

**STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
Holiday Inn, Minot  
Wednesday November 1, 2017**

**Call to Order:** Brittney Hogan called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Susan Olson, Shannon Binstock, Brittney Hogan, Trevor Vannett, Melvin Erdmann, Bill Willis, Dennis Lyon, Larry Thiele

**Non-Council Members Present:** Aimee Volk, Robyn Throlson, Russ Korzeniewski, Scott Burlingame, Nate Aalgaard, Randy Sorenson

**Members Absent:** Royce Schultze, Diane Siekaniec, Erik Williamson

**Approval of August Minutes:** Shannon Binstock made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Trevor Vannett. Motion passed by unanimous decision.

**Approval of November agenda was made with amendments to the agenda to add approval of agenda and Needs Assessment Survey to the agenda. Motion made by Shannon Binstock to approve agenda as amended and seconded by Dennis Lyon. Motion passed by unanimous decision.**

**Correspondence – Brittney Hogan:** None

**Treasurer's Report – Bill Willis:**

Bill went over budget report. Remaining balance is \$50,039. It was noted that we have open positions so this should be considered with the budget.

**Trevor Vannett made a motion to approve treasurers' report and Shannon Binstock seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous decision.**

**APRIL Conference– Brittney Hogan and Scott Burlingame:**

The APRIL conference was held in Spokane, WA in October for CILs in the rural areas. They discussed social media, CILs within the reservation area, and advocacy. Scott was elected as secretary for APRIL.

**Continuity of Operations – Russ Korzeniewski**

Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) in the event a building was in an emergency that may disrupt normal operations. FEMA is responsible for providing guidance to agencies

in developing COOP plans. A COOP is a plan of action that would be in place to have mission essential functions to keep things running. To have an effective plan you will want to keep it simple, must be operational no later than 12 hours after activation, and must maintain sustained operations for up to 30 days. Alternate facilities need to be capable of supporting the operation in a threat-free environment. All facilities should conduct drills.

**People with Disabilities – Minot Legislators:**

Panel members present: Jon Nelson, Christy Coughlin, Wanda Aanderud, Melanie Johnson, Darrell Wahl

There was public input forum on People with Disabilities who have benefited from independent living services. Discussion was held on where the panel resides, leisure activities, what they learned, barriers in the Minot community with people with disabilities, how they learned about Independence Inc., and what it means to be a person with a disability. The panel members are all recent graduates of the Community Leadership Academy.

Representative Nelson spoke on how listening to the panel has made an impact on the independent living services. Ultimately, to live independently is likely the least costly expense to the state. He recommended having some of the panel members come to the legislative session so that everyone can see the impact of independent living services.

**Independent Living Needs Assessment Survey: Brittney Hogan**

The group discussed the new needs assessment survey draft which went from one survey into two surveys. One is for the consumer and the other one is for the provider or family. If there are any ideas or changes to the Needs Assessment Survey please contact Aimee Volk.

**Committee Breakouts:** Committee breakout sessions took place at this time.

**Thursday, November 2, 2017**

**Call to Order:** Brittney Hogan called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Dennis Lyon, Scott Burlingame, Shannon Binstock, Larry Thiele, Bill Willis, Susan Olson, Trevor Vannett, Brittney Hogan, Melvin Erdmann

**Non-Committee Members:** Aimee Volk, Robyn Throlson, Scott Burlingame, Randy Sorenson, Nate Aalgaard, Norm McCloud, Taylor Heine

Members Absent: Royce Schultze, Diane Siekaniec, Eric Williamson

**Update on Independence Proposal (P3I) – Scott Burlingame**

P3I is a president's proposal to combine the SILC, Developmental Disabilities Council, and Traumatic Brain Injury Council into one unit and cut the funds by 50 percent.

There was a group discussion on the impact on independent living facilities and services if the P3I goes through. There was also discussion on how to get our voices heard. It was advised to contact the regional senator's office to set up a meeting with Heidi Heitkamp.

**Action: A proposal for a formal letter to the legislators about funding that Brittney Hogan will complete. A Motion was made by Dennis Lyon to approve the formal letter to the legislators office and seconded by Larry Thiele. Motion passed by unanimous decision.**

**Quarterly Director's Report:**

Randy for Options: Showed website of handicapped accessible recreation. See attached.

Aimee Volk for Dakota Center for Independent Living: See attached.

Scott for independence, Inc.: See attached.

Nate for Freedom: See attached.

**Committee Reports:**

Internal Affairs – Brittney Hogan:

Documentation was provided on The Grid 2017 - 2019 spreadsheet.

External Affairs – Scott Burlingame:

Get measureable statistical data that can be provided to the legislature on the value of independent living. Documentation was provided on The Grid 2017 – 2019 spreadsheet.

Governance Committee – Bill Willis:

Documentation was provided on The Grid 2017 – 2019 spreadsheet.

State Rehabilitation Council – Trevor Vannett:

There was a meeting held on October 24-25, 2017. Business awards that were issued.

State Council on Developmental Disabilities – Trevor Vannett:

Nothing to report.

Quarterly Region 8 Conference Call – Brittney Hogan:

Nothing to report.

The next SILC meeting will be held February 7 and 8, 2018 in Bismarck, ND.

**Melvin Erdmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Trevor Vannett. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.**

**NORTH DAKOTA 2016-2017  
Quarter Three**

North Dakota Statewide Quarterly Statistics					North Dakota OVR Quarterly Statistics					
July 1, 2017 - Sept 30, 2017					July 1, 2017 - Sept 30, 2017					
Quarter 4					Quarter 4					
	Dakota	Freedom	Independence	Options	Total	Dakota	Freedom	Independence	Options	Total
I&R's	339	623	478	252	1692	75	399	373	186	1033
Direct Service	6	40	130	16	192	1	26	101	12	140
CEO	2563	1936	702	104	5305	564	1239	548	77	2427
Total People	2908	2599	1310	372	7189	640	1663	1022	275	3600
Goals	85%	91%	98%	85%	93%	85%	91%	98%	85%	93%
Year to Date										
I&R's	996	2514	1212	1203	5925	219	1609	945	890	3664
Direct Service	213	223	630	193	1259	47	143	491	143	824
CEO	6014	6809	4349	791	17963	1323	4358	3392	585	9658
Total People	7223	9546	6191	2187	25147	1589	6109	4829	1618	14146
Goals	88%	90%	99%	84%	95%	88%	90%	99%	84%	95%

**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.

## Directors Report-Dakota Center for Independent Living

One staff attended financial training through ASPIRE to assist transition students and people disabilities and how to budget and create savings., Reduced debt, build a good credit rating and protect themselves against scammers. This was held in St. Paul.

Staff presented two breakout sessions at the Power up Health Conference. First session was Bridges and Barriers to Communication and Internet safety and the second session was on Self Advocacy.

Staff hosted a DCIL booth at Project service Connect and Veterans Stand Down Staff in Bismarck and Dickinson attended SHIC training in Bismarck.

Dickinson staff has provided outreach on DCIL services to Dickinson Public school, Dickinson Adult Learning Center, New England High School, new staff for Protection and Advocacy, Stark County Social Services and Angel 37 Community Kitchen.

Staff completed Four Cornerstones of Financial Literacy through the ASPIRE program for two youth and two adults.

We are working with the University of Michigan on a small grant to hold a health focus group for women with physical disabilities. The focus group will discuss pregnancy, periods, their knowledge of healthcare providers and communicating with healthcare providers. Another part of this is going to share their stories on what is important to them about their gynecological and reproductive health. PS I will not be part of this group.

Staff completed a 504 assessment of the McClusky City Hall. The referral came from USDA – Rural Development

Staff worked with the Bismarck city commission and Metropolitan Planning Organization to pass an amended ordinance for accessible taxis. This passed and we will be working with Mandan next.

KXMB news interviewed one of our consumers and staff for National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Staff is working on creating a spinal cord injury support group and a social skills group for youth with disabilities.

New Branch Office Manager in Dickinson and her name is Chantel Zeller. She had previously worked for us about five and half years ago. Previous branch office manager retired and or other part-time individual in Dickinson was let go. Heather Larsen will fill that position starting November 6<sup>th</sup>.

We hired a new MFP transition coordinator, Melissa Kessler that will begin November 1.

Freedom Resource Center Quarterly Report  
November 1, 2017

Freedom held its fifth annual Art of Freedom event on October 5. It was held at the Dakota Medical Foundation building in south Fargo. We had 80 artists register, although a few did not make it. The event was successful and the reviews were good. There are a lot of very fun and interesting back stories of the various people who decided to create some art and put it in the show. We are continuing to explore how we can continue to use the arts to help promote independence.

We recently started training all of our staff who do direct service on the ABCs of Nursing Home Transition. This is a curriculum that many of us went through a few years ago. The State will be going to a fee-for-service model, we want to have a number of staff available for this part of our services.

Our accessibility work continues. In addition to working on the Fargodome and NDSU basketball arena, we have now begun to work on some downtown and West Acres Shopping Center parking issues. At least one Sanford health facility has upgraded their parking because of our advocacy and technical assistance. We will continue to monitor their progress, as well as work to find new issues in the communities we serve. We are also promoting the ADA transition plan public input for the City of Moorhead. People can go on their website and recommend changes in various areas of the city; such as sidewalks, curb cuts, bus shelters, or city buildings.

One of our staff did a presentation on disaster preparedness to a group in Fargo. She formerly worked for the Red Cross, and has quite a bit of experience in this area.

Freedom hosted Scott Cooper, who is doing the It's Our Story videos. We had about 10 people interviewed. He was at our office for three days, so that was interesting. He has a website where people can look up the videos.

Staff conducted an outreach event at the epilepsy support group meeting. We will also have a booth at the MS Society upcoming dinner and outreach event.

We have been doing an ongoing hiring process. You met Cindy last meeting. She will be taking over as program director next summer. One of our internal applicants was selected to replace Cindy as Independent Living Advocate in our Fargo office. Her job as Integrated Employment Specialist was filled by another internal applicant. Now we are hiring for a Fergus Falls advocate position. Hopefully that will end recruiting and hiring for a while.

We had a meeting with a local legislator about community integration issues. She is looking for input on how North Dakota can best serve people with disabilities in the communities of their choice.

We have started planning for the next Giving Parts Day online fundraiser, which will be February 8.

## Executive Directors Report

Scott Burlingame,  
Executive Director  
11/1/17

### InDak Media

One of the biggest challenges we always face is our inability to use mass media for telling our story. In order to help change this, we have been working with InDak Media on some short educational videos. We will make use of them to promote IL as a movement and Independence, Inc. as an organization. We have four total videos, 3 are 45 seconds long and highlight living at home, employment and transportation, and disability pride. The third video is attempting to tell the story of what we believe.

### Staffing Updates

We currently have 7.75 FTE's in our office. This includes 1 FTE paid for by the MFP program. We have a 1 FTE open in Minot, which will work primarily with the VR-Pre-ETS program, and a .75 FTE in Bottneau to provide IL services.

As of 9/30/18, have wrapped up our 2 year grant to work on the Health Community Living Project through APRIL and the Rural Institute For Inclusive Communities at the University of Montana.

### Direct Services

Last year we have transitioned 10 persons from nursing homes back into the community. Eight of these were part of the MFP program, two were provided by other IL funding. We are very happy to announce that the MFP program will be extended for another 12 months, as our NFTC is still working really hard to get people out of nursing homes.

We are very happy to be working with the Department of Justice as they investigate the state of North Dakota for compliance with the Olmstead decision. They spend last week in our service area, meeting with people who have successfully transitioned, those who have not been able to, and with nursing homes that have not yet seen the value of programs designed to help people return home.

Our Community Leadership Academy wrapped up during the past week of Sept. We used funding from the State Council on Development Disabilities to fund this program. We started with 15 people signed up, and we had 9 people complete the training.

### Community Services

#### Transportation

The City of Minot is applying for a new grant to replace an aging and inaccessible bus. I gave public testimony in support of this project.



We have been providing a lot of training to people on bus riding over the past few months. Our challenge is to encourage people to make use of the public transportation system, not just the curb to curb service.

### Housing

I continue to serve on the Board of Affordable Housing Directors Inc (AHDI). That organization is, as you would expect from the name, a developer of affordable housing. We own about 5 different buildings in Independence, Inc.'s service area. This includes Washington Townhomes here in Minot. The organization has primarily been working on rehabbing housing units moving forward.

The City of Minot is currently in the process of accepting RFP's for a new family homeless shelter using money from a HUD grant the city was granted a few years back. This will be the first year around shelter for men, for older boys and for families.

### Recreation

One of our Board Members Emily Schroder is a member of the Velva Wildlife Club. They have purchased the former Farmer Union Camp just outside of Velva. In order to fix it up, they have applied for a grant through the Department of Game and Fish. They are very interested in making it fully accessible and creating opportunities for PWD. We met with them, along with Drew Hanson, the Executive Director of Prairie Grit Adaptive Sports.