the individuals with disabilities who will benefit from the Center's assistance.

## **GOAL 4**

**Issue:** No Staten Island businesses provide Disability Awareness and Sensitivity training to their employees.

**Activities:**

- SICIL staff will advocate with businesses to have them change their policies to provide Disability Awareness and Sensitivity training to their employees.

**Goal:** At least one major employer in Staten Island will incorporate Disabilities Awareness and Sensitivity training, conducted by SICIL staff, as an in-service to their employees.

## **GOAL 5**

**Issues:** There are no businesses in Staten Island that provide their employee handbooks in Braille.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with businesses to have them let us print their handbooks in Braille.

**Goal:** One business in Staten Island will establish policies and procedures to print their employee handbook in Braille and to maintain a current version in Braille when the handbook is updated.

**GOAL 6**

**Issue:** There are not many restaurants on Staten Island that train and employ individuals with disabilities to work in them.

**Activities:**

- SICIL staff will advocate with the owner of several Subway Franchises on Staten Island to assist him in developing a program and a business that trains and employs individuals with disabilities that will result in their employment at the restaurant.

**Goal:** The owner of Subway will start a restaurant that will train and employ individuals with disabilities and this will result in their employment at the restaurant.

**C. Health Care Advocacy****GOAL 1**

**Issues:** There is presently not enough oversight in facilities operated or licensed by OPWDD.

**Activities:**

- The executive director with the Advocacy Committee of the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council will advocate with local legislators to have Bill # A.6665/S.3067 (which requires that three unannounced visits be made to facilities each year) be signed into law.

**Goal:** New York State legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, that amends the current NYS Mental Hygiene Law to increase the frequency that visitation or inspections of facilities operated or licensed by the NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) must be made each year.

**GOAL 2**

**Issue:** At the present time, there is no sensitivity training that is specific to individuals with autism and individuals who are dual diagnosed being offered on an ongoing basis in Richmond University Medical Center for all staff that interact with these individuals.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will collaborate with administration at RUMC so that they will change their policies to include this training to staff members across all departments.

**Goal:** A Disability Awareness Training for First Responders developed by SICIL will be incorporated in training sessions to staff in all departments.

### **GOAL 3**

**Issue:** There is not always appropriate psychiatric care for Individuals with disabilities that are dual diagnosed.

**Activities:**

- The executive director continues to be a member of the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council's Health and Clinical Committee.
- Members of that committee will continue to advocate for better psychiatric services with hospital administrators by continuing to offer sensitivity trainings.
- Members of the committee will advocate with legislators for funding for better psychiatric services.

**Goal:** Through the Health and Clinical Services Committee advocacy efforts, Richmond University Medical Center will establish a specialized 24-hour mobile crisis unit on Staten Island.

### **GOAL 4**

**Issue:** Long term care facilities on Staten Island don't have support groups for residents.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with long term care facilities and SICIL staff will begin providing a support group for residents.

**Goal:** A long-term facility will change its policy to allow SICIL to conduct a support group for residents.

### **GOAL 5**

**Issue:** Bill # S.5249 by McDonald/A.7626 by Ortiz- Requires drug testing for potential employees of the Office of Mental Health and the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities. *Status:* Senate Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Committee; Assembly Mental Health Committee. This bill passed neither house and more advocacy efforts are necessary to have the bill re-introduced.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with local legislators to reintroduce this bill.

**Goal:** A bill that will require drug testing for potential employees of the Office of Mental Health and the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities will be signed into State law.

### **GOAL 6**

**Issue:** S.4817 by Carlucci/A.7128 by Gunther - Requires video cameras to be placed in the entrance/exits of all facilities run by OPWDD. *Status:* Senate Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Committee; Assembly Mental Health Committee PASSED NEITHER HOUSE.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with local legislators to have this bill reintroduced.

**Goal:** A bill that requires video cameras to be placed in the entrance/exits of all facilities run by OPWDD will be signed into State law.

**GOAL 7**

**Issue:** Outreach to veterans has not been successful in the past, and veterans are not taking advantage of services provided by SICIL.

**Activities:**

- The director will advocate with Commander Jim Wassmuth at the VFW Libetti Post to invite Veterans to take advantage of our services, especially peer support groups.

**Goal:** The VFW Libetti Post will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient process for referring veterans with disabilities to community resources, including Independent Living Center services.

**GOAL 8**

**Issue:** The Governor's Budget does not include funding for an increase in the hourly wage for direct care staff for provider agencies.

**Activities:**

- The executive director as a member of the advocacy committee advocates with local legislators for an increase in hourly wage for direct care staff which will improve services for individuals in residential settings. Advocacy efforts also include an appeal for funding in the budget that will enable providers to increase the hourly wage.

**Goal:** The governor will agree to increase the hourly wage of direct care workers and will provide funding in the State budget that will enable providers to increase their hourly wage.

**D. Commerce Advocacy**

**GOAL 1**

**Issue:** There are many restaurants on Staten Island that do not provide menus in Braille.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with local restaurants to have their menus printed in Braille.

**Goal:** At least two more local restaurants will change their policies to provide menus in Braille and make it available to individuals who are blind.

## **GOAL 2**

**Issue:** At this time, there is no policy in Staten Island that provides for the use of cards that drivers who are deaf can present to police officers when they are pulled over to explain that they are deaf and are not being uncooperative.

### **Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with Assemblyman Cusick to pass a local law to provide for the routine use of cards of this kind.

**Goal:** The borough of Staten Island will pass legislation, which will be signed into law, to require the routine use of information cards to assist in communication during a traffic stop between a police officer and a driver who is deaf or hard of hearing.

## **E. Social Advocacy**

### **GOAL 1**

**Issue:** Outdoor social and recreational activities are not accessible for persons with disabilities and there are presently no efforts being made for inclusionary activities.

### **Activities:**

- Executive Director will work on the Willowbrook Planning Committee to develop a plan for a state of the art, accessible center that will be completely accessible and will promote community inclusion
- The Committee will include stakeholders, including legislators from the community in order to encourage them to participate in the planning process and with funding for this project.
- The first step will be to invite stakeholders to assist in creating a totally accessible walking, running trail outside the perimeter of the Willowbrook Property.

**Goal:** The State owned Willowbrook Property on Staten Island will improve its architectural and communication access to people with disabilities by completing “The Willowbrook Mile”.

### **GOAL 2**

**Issue:** Many recreational facilities/programs on Staten Island do not post policies and procedures for individuals with disabilities.

### **Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with recreational facilities to have them agree to post policies and procedures for individuals with disabilities.

**Goal:** At least one recreational facility/program will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for individuals with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.

### **GOAL 3**

**Issue:** Many senior centers do not have physical and sensory access for members who are disabled.

**Activities:**

- The director will advocate with senior centers to have them expand their physical and sensory access for members who are disabled.

**Goal:** At least one senior center will expand its physical and sensory access for members who are disabled.

### **GOAL 4**

**Issue:** At the present time there is no task force on adults with developmental disabilities to study, evaluate and develop recommendations concerning vocational, recreational and social needs of these individuals.

**Activities:**

- As a member of the Advocacy Committee, the executive director will advocate with local legislators to support Task Force (A8835A – Gunther) which establishes a task force to study, evaluate and develop recommendations concerning vocational, recreational and social needs of these individuals.

**Goal:** Task Force (A8835 – Gunther) will be signed into State law.

### **GOAL 5**

**Issue:** Very few recreational facilities have their brochures printed in Braille.

**Activities:**

- The director will reach out to administration of recreational facilities to advocate for their brochure to be printed in Braille.

**Goal:** The administration of at least one recreational facility on Staten Island will agree to have their brochures printed in Braille.

## **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

### **GOAL 1**

**Issue:** Local Legislators are not always aware of the need to hold public meetings in accessible places.

**Activities:**

- Will meet with Legislators to educate them on the need to hold meetings in accessible places
- Will encourage Legislators to hold meetings at the SICIL building

**Goal:** At least two legislators will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.

## **GOAL 2**

**Issue:** Elected officials do not routinely make printed material available in alternative format when requested.

**Activities:**

- The executive director will advocate with local officials to establish a policy/procedure to make printed material available in alternative format when requested.

**Goal:** At least one local elected official will establish a policy/procedure to make printed material available in alternative format when requested.

## **GOAL 3**

**Issue:** The Staten Island Board of Elections does not have absentee ballots printed in Braille available for individuals who are blind or visually impaired voters who request them.

**Activities:**

- The executive director advocated with Assemblyman Michael Cusick to sponsor Bill A06195 which provides that absentee ballots for all elections shall be made available in Braille upon request of a blind or visually impaired voter

**Goal:** NYS legislature will pass A06195, and the Governor will sign it, to provide that absentee ballots for all elections shall be made available in Braille upon request of a blind or visually impaired voter.

## **GOAL 4**

**Issue:** The Staten Island Board of Elections does not have voting materials printed in Braille available for individuals who are blind or visually impaired voters who request them.

**Activities:**

- SICIL staff will advocate with the administration of the S.I. Board of Elections to have voting materials printed in Braille available.

**Goal:** Staten Island Board of Elections will change its policy to have voting materials printed in Braille available for individuals who are blind or visually impaired voters who request them.



## **34. SILO**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Self-Initiated Living Options, d.b.a. Suffolk Independent Living Organization
Address:	2111 Lakeland Avenue Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
Contract No.:	C012395
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Joseph M. Delgado, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Mary Ann Sciacca

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least five school districts in Suffolk County will change their policy to allow SILO to assist in the transition process of students.
  - a. Five local elementary schools will incorporate a yearly disability awareness assembly into their curriculum.
2. At least ten school districts will incorporate a transition event for families and students. The transition fair will present the need for benefit advisement, community resources (i.e. ACCES-VR, OPWDD, OMH services), higher education opportunities and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.
3. There will be an increase in the number of school based integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, work experience programs, and job readiness training programs, for high school students with disabilities. SILO will partner with four school districts to provide employment opportunities in integrated settings.
4. Five school districts will implement policies, procedures and/or practices resulting in the inclusion of assistive technology information in Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for students with disabilities.
5. Ten Committees on Special Education (CSE) will incorporate the New York State Independent Living History and Philosophy DVD as a regular part of disability awareness training for committee members.
6. At least one college or university will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation, approved by SILO, into its curriculum for professional preparation programs that work with persons with disabilities.
7. SILO will establish a written arrangement whereby at least one NYS Correctional facility will offer on-site presentations on Independent Living Centers, ACCESVR, and agency linkages as a regular part of preparing inmates who are disabled to assist their transition back to the community.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. SILO will establish a written arrangement whereby the local One-Stop Center will offer an on-site advocacy program for persons with disabilities.
  - a. The Suffolk County One-Stop Center will change its policies and procedures for referring customers to additional community services by making available informational materials on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages.
  - b. As a result of the advocacy of SILO, the Suffolk County One-Stop Center will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy developed or endorsed by SILO.
  - c. One-Stop Career Centers will establish a protocol for including work incentives planning and assistance services in employment plans developed by Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) beneficiaries.
2. As the result of the advocacy of SILO, a person with a disability will be appointed to a county workforce investment board that previously has not had representation from the disability community.
3. One Employment Network will provide brochures and pertinent program information in accessible formats at every consumer orientation.
4. At least one major employer in Suffolk County will incorporate Disabilities Awareness and Sensitivity training, conducted by SILO staff, as an annual in-service program for all personnel.
5. At least one Suffolk County employer will change its policies and procedures to ensure employees with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of and procedures for obtaining assistive technology and devices.
6. At least three small businesses in Suffolk County will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
7. A Town Youth Board will change its policies and procedures to increase the availability of integrated employment preparation programs for youth with disabilities, such as internship programs, work experience programs, and job readiness training programs.
8. At least five businesses in Suffolk County will produce an audio/taped version of its employee handbook.
9. At least Five Suffolk County employers will make its employment application available in large print for applicants who are visually impaired.

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. Through SILO's advocacy efforts there will be a change in procedure and policies, which will allow more people with disabilities to leave long-term facilities and return/remain in the community.
2. There will be an increase in the capacity of community-based supportive services to a level sufficient to enable persons presently confined to nursing homes and other restrictive settings, or at-risk of confinement, to return to, or remain in the community as an alternative to institutionalization – consistent with the Olmstead decision of 1999.
3. At least one local health care provider will change its policies to ensure individuals with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of long-term home care services, including information about funding such services.
4. One or more of SILO's staff will become a member of the Suffolk County Long Term Care Task Force that will set the direction and tone of how the county will adopt changes from the state to provide Long Term Care services to the disability population, which previously has not had representation from the disability community.

5. Through SILO's advocacy effort and participation on the Department of Social Services (DSS) Commissioner's Advisory Committee, the Suffolk County DSS will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities to have full accessibility to all services and housing opportunities.
6. DSS will make a policy and procedural change to ensure persons with disabilities receiving Medicaid are fully informed about (1) reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and (2) the eligibility and recertification process.
7. A Suffolk County Department of Social Services will incorporate disability awareness/sensitivity training to its staff, developed by SILO.
8. A long-term facility will establish a formal agreement to allow SILO to conduct an on-going support group for its residents.
9. At least four medical facilities in Suffolk County will make a policy and procedural change in how they identify and refer patients who are deaf to community resources that include sign language interpretive services.
10. Through SILO's advocacy efforts one major health facility or hospital will increase its physical access for persons with disabilities.
11. Through SILO's advocacy Suffolk County will have an increase in the availability of medical and mental health services for children and/or adults with disabilities.
12. As a result of SILO providing technical assistance, at least one community agency will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community services, including Independent Living Center services and resources.
13. An organization that supports individuals with Spinal Bifida or spinal cord injury issues will change its policies, procedures and practices to ensure individuals and their family members are fully informed about available community services, including Independent Living services.
14. Through SILO's advocacy effort one health care facility will provide Mental Health treatment services targeted to Senior Citizens.
15. At least one health organization providing mental health services will change its policies and procedures to increase protections available to mental health consumers that ensure self-directed, person centered and recovery focused treatment.
16. As a result of collaborating with the University of Albany, SILO will establish a program supported by grant funding and/or assigned human resources to provide options for living a healthier lifestyle through self-management classes to the disability community in the Long Island Region.
17. Through SILO's advocacy efforts there will be improvements in the physical and programmatic accessibility of medical facilities in Suffolk County.
18. Through SILO's advocacy efforts there will be an increase in the number of physician's offices, clinics, hospitals, and dental offices that improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities (i.e. examination table, dental chairs, mammography equipment and American Sign Language Interpreters).
19. Improved access to medical facilities, including accessible parking and interior access, such as restrooms and signage.

#### **D. Commerce: Advocacy**

1. Through SILO's advocacy efforts five Suffolk County restaurants will change their policies and provide menus in Braille.

2. There will be an increase of at least five professional buildings that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in Suffolk County.
3. The Suffolk County Transportation will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all transit/driving personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
4. There will be an increase in the number of integrated accessible/adaptable housing units available to persons with disabilities.
5. At least two Suffolk County realtors or landlords will incorporate NYhousingsearch.gov on their website or in their brochures.
6. There will be an increase in the number of accessible local businesses, housing rental properties, accessible apartments, etc.
7. A private retirement community will improve access by making its resident's handbook available in alternate formats.
8. As a result of working with the Suffolk County Transportation Legislative Committee, the local public transit company will expanded service hours and para-transit services.
9. Suffolk County Department of Social Services will change policies and procedures to have Homeless Shelters accept people with service animals.
10. Builders and landlords will change their policies and procedures to increase the number of affordable, accessible, integrated housing options for people with disabilities.
11. There will be an increase in Suffolk County in the accessibility of public right-of-ways, such as curb cuts, constructed for people with disabilities.
12. A village or town will install audio crossing signals and/or enhanced crosswalks for persons with visual disabilities in at least ten of its major intersections.
13. At least five Fire Departments/Police Departments will modify their in-service training plans to routinely include Disability Awareness and Sensitivity Training developed, endorsed or conducted by SILO.
14. As the result of the advocacy of SILO, at least one agency in the Family Court system will integrate an Independent Living presentation, provided or approved by SILO, into their training for professionals working in Family Court.
15. At least five restaurants in Suffolk County will provide its menu in an accessible format.
16. As the result of the advocacy of SILO, a local restaurant will add a ramp to the main entrance to accommodate people with disabilities.
17. As the result of the advocacy of SILO, Suffolk County will improve the access of all bus shelters.
18. Suffolk County Taxi and Limousine Commission will increase the availability of accessible taxi and community car service in Suffolk County.
19. As the result of the advocacy of SILO, a local municipality in Suffolk County will adopt a policy to post the monetary fine for disabled parking violations adjacent to parking signs.
20. At least one parking lot that does not have proper Disabled/handicapped parking will be brought up to code.
21. The Suffolk County Planning Department will change its project review policies and procedures to address compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) when offering recommendations and guidance to local municipalities and developers prior to project approval.
22. A County Chamber of Commerce will change its policy and procedures to routinely provide accessibility information for people with disabilities.
23. There will be a measurable increase in the number of government buildings that become fully accessible.

24. As the result of the advocacy of SILO at least two American Legion Posts in our County will install a ramp and/or other building modifications to improve access for persons who are disabled.
25. As the result of the advocacy of SILO at least two business owners will change their policies to reflect the rights of individuals with disabilities who use service animals.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. As the result of the advocacy of SILO there will be an increase in the number of integrated community social activities that become accessible.
2. As the result of the advocacy of SILO there will be an increase in the number of recreation, fitness facilities and programs that are accessible to people with disabilities.
3. As the result of the advocacy of SILO there will be an increase in the number of accessible municipally sponsored recreation opportunities and facilities.
4. As the result of the advocacy of SILO at least one recreational facility/program will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for consumers with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.
5. As the result of the advocacy of SILO there will be an increase in the number of theaters providing closed captioning or audio description.
6. As a result of working cooperatively with faith-based organizations there will be an increase in the number of accessible faith-based organizations and institutions in Suffolk County.
7. As the result of the advocacy of SILO there will be an increase access to public parks and museums.
8. As a result of working cooperatively with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation there will be at least one new accessible trail created for people with disabilities in Suffolk County.
9. As a result of working cooperatively with a municipal recreation department, policies will be adopted assuring the proper training of all personnel in the areas of disability awareness and the ADA.
10. As the result of the advocacy of SILO a Suffolk County town will establish an ongoing after school social and recreational program targeting children with disabilities that is accessible and integrated and that meets on a regular basis.
11. As the result of the advocacy of SILO one local little league field will improve its access to persons with disabilities.
12. As the result of the advocacy of SILO at least one playground will improve its access by installing a therapeutic and accessible device to better serve persons with disabilities.
13. As a result of working cooperatively with faith-based organizations, a local church will make a policy and procedural change in how it makes referrals for community resources to facilitate the integration of its parishioners in the community, including Independent Living Center services.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. As a result of working cooperatively with the Suffolk County Board of Elections there will be an increase in the number of accessible polling sites.
2. There will be an increase in the number of SILO staff and volunteers who serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

3. As the result of the advocacy of SILO at least one local government in Suffolk County will start providing agendas in an alternate format for/at publicly attended meetings.
4. As the result of the advocacy of SILO at least one local government (village/town) will establish policies and procedures for the provision of sign language interpreter services at Community Council meetings.
5. As a result of working cooperatively with one of the three Suffolk County contractually approved transportation companies, one transportation provider in Suffolk County will change its policies and procedures to make its accessible vans and buses available to transport persons with disabilities to the polls on election days, and this will become an ongoing service.
6. At least one municipality in Suffolk County will pass appropriate legislation, and the municipal executive will sign it, establishing and promoting the date of July 25<sup>th</sup> as A Day of Celebration of The Americans with Disabilities Act.
7. A SILO staff member will be appointed to the Suffolk County Emergency Planning Committee that previously did not have representation from the disability community.
8. The Suffolk County Office of Emergency Management will increase the access of its website to make available the online disaster preparation and relief plans which address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities.
9. An advocacy network/infrastructure will be established with organized teams of trained consumer advocates available to address legislative civic issues as they arise.
10. One or more websites that facilitate active citizen participation in public policy advocacy will become accessible to people with disabilities as the result of input from SILO.
11. SILO will establish, in at least one high school, a team of students with disabilities to provide advocacy and address legislative civic issues as they arise.

## **35. TRI**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Taconic Resources for Independence
Address:	82 Washington Street, Suite 214, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Contract No.:	C012399
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Cynthia L. Fiore, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	John R. Vacca

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. At least one school district will incorporate a Transition Fair /Transition Night where families and students can come to learn about community resources, employment, higher education and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.
2. Taconic Resources for Independence will establish a written agreement with one Dutchess County Human Service organization to offer on-site Special Education Advocacy Training/Consultation. This will be a regular part of its staff training for professionals who work with high risk children.
3. At least one local school system or Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make a policy and procedural change in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities to include information on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, post-secondary education, other community based service agencies and organization linkages, and benefits.
4. There will be an increase in the number of people with disabilities that serve on education related non-profit community based agency or organization boards, committees, and tasks forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
5. At least one school district will implement a disability awareness program for students, designed and / or presented by TRI staff.
6. At least one school district will change its policies and procedures to make auditorium and school board meetings accessible for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing by routinely providing accessible hearing devices and/or interpreters.
7. In order to increase parental awareness of services for students with disabilities, a local public school district will add TRI website to its website, under a link for "Helpful Student Links for Parents" or "Community Resources Link for Parents" etc.
8. In order to increase parental/student's awareness of services for individuals with disabilities, a local college will add TRI's website link to it's website, under a link for "Helpful Student Links" or Community Resources Link for Students with Disabilities" etc.

9. At least one college in Dutchess County will change its policies and procedures to incorporate TRI's Independent Living Skills Curriculum for the preparation in transitioning from Higher Education to entering the work force.

## **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs, and job readiness training programs for persons with disabilities.
2. At least one Dutchess County agency will change its procedures to have information packets which include materials on Independent Living Centers and level one soft skills employment training to enhance its resources for individuals with disabilities.
3. At least one local employer or employment agency will incorporate disability awareness/sensitivity training either developed or endorsed by Taconic Resources for Independence as part of its new employee training/orientation process.
4. One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with psychiatric disabilities, developmental disabilities, and/or who are deaf or hard of hearing.
5. The Dutchess County Board of Elections will change policies and procedures regarding its poll worker training to improve the access for people with disabilities applying for employment as poll workers.

## **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. At least one adult home and/or assisted living facility in Dutchess County will make a policy and procedural change in how it identifies and refers residents who wish to leave the facility to community resources to facilitate successful transitions to the community.
2. A local Health Care facility will change its procedures to have information packets include materials on Independent Living Centers and Agency linkages to enhance its resources for individuals with disabilities.
3. Through TRI's advocacy efforts, at least one Dutchess County Hospital will change its policies and procedures to have information packets include information on Independent Living Center, ACCES-VR and agency linkages as a regular part of preparing patients who are disabled for their transition back to the community.
4. At least one community or governmental agency providing mental health services will improve its accessibility to people who are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing.
5. At least one hospital or community health care center will change its policies and practices to ensure full access to health services by individuals who are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing.
6. As a result of participating in a health consortium coordinated by TRI, at least one health care facility will change policies and procedures to improve its access for individuals who are Deaf and /or Hard of Hearing.

## **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. As a result of TRI identifying parking lots that do not have proper Disable handicap parking and providing information on accessible parking space guidelines, at least one local parking lot will be brought up to code.



2. Cab companies which operate in Dutchess County will adopt policies and practices for drivers that ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
3. At least one civic organization in the Center's service area will install a ramp and/or other building modifications to improve access for persons who are disabled.
4. TRI will ensure that a Dutchess County Police Department provides access to effective communication services and/or technology for people who are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing.
5. Dutchess County or Municipality Courts will improve access to appropriate communication services or technology for people who are Deaf and/or Hard-of-Hearing.
6. In order to increase awareness of the Center's services local government and/or human service agencies will add TRI's website to its own website, as a link for "Community Service Agencies" or "Resources" etc.
7. At least one municipality that previously did not have the position of Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Coordinator will establish the position to coordinate the municipality's efforts to comply with Title II of the ADA.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of accessible recreational and/or social activities in Dutchess County.
2. At least one recreational facility/program will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for consumers with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.
3. At least one Dutchess County entertainment entity such as a movie theatre and theatrical venue will provide accommodations for the Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing and Blind.
4. At least one movie theatre will install non-intrusive open/closed captioning to be available at every movie in the theatre for the Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing.
5. There will be an increase in the number of accessible playgrounds in Dutchess County.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. Dutchess County Political leaders will adopt policies that ensure meetings and rallies are held at accessible locations and their materials are in alternate formats when requested. TRI will ensure this is done by having elected officials sign a Pledge Letter stating their intent to be inclusive in the disability community.
2. TRI will ensure that disaster preparation and disaster relief plans for Dutchess County residents address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities.
3. At least one local government (village/town) will establish policies and procedures for the provision of sign language interpreter services and/or assisted listening devices at Community Council meetings for the Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing.

## 36. WDOM

### NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

#### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name Of Center: Westchester Disabled On The Move  
Address: 984 North Broadway, Suite LI-10, Yonkers, NY 10701  
Contract Number: C012400  
Contract Renewal Year: October 1, 2016 – Sept. 30, 2017  
Contact Person: Melvyn R. Tanzman, Executive Director  
Board President Authorization: Gail Cartenuto Cohn

#### I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

##### A. Education Advocacy

*Issue: To facilitate the transition of students from secondary education to employment, community based services and/or post-secondary education.*

##### Proposed Activities:

- Seek new funding to reinitiate and expand our Lifes Bridges soft skills and support program for transitioning youth.
- WDOMI will promote workplace immersion as a model for transition with NYSED, OPWDD, DCMH, and other State Agencies
- WDOMI Staff will follow-up with graduates from Life's Bridges to ensure an appropriate transition s into most integrated settings is taking place in areas such as employment and housing.
- WDOMI will endeavor to provide independent living services to transitioning youth including but not limited to housing and benefits advisement

##### Goals:

1. There will be ongoing and new collaborations with at a minimum of 2 School Districts to establish school district policies and procedures that will facilitate referrals to community based services including: facilitating follow-up with graduating seniors by WDOMI staff.
2. WDOM will establish a written agreement with at least one school district to conduct an onsite self-advocacy curriculum designed for individuals with disabilities and focusing on decision making, goal setting, risk management, and Leadership.

*Issue: Increase employment related experiences for high school students.*

##### Proposed Activities:

- Conduct pre-employment workshops with High School Students with disabilities
- Participate in a workplace immersion model for high school seniors
- Establish a Travel Training Component

**Goals:**

1. There will be an increase in the number of school based integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, work experience programs, and job readiness training programs, for high school students with disabilities.

**B. Employment Advocacy**

*Issue: Increase the knowledge of the business community regarding the availability of persons with disabilities as potential employees.*

**Proposed Activities:**

- Educational presentations will be made to business groups including Chambers of Commerce and local employers.
- Internships and job shadowing outreach will familiarize more employers with people with disabilities as employees
- Establish a working relationship with the City of Yonkers HR to review their employment initiative and to refer consumers for internships

**Goals:**

1. Three to four Westchester employers that have not previously hired people with disabilities will initiate policies to hire qualified applicants with disabilities.
2. The City of Yonkers will establish a model internship program for people with disabilities.

*Issue: Facilitate employment for people with disabilities through Work Incentives Planning*

**Proposed Activities:**

- Publicize the availability of benefits advisement
- Make public presentations regarding benefits advisement
- Provide direct assistance to consumers seeking employment to facilitate a plan to maintain necessary benefits.

**Goals:**

1. Establish a formal agreement with at least one community based agency to offer consumers work incentives counseling.
2. As a result of market benefits advisement provided by the Center, the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC) Program and/or the NYS Office of Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR) will make policy and procedural changes to facilitate a more

efficient referral process for community based employment services, including Independent Living Center services, and resources.

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

*Issue: Advocate at State and Local levels to implement a plan to move individuals from institutional to most integrated settings.*

#### **Proposed Activities:**

- Continue participation in discussions and negotiations with the State Department of Health and the Governor's Office to ensure effective implementation of Community First Choice
- Educate discharge planners, nurses, providers and county Department of Social Services staff about alternatives to institutional placement, navigating Managed Long Term Care and Consumer Directed Personal Assistance.
- Offer training groups to consumers interested in the CDPA Program
- Participate in discussions regarding a new State Office for Community Living to integrate services for individuals who are disabled
- Actively assure that the rights and health of people in institutional settings are respected
- Operate the Olmstead Housing Voucher Program, through outreach to landlords and identifying housing units
- Send peer mentors into Nursing Homes to educate and empower residents through support

#### **Goals:**

1. Integration of all services provided to long term care inpatients including, Community Transition, Ombuds-program and peer counseling.
2. At least one institution will change its procedures and/or policies to allow more people with disabilities to transition from institutions into integrated community living.
3. New York State's Long Term Care Resource Directory will include the resources available to meet the needs of younger people with disabilities. Inclusion of IL, Benefits Advocacy and consumer directed options will be assured.

*Issue: Assure that health and mental health services available to People with Disabilities are maintained and expanded in scope.*

#### **Proposed Activities:**

- Advocate for the maintenance/expansion of Federal and State-wide Medicaid redesign that protects and expands health and mental health services available to people with disabilities.
  - a. Maintenance of Federal Medicaid Budget without a block grant
  - b. EPIC Expansion
  - c. Maintenance of NYS Medicaid eligibility standards
  - d. Participate in a navigator program which will increase the number of New Yorkers with disabilities who have adequate health insurance
  - e. Assure consumer rights in a community based Long Term Care program that is moving towards Managed Long Term Care.

- f. Assure the capacity of MLTC programs to provide Consumer Directed Personal Assistance services from fiscal intermediaries that are committed to CDPA and independent from traditional home care agencies
- g. Participate in a Facilitated Enrollment Program for Seniors and People with Disabilities that establishes Medicaid Eligibility
- Assist Medicaid recipients in Westchester County make the transition to mandatory Medicaid Managed Care while maintaining essential services.
- Advocate for community Medicaid budgeting for individuals with a plan to leave institutional settings.
- Meet with Department of Senior Services and Programs in Westchester County to ensure that their New York Connects I&R service adequately serves people with disabilities

### **Goals:**

1. Prevent any changes to the Medicaid program that restrict or limit eligibility, scope of services and choice.
2. An advocacy network/infrastructure is established with organized teams of trained consumer advocates available to address Health Related issues as they arise.
3. Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services (DSPS) will establish a disability advisory group to review the information and services offered to people with disabilities and improve these services
4. As a result of WDOM's participation in the Facilitated Enrollment for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (FE-ABD) Program, the Department of Social Services (DSS) in Westchester, Putnam, Rockland and/or Putnam Counties will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for Medicaid and pooled trusts.

*Issue: Managed Care Organizations must be educated to better serve people with disabilities under mandatory Medicaid Managed Long Term Care*

### **Proposed Activities:**

- Meet with MCO's serving Westchester County to discuss issues and raise awareness regarding the needs of people with disabilities
- Advocate for greater independent oversight statewide of the transition to Managed LTC and the Fully Integrated Duals Advantage Program

### **Goals:**

1. NYS will adopt legislation and/or regulations that will strengthen the Independent Consumer Advocacy Network (ICAN) program by:
  - a. increasing accessibility for plan participants with disabilities among all managed care providers and networks;
  - b. permitting the use of accessible medical equipment in health care settings;
  - c. establishing NYS contract requirements for health care providers to evaluate and demonstrate ADA compliance with regard to access of all goods and services.
2. NYS will through legislation or regulation increase monitoring and oversight of MLTCs and establish higher standards for provision of services

## **D. Commerce Advocacy**

*Issue: Increase the ability of people with disabilities to engage in local economic and market place activities such as area restaurants, retail shops and transportation services.*

### **Proposed Activities:**

- Educate and train consumers about accessibility requirements.
- Continue to advocate for acceptable resolutions in active complaints.
- Identify new ADA compliance issues.
- Educate e-merchants about standards for accessible web sites

### **Goals:**

1. A minimum of one business or publicly owned complex will improve accessibility.
2. At least one e-merchant will improve the accessibility of its website.

*Issue: Increase the effectiveness, accessibility and consumer friendliness of the County Para-transit, fixed route transportation system and other transportation services in Westchester County.*

### **Proposed Activities:**

- Participate and provide leadership in the County's Para-transit advisory council.
- Advocate for accessible taxis in Westchester County and the use of taxis as an alternative to paratransit vans when possible
- Monitor fixed route buses for ADA Compliance and communicate with County regarding necessary changes

### **Goals:**

1. A minimum of one taxi company will have at least one accessible cab.
2. Westchester County will expand the service area of its Para-transit pilot program called "Bee-Line Taxi" by utilizing taxis as an alternative to Vans when feasible.
3. Mandate the use of seat belts and shoulder harnesses on all paratransit vehicles
4. Simplify and improve para-transit procedures.
  - a. Require drivers to make efforts to identify blind consumers at pick-ups including having dispatchers telephone the consumers.
  - b. Establish a waiver of reauthorization of medical need for consumers whose physical needs are not expected to change.

*Issue: Increase the availability of accessible housing units for people with disabilities.*

### **Proposed Activities:**

- Conduct education and advocacy that will focus on the Fair Housing Act and HUD 504 requirements.

- Develop a collaborative relationship with county, state, and local housing and legislative officials.
- Collaborate with other advocates to increase affordable housing options.
- Review and comment on Comprehensive Plans at the State, County and local levels
- Develop new housing initiatives at the local level under the Money Follows the Person Grant.
- Conduct outreach to Housing Developers/Managers and establish collaborations to facilitate increased housing options for people with disabilities.

### **Goals:**

1. Housing options for people with disabilities will increase by WDOMI securing the passage of State legislation, which is signed into law by the Governor, to develop a housing trust fund and/or a state housing subsidy targeted to people with disabilities.
2. Westchester County Legislature will amend an accessible design bill where all, rather than 50% of housing funded by the County will meet basic access requirements.
3. One or more integrated and accessible housing projects for people with disabilities will be developed in Westchester with the active participation of WDOMI.
4. WDOMI will, with the cooperation of State and local housing agencies and local developers, change the practices of at least one developer to ensure full compliance with US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 504 requirements including set aside apartments of 5% for people with mobility impairments and 2% for people who are either visually impaired or hearing impaired. The developer will increase the percentage of such set-aside apartments actually occupied by eligible tenants with disabilities.
5. Public Housing Authorities in Westchester County will implement policy changes that will facilitate the availability of affordable accessible housing for people leaving institutions.
6. The NYS Legislature will pass legislation, and the Governor will sign it, mandating accessible design in State assisted 1-3 family housing.
7. At least one housing program in Westchester County that provides financial assistance will change its policies and procedures to make available housing subsidies for transitioning youth.
8. NYS Legislature will pass a law protecting against discrimination in housing based on Source of Income, and the Governor will sign it.
9. WDOMI efforts will result in a minimum of one Fair and Affordable Housing Initiative that significantly increases the availability of affordable, accessible and integrated housing in Westchester County.

### **E. Social Advocacy**

*Issue: Increase the ability of people with disabilities to engage in local recreational activities by monitoring ADA compliance at these facilities.*

### **Proposed Activities:**

- Educate and train consumers about accessibility at all recreational facilities.
- Conduct at least one survey of ADA compliance at a recreational facility.

### **Goals:**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated community social activities that become accessible.

## **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

*Issue: Increase consumer's knowledge of issues and legislation that impact people with disabilities.*

### **Proposed Activities:**

- Publish a center newsletter twice a year.
- Build the systems advocacy network.
- Hold one or more issue forums to educate consumers and their supporters.
- Endeavor to establish a Mayors Disability Advisory Committee in Yonkers NY

### **Goals:**

1. An advocacy network/infrastructure will be established with organized teams of trained consumer advocates to address civic issues as they arise.
2. One or more websites that facilitate active citizen participation in public policy advocacy will become accessible as the result of input from WDOMI.

*Issue: Improve polling place accessibility and voter registration in Westchester County and New York State.*

### **Proposed Activities:**

- Work with the Board of Elections Advisory Committee to find solutions to the problem of access to polling sites.
- Advocate against the use of inaccessible voting equipment in local elections.
- Continue active voter registration campaign.

### **Goals:**

1. The Westchester County Board of Elections will establish policies and procedures for voters to request American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters at their poll site and for the BOE to provide them.
2. The Westchester County Board of Elections will provide voter material in alternative formats.
3. The Westchester County Board of Elections will change its policies and procedures to handle and process ballots cast with Ballot Marking Devices in the same manner as any other ballots.
4. Westchester County BOE will allow ballot marking devices to be used in local elections.



## **37. WILC**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Westchester Independent Living Center
Address:	10 County Center Road, 2nd Floor White Plains, NY 10607
Contract No.:	C012401
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Joe Bravo, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Shelley Klein

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. One local college will incorporate a class on the history of the Disability Rights Movement developed and designed by WILC staff.
2. To increase parental awareness of services for students with disabilities, a local school district will add WILC's website and mission statement to their website, under the link for "Helpful Student Links for Parents".
3. At least one school district's office of Special Education, Pupil Personnel, or Special Education PTA/PTO will change its policies and procedures to routinely offer training for parents, professionals and students on the CPSE/CSE or transition process.
4. To increase consumer and professional awareness of services, a local school district will add WILC's registry of local/regional community-based service resources to their website under the link for community resources.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship/volunteer programs, community work experience programs, mentoring programs, and job readiness training programs for persons with disabilities.
2. WILC will establish a written arrangement with a local food pantry or soup kitchen to provide on-site outreach services including: information and referral, benefits advisement and information about employment support programs for the disabled participants who desire the Center's assistance.
3. WILC will establish formal agreements whereby more community agencies have presentations to their consumers and/or their staff about work incentives.
4. A Disability Awareness Track either developed, endorsed or conducted by WILC will be instituted as part of the personnel training curriculum in at least one social service agency in the Center's service area.

5. At least one major employer will incorporate a Disability Awareness and Sensitivity training either developed, endorsed or conducted by WILC as an annual In-Service Training program for personnel.

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of local human service agencies and public health services that provide brochures and pertinent program information in accessible formats.
2. A nursing home will change its policies and procedures to post and to routinely include in information packets information about transition services in addition to Ombudsman Program information.
3. An advocacy network/infrastructure will be established with trained senior advocates available to address Long Term Care issues as they arise.
4. At least one organization providing Mental Health services will change its policies and procedures to increase protections available to Mental Health consumers that ensure self-directed, person centered, recovery focused treatment.
5. At least one long-term care or health care facility will change its policies and procedures to allow the Center to regularly conduct an onsite support group for individuals who are diagnosed with a serious/persistent mental illness.
6. A nursing home will adopt procedures that will enable residents with disabilities to make informed choices as to where they would assume responsibility for decisions regarding their personal independence.
7. At least one medical facility will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation either developed, endorsed or conducted by WILC into its curriculum for its discharge planning staff.

### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. At least one restaurant will provide its menu in an accessible format.
2. There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
3. There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title II entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
4. There will be an increase in the accessibility of public right-of-ways, such as curb cuts, constructed for people with disabilities.
5. There will be an increase in the number of affordable, integrated and accessible housing options for people with disabilities and seniors.

### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. A local library will establish a book (or film) discussion program that meets periodically to explore disability literature and its portrayal of Disability Culture.
2. There will be an increase in the number of social and recreational facilities that comply with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in the Center's service area.

### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of individuals with disabilities or Center staff serving on community boards/committees and task forces that previously had no consumer/disability representation.
2. At least one area school, university, library, municipal agency, and/or civic organization will integrate WILC's ADA Anniversary social media tool (film) into trainings for their staff, students, members, and/or general public.

## **38. PILS-WILC SUBSIDIARY**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Putnam Independent Living Services
Address:	1961 Route 6, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Carmel, NY 10512
Contract No.:	C012402
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Joe Bravo, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Shelley Klein

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. As a result of the efforts of a Putnam County group of professionals, an organization will establish an annual transition event that is aimed at professionals and parents from around the entire County to learn about county-wide resources, employment opportunities, and services for students with disabilities and that is supported by grant funding and/or assigned human resources.
2. To increase parental awareness of services for students with disabilities, a local school district will add information on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages to their 'Prior Written Notice' letters which, by law, have to be disseminated to parents.
3. At least one local school system or Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make a policy and procedural change to utilize the newly developed "Putnam Resource Guide", which includes information on community-based service agencies, transition resources, graduation options, etc., in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. PILS will establish formal agreements whereby more community agencies have presentations to consumers/professionals about work incentives.
2. Putnam County DSS Employment & Training Department will change policy and procedures to include in its personnel training a Disability Sensitivity Training with a specific focus on Mental Health and Development Disabilities collaboratively developed by PILS and other service providers (NYAPRS, MHA) to increase employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.
3. PILS will establish a written arrangement with a local library to provide on-site outreach services including: information and referral, benefits advisement and information about employment support programs for the disabled participants who desire the Center's assistance.

### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of local human service agencies and public health services that provide brochures and pertinent program information in accessible formats.
2. A nursing home will change its policies and procedures to post and to routinely include in information packets information about transition services in addition to Ombudsman Program information.
3. A nursing home will adopt procedures that will enable residents with disabilities to make informed choices as to where they would assume responsibility for decisions regarding their personal independence.
4. At least one medical facility will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation either developed, endorsed or conducted by PILS into its curriculum for its discharge planning staff.

### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. At least one restaurant will provide its menu in an accessible format.
2. There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
3. There will be an increase in the number of affordable, integrated and accessible housing options for people with disabilities and seniors.
4. As the result of PILS efforts to assist individuals with disabilities whose transportation options are severely limited to obtain services, at least one community services provider will establish a written agreement to bring their services to PILS and/or an alternate accessible location on the county's existing paratransit route on a regular basis.

### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. A local community club or social group will establish an outreach policy and procedures to more effectively reach persons with disabilities in order to expand their membership to include/integrate persons with disabilities into their activities.
2. There will be an increase in accessible social and/or recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.

### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. There will be an increase in the number of individuals with disabilities or Center staff serving on community boards/committees and task forces that previously had no consumer/disability representation.
2. The Putnam County Board of Elections will incorporate a training program on disability sensitivity and awareness for its poll workers that is either developed, endorsed or conducted by PILS.
3. The Putnam County Board (BOE) of Elections will establish policies and procedures for voters to request American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters at their poll site and for the BOE to provide them.
4. The Putnam County Board of Elections will provide voter material in alternative formats.

## **39. WNYIL**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Western New York Independent Living
Address:	3108 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14214
Contract Number:	C012403
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Douglas J. Usiak, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Dennis M. Kessel

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. At least one college or university will incorporate WNYIL's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into its curriculum for professional preparation programs that work with persons with disabilities.
2. At least one local school district, BOCES, or Early Intervention Program will incorporate WNYIL's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into a training curriculum for its staff and parents.
3. One school district will change its policies and procedures to become compliant with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act when providing instruction for students with disabilities.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, at least one vocational program provider will integrate a training on Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act, created by the WNYIL into its services.
2. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, the Workforce Investment Board in Erie County WNYIL's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into a training curriculum for its members.
3. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one New York State department will implement regulations that enhance the ability of persons with disabilities who are employed to access Home Health Services.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, there will be a measurable increase in the provision of appropriate and coordinated support services for people served by both the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) and the New York State Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).

2. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one medical facility will incorporate WNYIL's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into its curriculum for its discharge planning staff.
3. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, the US Department of Veterans Affairs will implement a Consumer Directed Personal Assistance (CDPA) Services Option for Veterans with disabilities under its care.
4. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one program providing services in the children's mental health system will incorporate WNYIL's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into its training curriculum for participants and staff.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. As a result of collaboration between WNYIL and other community agencies, more accessible and integrated housing will be available for persons with disabilities.
2. As the result of advocacy by WNYIL, para-transit scheduling services will be extended beyond normal business hours.
3. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one first responder agency will incorporate training on the needs of persons with disabilities in crisis or disaster, created by the WNYIL.
4. As the result of the advocacy of WNYIL, at least one agency in the Family Court system will integrate Independent Living presentation, provided or approved by WNYIL, into their training for professionals working in Family Court.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, at least one place of worship will increase its access to persons with disabilities.
2. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL one area theatre will increase its access to or use of assistive listening devices.
3. As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL one area theatre will increase its access to or use of alternative formats.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. As a result of advocacy by WNYIL, the City of Buffalo will modify its policy to allow for easy access to interpreters for Common Council and other public meetings sponsored by the City of Buffalo.
2. WNYIL will increase physical access to local polling places.
3. As a result of advocacy by WNYIL, one community committee, commission, task force, or advisory Council (previously unrepresented by the community of persons with disabilities) will obtain such representation.

## **40. ILGR-WNYIL SUBSIDIARY**

### **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

#### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Independent Living of Genesee Region
Address:	113 Main Street, Suite #5, Batavia, NY 14020
Contract Number:	C012404
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Douglas J. Usiak, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Dennis M. Kessel

#### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

##### **A. Educational Advocacy**

1. At least one college or university will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation, approved by ILGR, into its curriculum for professional preparation programs that work with persons with disabilities.
2. At least one local school district, BOCES, or Early Intervention Program will incorporate ILGR's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into a training curriculum for its staff and/or parents.

##### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, one ILGR representative will become a member of a Workforce Development Board in the ILGR service counties that previously has not had representation from the disability community.
2. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, a One-Stop Center will incorporate a training, approved by ILGR on Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Independent Living Philosophy and/or disability benefits training as part of its training program for their staff and participants.
3. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, one business within the service area will create employment policies compliant with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

##### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, one medical facility will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation, approved by ILGR, into curriculum for its discharge planning staff.
2. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, one community agency will change its policies and procedures to ensure individuals with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of services available to help them transition from an institution to the community. This includes



information about and applying for services related to Independent Living and the NYS Department of Health Nursing Facility Transition and Diversion (NFTD) Waiver.

3. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, one health care provider will become compliant with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. As a result of the collaboration between I ILGR and other community agencies, more accessible and integrated housing will be available for persons with disabilities.
2. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, at least one law enforcement agency will offer on-site disability sensitivity training, approved by ILGR, as a regular part of its training for employees.
3. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, one county service will become complaint with Title II of the ADA.
4. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, one community agency will become a new provider of barrier-removal services (i.e. ramps) for persons with disabilities.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of ILGR, one area theatre will increase its access to or use of assistive listening devices.
2. As the result of the advocacy of ILGR, one municipal or community-sponsored recreation program will become accessible for persons with disabilities.

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. As a result of advocacy by ILGR, one community committee, commission, task force, or advisory Council (previously unrepresented by the community of persons with disabilities) will obtain such representation.
2. ILGR will increase physical access to local polling places.
3. As a result of advocacy by ILGR, one county Board of Elections within the ILGR service area will implement a training on use of accessible ballot-marking devices, approved by ILGR, for polling place workers within that county.

# **41. ILNC-WNYIL SUBSIDIARY**

## **NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

### **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Name of Center:	Independent Living of Niagara County
Address:	746 Portage Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14301
Center Number:	C012405
Report Period:	October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017
Contact Person:	Douglas J. Usiak, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Dennis M. Kessel

### **I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN**

#### **A. Education Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one post-secondary educational institution will integrate Independent Living Philosophy training either developed or endorsed by ILNC, into its academic programs.
2. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one school district will add an independent living philosophy program, either developed or endorsed by ILNC, into its academic curriculum.
3. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one school district will integrate a disability awareness training program either developed or endorsed by ILNC into its employee training program.

#### **B. Employment Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one business will become compliant with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one New York State department will implement regulations that enhance the ability of persons with disabilities who are employed to access Home Health Services.

#### **C. Health Care Advocacy**

1. As a result of advocacy of ILNC, one community agency will establish a new Peer Program to provide recovery-oriented peer services to the community.
2. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one hospital will change its policies and procedures to provide training on access to interpreter services to its employees.
3. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one County Department of Social Services will incorporate Independent Living Philosophy either developed or endorsed by ILNC to the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance (CDPA) Medicaid Home Services Program and allow consumer choice of personal care aides.

4. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, the US Department of Veterans Affairs will implement a Consumer Directed Personal Assistance (CDPA) Services Option for Veterans with disabilities under its care.

#### **D. Commerce Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, more accessible and integrated housing opportunities will be available to persons with disabilities.
2. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority will extend paratransit scheduling services beyond normal business hours.
3. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one business will be compliant with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

#### **E. Social Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one outdoor event will become compliant with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
2. As the result of the advocacy of ILNC, one municipal or community-sponsored recreation program will become accessible for persons with disabilities

#### **F. Citizenship Advocacy**

1. As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one polling place will become accessible to persons with disabilities.
2. As a result of advocacy by ILNC, one community committee, commission, task force, or advisory Council (previously unrepresented by the community of persons with disabilities) will obtain such representation.