

**STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Comfort Inn & Suites, Mandan
February 6-7, 2019**

Call to Order: Brittney Hogan called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Trevor Vannett, Drew Hanson, LaRae Gustafson, Bill Willis, Jared Ferguson, Brittney Hogan, Erik Williamson (phone), Russ Cusack, Shannon Cook (Binstock), Diane Siekaniec (phone), Royce Schultze (phone), Mark Bourdon (phone), Brenda Boehler

Members Absent: Nancy Lundon, Gillian Plenty Chief

Non-Council Members Present: Aimee Volk, Robyn Throlson, Nate Aalgaard (phone), Scott Burlingame

Approval of May 2018 Minutes: Trevor Vannett made a motion to approve the August 2018 SILC minutes, Shannon Cook (Binstock) seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous decision.

Motion was made to approve the agenda as amended to have Legislative Session Updates at 2:30 p.m. and SPIL – What it is and Strategic Plan at 2:00 p.m. by Drew Hanson and seconded by Erik Williamson. Motion passed by unanimous decision.

Correspondence – Brittney Hogan: None

Treasurer’s Report – Brittney Hogan: Reviewed the Treasure’s Report.

Trevor Vannett made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report and LaRae Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous decision.

APRIL Conference – Brittney Hogan

We submitted a proposal for two people to attend the next APRIL Conference however the budget has not been approved yet. The dates of the APRIL Conference will be October 25th - 28th, 2019 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

APRIL Conference Takeaways – Drew Hanson, Shannon Cook (Binstock), Scott Burlingame

They all had a great experience. Some of the highlights from the conference were the breakout sessions. Some of the topics were storm survival, suicide (LIVE), living with a disability, etc. There was about 500-600 people at the conference.

SPIL – What is it and Strategic Plan – Aimee Volk

Discussed the SPIL is due every three years. It will be due June 2019. It will need to be approved by the Administration for Community Living (ACL). The SPIL describes how the state's network of CILs and services will provide IL services that promote full access to community life for individuals with significant disabilities and describe strategies for providing IL services on a statewide basis. It explains collaboration with other partners in the state to enhance and expand service delivery options for individuals with disabilities and established the statewide network of CILs. It describes strategies for providing IL services on a statewide basis. It governs the provision of IL services in ND. Went through the sections of the SPIL.

Formed an ad-hoc committee for the SPIL with Nate Aalgaard, Scott Burlingame, Brittney Hogan, Royce Schultze, Randy Sorenson, Robyn Throlson, Aimee Volk, Drew Hanson, Trevor Vannett, and Russ Cusack.

Legislative Session Updates – Scott Burlingame

SB 2105 IL Century Code to update language passed the senate.

SB 2012 Independent Living Funding to increase the funding by \$500,000 which has not been increased since 2013.

SB 2119 removes the charge for accessible parking privileges (they were ruled illegal for 20 years).

SB 2242 forms a children's service center. It was referred to the appropriations committee

SB 2339 qualification for addiction counseling licensure for applicant licensed in another jurisdiction.

SB 2027 changes the definition of brain injury.

SB 2032 peer support specialist certification.

HB 1034 Long term care to provide health care-based services.

HB 1378 supported decision making, passed the house.

www.legis.nd.gov

Youth Program and TVI Panel – Vicky Laraway Dakota CIL

Watched a video that Dakota CIL put together on their projects. For individuals with brain injuries. They do several classes but two that they are proud of is a computer and cell phone training. They have a volunteer that goes into the home and assists with setting things up. They have a Brain Injury Support Group (Women's Coffee Club) they are transitioning to a consumer taking over the group. They are trying to grow their TVI panel.

They got a \$10,000 grant for the transition program which must be used before June 30th. The YESS program (Youth Empowering Social Status) would like to support the community through volunteer opportunities. They educate the community on disabilities and support one another. They also join activities with the peers in schools. They want YESS to have inclusion, grow together, provide education, and have acceptance. They are wanting to do a conference for youth sometime in June.

Committee Breakout

Thursday, February 7, 2019

Call to Order: Brittney Hogan called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. A quorum was present.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Trevor Vannett (phone), Shannon Cook (Binstock), Jared Ferguson, Brenda Boehler, Brittney Hogan, LaRae Gustafson, Russ Cusack, Bill Willis, Royce Schultze (phone), Erik Williamson (phone), Mark Bourdon (phone), Diane Siekaniec (phone)

Non-Committee Members: Aimee Volk, Scott Burlingame, Nate Aalgaard (phone)

Members Absent: Nancy Lundon, Gillian Plenty Chief, Drew Hanson

Needs Assessment Overview – Aimee Volk

The purpose of the Needs Assessment is a process used by organizations to determine priorities, make organizational improvements, or allocate resources. It involves determining needs, or gaps, between where the organization envisions itself in the future and the organization's current state. We do the survey to gain a better understanding of how the SILC is conducting needs assessment activities in relation to the state plan for independent living (SPIL).

A new needs assessment was completed. There are now two forms one is for the client/consumer the other is for family/friends/provider. The surveys can be done hard copy or by Survey Monkey.

Quarterly Director's Report:

LaRae and Randy for Options: See attached.

Royce for Dakota Center for Independent Living: See attached.

Scott for Independence, Inc.: See attached.

Aimee for Freedom: See attached.

Committee Reports:

Internal Affairs – Brittney Hogan: They were working on the Needs Assessment. See grid.

External Affairs – Scott Burlingame: See grid. Drew will be the new chair of the External Affairs Committee. Reviewed their workplan and getting people to testify and write letters.

Governance Committee – Royce Schultze: There is one vacancy for a member at large. This will be Diane Siekaniec and Erik Williamson's last meeting. Reappointments will be for Shannon Cook (Binstock) and Bill Willis and they will need to reapply online. May will be a new slate of officers.

State Rehabilitation Council – Trevor Vannett: Meeting was canceled.

State Council on Developmental Disabilities – Trevor Vannett: They are working on supported decision making

Quarterly Region 8 Conference Call – Brittney Hogan: South Dakota closed one of the CILs. Wyoming may be looking at hiring someone to assist SILC. Should think about sending someone to SILC Congress.

The next SILC meeting will be May 1 - 2, 2019 in Grand Forks, ND.

LaRae Gustafson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Shannon Cook (Binstock) seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

NORTH DAKOTA 2018-2019

Quarter One

North Dakota Statewide Quarterly Statistics

Oct 1, 2018 - Dec 31, 2018

Quarter 1

	Dakota	Freedom	Independence	Options	Total	I&R's	Dakota	Freedom	Independence	Options	Total
I&R's	205	642	304	276	1427		41	411	237	196	885
Direct Service	138	121	344	133	736	Direct Service	28	77	268	94	468
CEO	1832	1792	1781	127	5532	CEO	366	1147	1389	90	2993
Total People	2175	2555	2429	536	7695	Total People	435	1635	1895	381	4345
Goals	89%	100%	96%	100%	96%	Goals	89%	100%	96%	100%	96%

North Dakota OVR Quarterly Statistics

Oct 1, 2018 - Dec 31, 2018

Quarter 1

	Year to Date					Year to Date				
	Dakota	Freedom	Independence	Options	Total	Dakota	Freedom	Independence	Options	Total
I&R's	205	642	304	276	1427	41	411	237	196	885
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Goals	89%	100%	96%	100%	96%	89%	100%	96%	100%	96%

Direct Service

Direct Services is based on a structured process of service delivery which is provided on a one-to-one basis to persons with significant disabilities. The Direct Service Program offers persons with disabilities more intense help in identifying and resolving the barriers that hinder them from living at the highest level of independence possible. This program utilizes a host of services incorporating legislative mandates of service delivery.

Information and Referral

The provision of information to persons with disabilities, service providers, and community members on disability and independent living topics and issues; and, referral assistance to link individuals with appropriate organizations, services, and resources.

Community Education and Outreach

This program area encompasses various services such as community education, outreach activities, and systems advocacy. Community education predominantly involves educating the general community of the issues and barriers affecting persons with disabilities. Outreach activities are primarily designed to tell people about independent living services and to increase usage of a center's services. Systems advocacy involves advocating for changes in major systems such as service delivery or building accessibility to enable persons with disabilities to utilize such in the most effective manner possible.

ND SILC REPORT

Options February 2019

Recreation:

- The 23rd annual deer hunt with one of largest success rates. People came from three states with the oldest hunter being 81 and the oldest volunteer being 88. Men and women possessing various types of disabilities were present and shared their love of hunting with us. Nineteen hunters were able to experience hunting with twelve getting their deer.
- In January, 2017, the Harvey Rec Fun Fitness Group began for individuals with disabilities. Members pick and choose what they want to participate in such as following activities:
 - January – March: ten week basketball program
 - June – August: weight training, frisbee golf and walking program.
 - September – mid-November: ten week bowling program.

Up to 30 individuals participate in different activities on any given program. Members agree they are healthier, losing weight, eating better, making friends and just plain happier all around.

Advocacy:

- Assisted individual with follow-up on complaint against local business that built new gas station with inaccessible entrances. One entrance was made accessible and improvements made in the restrooms.
- Options hosted a celebration of the reintroduction of the “Disability Integration Act” by watching the event on Capitol Hill. The Act is a Civil rights bill declaring people should not be forced to live in institutions at the high price of losing their basic civil rights. Home and Community Based services must be prioritized as an alternative to being institutionalized.
- Options staff assisted individual in a nursing facility to advocate for their right to leave the facility as desired for work or personal reasons during the day.

Training:

- Options sponsored tickets for people to attend the Dr. Temple Grandin lecture on “Autism” and her life experiences living with autism.

- Tami provided two training at the Cavalier Transit Center on “How to Decide a Good Medicare Part D Plan” and “Turning age 65 – New to Medicare”. Both these trainings taught people to independently find their own Medicare part D plan. Tami also worked with 54 people during the Medicare D enrollment period to find their appropriate plan with a savings of \$10,969.63 for individuals.
- Corey trained members of the Cavalier Transit Center group on “Accessible Home Design” on funding, and how to request a reasonable modification or accommodation.
- Heather is providing “Working Well with a Disability” training to peer group in Grand Forks. This is excellent training to find life balance as a person with a disability.
- Heather provided training on “Emergency Preparedness” in Drayton and GF.
- Dave and Mike provided Disability Awareness and “What is Options” to 50 physical therapy students at UND.

Results of Committee Participation:

- Corey participates on the Steering Committee for developing policies for the Lagrave on First Housing First Project. About 42 tenants moved in last August who were chronically homeless. They now have permanent supportive housing utilizing the Housing First model.
- The same Supportive Housing Committee is looking at ways to address homeless children in the area. Currently there are 168 homeless children in the GF area and around 2000 in state of ND.
- Corey participates in the ND Voc-Rehab quarterly ADA Coordinator meetings to share resources and information.

Outreach:

- Staff participated in “Hunger and Homelessness Fair in GF reaching out to homeless individuals in need of Options services.
- Heather participated in grant from the University of Illinois to conduct interviews on an Olmstead survey. The survey inquired about their experience of staying at a nursing home compared to living independently in the community of their choice. The focus of survey was to identify

changes needed to be done on local, statewide or national level to assist in keeping people in their homes with services.

Relocations or Transitions/Diversions:

14 Relocations through September 30 2018, 12 were MFP through fiscal year ending Dec. 31. Total Transitions for ND MFP fiscal year were 33 according to Jake. The CIL's will follow individuals transitioned back home through the year of 2019 to formally end the MFP grant.

Transitions out of nursing facilities, mental health facilities, group homes and now jails are all considered institutions and now a core service of CIL's. The CIL's in ND are providers of services for the Money Follows the Person Grant to transition home, which ended December 31 2018.

Options had four diversions ending September 30 2018. Diversions are also a part of the core service under Transitions for CIL's. A diversion is counted when people we assist to remain living independently in their home and not enter an institution.

Technical Assistance:

- Corey provided technical assistance to the following:
 1. Since October, Corey ADA compliance evaluations for six cities to develop their transition plan to improve accessibility within their city. They may be eligible for funding from ND Dept of Commerce or USDA Rural Development to improve infrastructure and remove architectural barriers.
 2. Info given on accessible requirements for baby changing stations.
 3. Info given on hand controls for vehicles, automatic door openers and resources.
 4. Info on ADA and employment rights.
 5. Info on accessible playground design requirements.
 6. Completed compliance review for Spirit Lake Nation Office of Tourism on how to make their programs and services accessible to patrons with disabilities.
 7. Since October, assisted nine individuals with home accessibility design, contractor/vendor, reasonable modification request and or funding info.

- Jamie assisted individual to obtain \$15,000 grant from Red River Community Action's home modification program plus \$2500 from Nodak Electric to rehab a bathroom, put on new shingles, new doors and stair lift installation.

Freedom Resource Center Quarterly Report February 6, 2019

Since we did not have a November meeting, items in this report go back to August 2018.

We began working with Patrick Kirby, a fundraising and marketing consultant, on revamping our special events and fundraising activities. Patrick formerly worked for the Anne Carlsen Center. He is assisting several nonprofits throughout the state.

Instead of having an appreciation luncheon in the spring, we have decided to have an awards banquet in September. This gives us more time to plan and promote the event. We have decided to move it back to an evening time, to allow people from out of town more opportunity to attend. This is Freedom's 30th year in business, so we want to make a big deal out of that as well.

We held community listening sessions in Jamestown and Wahpeton during September. We had 12 to 15 people at each event and gathered some good information. Major issues that arose were employment, transportation, and housing. Community accessibility and finding activities to participate in also came up. There also seemed to be a need for service providers to share more information with each other on programs and services that are available in their community.

We held our Art of Freedom event October 4 at Dakota Medical Foundation. The director of the arts partnership was our guest speaker. She was impressed with the event and would like to be more involved in the future. We are looking at opportunities to work with them and perhaps revamp this event somewhat. The artists who contributed enjoyed the chance to show their work. Many of them have never done this type of thing before.

In November, Freedom lost one of its most active and longtime supporters, Keith Bjornson. Keith was on our board for about six years, and then continued to volunteer as a peer mentor and member of our Civil and Human Rights Task Force. He was instrumental in advocating for accessibility improvements. Keith had been fighting health issues for several years. He still has a couple of official discrimination complaints pending with the US Justice Department.

Freedom had a booth at the December Business After Hours sponsored by The Chamber. We had the opportunity to talk to quite a few people as they came by and give them information about our organization. We have a couple of staff members who take part in ambassador activities for The Chamber.

We held a holiday lunch for consumers and others in the community on December 11. It was well attended. We continue to hold monthly events at each of our office locations.

We are gearing up for Giving Hearts Day, February 14. This is a 24-hour online opportunity for nonprofit organizations to raise funds, with the assistance of Dakota Medical Foundation.

House Bill 1298 talks about bringing the state capital into compliance with the ADA and develop a plan to provide accessible parking within 125 feet of the entrance.

HB 1259 Misrepresentation of a pet as a service animal.

SB 2012 Dept. of Human Services.

SB 2105 which is a bill to change the century code to the same language as the federal language relating to SILC and CIL's.

Meet and Greet was held at DCIL where States Representatives were invited to come to learn about DCIL and the consumers can talk about their disabilities and ask questions about the upcoming bills. 7 legislators attended.

Legislative working group has been meeting every Friday afternoon reviewing various bills they are tracking. They will write testimony for some of the bills and sent to the various committees or testify in person. 4 bills they are tracking. SB 2012 - Dept. of Human Services, SB 2026 - \$ to DHS for improving MH services, SB 2027 - Definition of brain injury, & SB 2029 - Implement C community Behavioral Health Program.

Boardwalk to Better Health and Fitness was held at the Eagles club. During the event there were breakout sessions including Healthy Heart by Bismarck Public Health, Chair Yoga & Fall Prevention Exercise by Touch Mark and Mindfulness exercise by Bismarck Cancer Center. There were 27 agencies set up with information to assist people with questions about their services. Agencies had available sugar level testing, flu shots, blood pressure, balance walking, hearing testing. 28 people attended and 27 agencies were there.

To disclose or not you Disability was held at DCIL. There was a panel of 7 who answered questions about their disability and their experiences with employment and concerns. There were 16 people from the community. KXMB TV and interviewed 2 consumers.

Staff presented at a break out session at the Power-up Health Conference on Self-Advocacy and Self-Determination.

Attended the Veteran's Stand down at the Amvets in Bismarck. There were 103 people attended. We set up our booth with AT equipment. There were 34 agencies set up.

Staff gave a presentation to the Bismarck library staff on the difference between service animals and therapy animals. They have been having issues with people bringing their dogs in the library. I told them if it was a service animal more than likely there would be some kind of markings indicating that such as a vest, backpack or harness. Also, talked about our services and where other CIL's are located.

Dickinson staff met with 3 other individuals who are all trained in the Powerful Tools for Caregivers curriculum and who will be co-facilitating classes with Dickinson staff. The first 6 week class will be offered in early April late May and will be geared toward Caregivers of Children with Special Needs. The second class is being planned for early June and will be geared for Caregivers of Adults with Special Needs. One will be held in Dickinson and the second in one of the outlying counties.

Staff attended the Standing Rock Community Health Day located at Standing Rock High School- 7th grade through Senior's attended. Staff hosted a booth providing information on DCIL services and our AT program. 43 students came thru. They were interested in the AT equipment and the drivers permit class.

Staff attended the Real World Planning committee meeting. This is an exercise for students to see how much things cost and how to acquire services such as electricity, apartment, car etc. We will be setting up a booth this year. We just needed to come up with 5 scenarios for them to use our services.

Consumer Empowerment Committee meets and decides if there are any issues they need or want to address. Some suggestions for their meetings are to have speakers come in and talk about tenants' rights, Social Security, depression, Veterans services, Visitability. Other ideas were to go out and volunteer, support a food bank, Soup Café and learn about fund raising.

U of Mary held TBI panel and Disability Etiquette at BSC and United Tribes

Getting calls for 504 surveys and technical assistance

Part D enrollments approx. 54

Governance committee meeting February 6, 2019

Currently there is one opening on the Council and that is a member at large position. There will be two more openings coming up when Erik (April 30) quadrant two and Diane (March 31) member at large fulfill their terms.

Bill Willis and Shannon Binstock will finish up their first term March 31, 2019. They will be up for reappointment for their second term if they wish to run.

At the upcoming May meeting there will be a full slate of officers up for election or reelection. Britney as president, Trevor as vice president, Bill as treasurer and Shannon as Secretary.

True Outcomes

As part of our new fiscal year, our staff are working on what we are calling “True Outcomes.” We are focusing on these, because we recognize we have limited funding, so our hope is we can make better use of our services by finding people who are looking to achieve these outcomes and building our capacity around them. The True Outcomes are:

- Education,
- Transportation,
- Transition/Prevention,
- Housing,
- Employment,
- Leadership

One of the keys to effectively doing this is we hope to increase our staff training around each of these issues. At our January staff meeting, we had Andrea Savelkoul from Signal Realtors come in and met with us about home ownership. We talked a lot about how we could make the dream of home ownership more obtainable for PWD.

Regarding Transition/Prevention services, with MFP as it currently set up is coming to an end, we are building our capacity to serve people using the new programming. As Transition/Prevention is more inclusive of other institutions other than nursing homes, we have also been working hard on building capacity to serve people at risk of or moving out of jails or prisons. We have met with members of the local recovery committee, members of local Law Enforcement, and had staff trainings on peer based mentoring in the process of recovery.

Regarding Employment, we are looking at building a campaign around encouraging self-employment. I have reached out to several local lending organizations and worked with them to build a training that will include better promotion of self-employment.

Community Services

We have created a “Duck Pull” game for use at public events as a tool for creating community education for youth about disability related issues. We have done it at several community events over the past few months.

We have formed Minot Housing First Coalition. The group is trying to build momentum behind efforts to create better housing options for people who cannot access current housing as a result of addiction. It is being somewhat surprising by the fact that Minot currently has a surplus of affordable housing options.

The IL Ambassadors continue to be very active in efforts to #MakeMinotAccessible. We have a large campaign to encourage snow removal. A while back, we met with the Chief of Police to learn about the current city ordinance and how to enforce it. We have been able to present to City Council introducing our “Shovel for Independence” campaign. As a result of that, the Mayor formed a list of volunteers to help with cleaning snow for people who are unable. We also had two different news stories about snow removal.

The Ambassadors also continue to work on downtown accessibility. We have met with Jessica Ackerman from the ASKOL group, who has made a strong commitment to working with us to ensure improved accessibility. She has actually integrated accessibility as a goal of her new designs. I was also appointed to the IEDC Downtown Technical Committee, which is charged with helping to develop a plan for developing a sustainable business climate for downtown Minot. I was glad to be invited to that, as city leaders saw accessibility as part of a better business climate.

The Governor's office reached out to me and asked me to apply for the revamped Olmstead Commission. We have not yet met, but I have been assured it is going to be used as a tool to address concerns with the inequality of HCBS services in North Dakota as well as working through bureaucratic barriers.

I recently joined the Minot Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee. This is part of our organizations efforts to expand beyond traditional human service and disability groups to share our message.

Independence, Inc. held film screening and panel discussion following Bottom Dollars to discuss unfair labor practices involving people with disabilities. Our local Goodwill Industries attended and stated they refused to adopt these practices and are committed to employing people with disabilities at equal wages. Employees from the leading 14(c) waiver employer in the area was also in attendance, and accaully recorded our panel discussion after the movie.

We held our 10 Annual Independent Living Fair on November 1st. We had over 300 people come through. For the second year in a row, the Region 2 Community of Practice held training at the same time, which brought dozens of rural youth to the event. We had a nice blend of advocacy organizations, employment providers, HCBS providers, medical providers, recreation providers and more.

National Advocacy Updates:

Farm Bill Update

The farm bill passed the house. It does include some new work requirements for SNAP benefits, however, the implementation is phased out over a 10 year period.

Transportation

FAA Bill that would impact people with disabilities. However, the bill did not move in the past congress.

Emergency/Disaster Preparedness

FEMA response to people with disabilities and Hurricane Florence.

- The rivers continue to swell and flooding will continue in the Carolinas.
 - Thus, there is an ongoing effort to serve individuals with disabilities displaced by the storm.
- Shelters were classifying evacuation sites as either open to pets and service animals or not permitted.
 - However, under the ADA people with disabilities are entitled to having a service animal accompany them. Thus, we need to continue our efforts to educate emergency management and shelters on ADA regulations prior to natural disasters.

- Two females with psychiatric disabilities voluntarily were being transported to a new facility this week in a sheriff's van. The vehicle was overtaken by flood waters and the two women lost their lives. Reports indicate the women were allegedly shackled and the deputies were unable to open the windows. The deputies have been placed on administrative leave. We will continue to monitor the case as more details unfold.

IL Funding Update

- IL got a 3 Million Dollar increase in the budget signed late last year. This was not part of the "government shutdown" process because the bill was signed in advance of it.
 - 2.65% increase to independent living

Labor Laws and Subminimum Wages

- NCIL position statement cites 14(c) waivers will be phased out.
- 14(c) waivers will not be renewed.
- National Federation for the Blind is taking similar stance in phasing out program.
- National Council on Disability issued a report regarding subminimum wage.

Link to report: <https://www.ncd.gov/publications/2012/August232012>

EMPOWER Care Act (H.R. 5306) & Money Follows the Person (MFP)

- Bill had 57 Cosponsors (38 Democrats; 20 Republicans)
 - Co-sponsors have increased by 37 and bill is gaining momentum.
- Taylor and I met with then Congressman Cramer, and the next week, he sponsored the EMPOWER Care Act.
- Before the end of the Year, the Empower Care Act passed the house, however, it never came up in the senate