

Statewide Independent Living Council

Draft Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2017

I. Welcome/Call to order

Larry Rodriguez

Larry L. Rodriguez called to order the regular meeting of the SILC at 10:04 on November 3, 2017 at Independent Living Resource Center.

II. Introductions

Larry Rodriguez

- Larry L. Rodriguez – Chairperson
- Curtis Chong - SILC member –NM Commission for the Blind
- Coby Livingstone - SILC member –NM Commission for the Blind
- Larry J. Rodriguez – Assistant to Chairman
- Kate Unna – Deputy Director, Independent Living Resource Center
- Adrian Apodaca – Deputy Director, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Eileen Marrujo – Administrative Services Director, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Melchior Savarese - Attorney, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Rebecca Holland – Program Manager, Jemez Vocational Rehabilitation
- Anna Vigil- Independent Living Program Manager, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Joe Cordova – Director, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Tim Carver – San Juan Center for Independence
- Guy Surdi – Governor’s Commission on Disability

III. Roll call

Larry Rodriguez

Larry L. Rodriguez conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

- Larry L. Rodriguez – Present
- Curtis Chong – Present
- Coby Livingstone - Present
- Tim Carver - Present
- Joe Cordova - Present
- Guy Surdi - Present
- Anna Vigil - Present
- Rebecca Holland - Present
- Melchior Savarese – Present
- Eileen Marrujo - Present
- Adrian Apodaca – Present
- Branda Parker – Present/Called-In
- Audra Wilson - Absent
- Quentin Collins - Absent

IV. Approval of November 3, 2017 Meeting Agenda (Action)

A motion was made by Curtis Chong and Seconded by Coby Livingstone and was passed unanimously by the council to approve the meeting agenda of November 3, 2017.

V. Approval of minutes from July 21, 2017 (Action)

Minutes were not submitted by SILC Coordinator Quentin Collins from the previous meeting that was held on July 21, 2017. Minutes from July, 21 2017 meeting were tabled until next SILC meeting.

VI. SILC Chairperson Report

Larry L. Rodriguez, SILC Chair reported on the termination of the SILC coordinator.

VII. 704 Report Update

Anna Vigil

Anna Vigil provided information about the due date for the 704 report, (December 31st), and the steps needed to complete it. Follow up meetings with the SILC Executive Directors were scheduled for Tuesday November 21st at 10:00 a.m. at the DVR Santa Fe office, as well as December 5th at the same time and location. Coby Livingstone requested that the SILC members receive a copy of the submitted report.

VIII. SILC Membership and Future Appointments

Larry Rodriguez

Joe Cordova mentioned that a few more members are currently awaiting approval from the governor's office and will hopefully be approved by the end of the year. Larry Rodriguez recommended that The Governor's Office be contacted for periodic updates in hopes to speed up the process ensuring appointments to the board are made in a timely manner.

IX. State Agency Report Updates

a) Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Joe Cordova

DVR testified before LFC (Legislative Finance Committee) on DVR background and individual programs. DVR has since completed all required corrective action plans from RSA. We are having minor setbacks with the Pre-Ets (Pre-Employment Transition Services) program, like most agencies across the country. DVR is in the process of implementing a plan to hire more staff to work at schools to improve the program. They are estimating that the program will be up to date by 2018.

- b) New Mexico Commission for the blind** **Curtis Chong**
Curtis Chong said they were also at the LFC meeting and working on obtaining funding from the general fund in state government for Independent Living Program. There is a shortage of Independent Living teachers that are in the process of being filled. They are also experiencing issues with logistics making it difficult to fill counselor positions, however are well on track to do so.

X. CIL Reports/Updates

- a) Choices – Roswell, NM**
Not Present
- b) New Vista – Santa Fe, NM**
Not Present
- c) Independent Living Resource Center – Albuquerque, NM** **Kate Unna**
ILRC has four offices; Socorro, Alamogordo, Moriarty, and Albuquerque and cover six counties; Bernalillo, Torrance, Sandoval, Cibola, Valencia, Otero and Socorro. They continue to provide the six core services and have a Medicaid program that is currently serving about 486 consumers. Their biggest program is the home modification program, however, is currently working on getting funding reinstated for it. They also have a vehicle modification program and have completed 26 completed projects. Working approximately 15 requests for consumers with Social Security over payments, and helping people who have been kick off of Medicaid
- d) San Juan Center for Independence – Farmington, NM** **Tim Carver**
San Juan Center for Independence states they have similar issues as ILRC with their consumers losing hours. Even though the State quotes are mandating it the MCOs are cutting back hours across the board. We too, are seeing people kicked off of Medicaid every day and it is usually for strange reasons, such as missed paperwork or changed category. We were on a moratorium to take on new consumers since August 2017 and that is when we started using electronic time sheets so we felt it was good for the Center not to take any new consumers until we have the program in place. We went off moratorium in August and currently have 170 people on our program. Branda Parker met with Well Inc., a new MCO to the State to do an RPI on Centennial Care 2.0, and they wanted to meet and get an overview of the personal options care of the Medicaid program to understand it better. We hosted summer youth program in April, High School juniors and seniors with disabilities attended a workshop to teach them

about the center and what programs are available to them in the community. The summer youth program is hosted one week in during summer, and has activities for the students to do activities related to disability history and recreation opportunities. San Juan Center is also continually working with consumers who are having issues with Rep-Payee program. There is a shortage of people willing to run this program due to funding. The Center also purchased land, 1.3 acres, behind their location in Farmington. This land will be used to plant an orchard and build an onsite storage facility.

e) The Ability Center – Las Cruces, NM

Not present.

XI. SILC Discussion/Recommendation from CIL Reports

Group

Tim Carver stated that the new ILC report format was a nice addition and should make it easier to report the numbers in a uniform manner if everyone turns them in to Anna, which will make it easier to compile. Joe Cordova asked for a little more information on the Rep-Payee program. Kate Unna explained a little more information on this program. Coby Livingstone asked Tim about vehicle modification and public transportation in Farmington. Tim let the council know there is no vehicle modifications done in the four corner area and that there is public transportation that serves Farmington, Bloomfield and Aztec area.

XII. Next meeting Date and Location

The next SILC meeting will be on February 9th, 2018 at Choices in Roswell, NM at 10:00 a.m.

XIII. Adjournment

A motion was made and passed for the meeting to be adjourned at 11:10 a.m.