



WASHINGTON

State Independent Living  
Council

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**SILC Quarterly Public  
Meeting Minutes**

*Thursday July 7, 2016*

*Oxford Inn & Suites, Ballroom - Bellingham, WA 98226*

**Members Present:**

Mark Leeper, Center Director Representative, Pullman. Kayla Victor, Private Business Representative, Vancouver. Keith James, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities. Sheila Turner, Parent Guardian Representative, Pasco. Krysta Van Woert, General Public Representative, Tonasket.

**Members Absent:**

Ryan Nabors, CIL Representative, Tumwater. Jana Finkbonner, VR Tribal Representative, Bellingham. Andres Aguirre, DVR Ex-Officio, Olympia. Almir Trejo, General Public Representative, Tacoma. Jason Ritchie, Private Business Representative, Issaquah.

**Council Staff:**

Megan Holloway, SILC Executive Assistant, Olympia.

**Department of Health (DOH) Emergency Project Contract Staff:**

Alexandrea Hatcher, Disability Integration Manager, Lynnwood. Ericka Malamphy, Inclusive Emergency Management Project Administrative Assistant, Lacey.

**Guests:**

Jennifer Bean. Bev Bishop. Brenda Boles. Kim Canaan. Riley Daugherty. Kimberley Heymann. Jerry Johnsen. Carl Johnson. Bill Kane. Patt Kosier. Sandy Latham. Shawn Latham. Rob Legrand. Kathleen Morris. Nicola Noetic. Linda Reed. Vikki Royal. Kyle Tangedahl. Margaret Tangedahl. Pam Wilson.

**Professional Service Providers/ Interpreters:** Kathleen Bucker. Lori Abrams.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order on July 7, 2016, at 9:30 A.M. by Mark Leeper, SILC Chair.

**Approval of April 2016 Minutes:**

**Motion:** Kayla motioned and Seconded by Keith, to approve the April minutes. With all in favor, motion passed.

**Executive Director Report and Introduction/Discussion:**

The Hiring Committee explained the process and steps of hiring an Executive Director for the SILC. It was stated that they have received applications, narrowed down the applicants, held interviews and are now on to the next steps of the hiring process. Once the Council has made a decision, it will need to be ratified by the State. The Council can then move forward with the desired applicant. It is the Hiring Committees goal to have the new Executive Director by the October 2016 quarterly meeting.

Mark explained to the guests of the meeting what the SILC is and what we do. We are a Governor appointed Council who does not provide direct services. As a Council, we can get involved with systemic advocacy and spread awareness related to disabilities and promote independent living in order to influence positive changes that impact across the State. The Council and the Centers for Independent Living (CILs) co-develop the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL).

**Center for Independence (CFI) Presentation and Update:**

Patt Kosier informed the Council that the Bellingham Center for Independence (CFI) moved during May of 2016 to Marysville and will no longer be recognized as CFI North Sound, but as just CFI instead. She stated that CFI has expanded their service area to cover all the following counties; Thurston, Peirce, South King, Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, San Juan and Island counties.

Pam Wilson is the branch manager of the Marysville CFI and she informed the Council that the Bellingham office was no longer serving their needs and they were able to acquire a larger space for their office when they moved to Marysville. Pam introduced some of their new employees to the Council and explained how each staff member has an area their services are focused on.

**Coalition on Inclusive Emergency Planning (CIEP) Updates:**

Ericka gave an update on the Council on the Coalition on Inclusive Emergency Planning (CIEP). She stated that the 2015-2016 Department of Health (DOH)

Contract ended as of June 30<sup>th</sup> and the 2016-2017 DOH Contract started on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Ericka informed the Council that the CIEP Newsletter is updated quarterly and anyone interested can receive these newsletters. She also spoke about Alex and what her role is as the Disability Integration Manager on the Inclusive Emergency Project.

### **Statewide Youth Conference/Project Discussion:**

Krysta informed the Council that the Youth Subcommittee have had two meetings so far and are focused on planning their program goals. This subcommittee would like to establish a strong statewide youth effort.

Krysta shared that main challenge so far has been a conflict of availability while establishing a reoccurring monthly time for the Youth Subcommittee to meet. This is a challenge due to many youth having school, homework, work and extra-curricular activities. Krysta also informed the Council that there has been some discussion on creating a Facebook page for the Youth Subcommittee.

Krysta stated that the Youth Subcommittee is a work in progress and they are still learning to be a successful subcommittee.

### **Mike Hudson, Great Minds at Work:**

Mike presented a PowerPoint to the Council on Great Minds at Work. Mike explained that the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) Becoming Employed Starts Here (BEST) Grant is currently being piloted in two Washington State counties; Grant and Clark. Mike also stated that the Supported Employment (IPS) is currently used in 19 US States and other countries are now using this as evidence based practice.

### **Public Comment:**

Linda Reed shared with the Council her experience working for the Center for Independence (CFI) in Bellingham and the process of her employment termination.

### **Jerry Johnsen, Client Assistance Program (CAP) Update:**

Jerry informed the Council that the Client Assistance Program (CAP) has recently hired Jen Bean as a Rehabilitation Coordinator, Jen also has a working history with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR).

CAP has been partnering with Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and working on the placement of DVR, which is currently in DSHS. Jerry explained how an agency is placed within another agency; they must conform to their rules. Although sometimes, the rules and policy of the other agency may hinder necessary functions of the agency which is placed within it. Jerry stated this issue was

addressed with the Governor's Office in order to try and get DVR housed in another agency and removed from within DSHS.

Jerry informed the Council that CAP is partnering with the Washington State Rehabilitation Council (WSRC) on implementing the new Washington Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

### **Carl Johnston, Vocational Rehab Update on Youth Services:**

Carl Johnston introduced himself as the Vocational Rehabilitation Director of the Bellingham office. He explained to the Council that there is a lot of mandated outreach to youth. The workforce is focused on youth who are out of school, while DVR's service is focused on youth still enrolled in school. The Federal age range of transition in youth is 14 – 21.

Transition services are now defined as services provided to not only DVR consumers who are students enrolled in school, but to include any youth with a 504 Plan or an Individualized Education Program (IEP) who may not be DVR consumers. This also included youth who are enrolled in school, but who are not necessarily attending school physically. These transition services will include; job exploration and work based learning services, workplace ready training, how to have good communication in the workplace, taking direction, problem solving and instruction on self-advocacy. DVR would like to also train the schools to be able to perform some of these skill trainings.

Carl identified the challenge of getting the knowledge of their services to those youth that need the services, before they are out of school. A statewide meeting to develop new ideas on what DVR staff can do with different school programs and how to engage more youth.

DVR has provided contracted funding to school districts to find out where and what their needs are, and where we need to focus our resources.

### **Subcommittees Structures/Reporting:**

The Council discussed the different SILC Subcommittees and how in our policy reads that each of these subcommittees will meet regularly. Also, each subcommittee will submit a report 3 weeks prior to SILC quarterly meetings. Their reports will be on the agendas for each quarterly meeting.

### **SPIL Implementation Process:**

Mark explained the purpose of the Washington State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) and the development process of the new 2017-2019 SPIL, which is jointly developed by the Council and CILs.

The 2017-2019 SPIL has been submitted to the Association for Community Living (ACL) Management Information System (MIS) for review and we are currently waiting on any feedback from the Feds.

The Council is charged with monitoring the implementation of this plan.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.