Dear Advocates and Friends,

Welcome to NCIL’s 2018 Annual Conference on Independent Living!

Our theme is *Mobilize: Resistance through Action*. For over a year now, members of Congress and aggressive ideologues have tried their hardest to strip people with disabilities of their health and liberty. We have met these challenges head-on and will continue to do so.

Some battles have been won, others lost. We are powerful, and we must share resources, strategize, and train new advocates if we want to succeed in our efforts to protect our programs and secure the independence of people with disabilities.

In 2018, NCIL will focus heavily on mobilization and advocacy. This has always been the core of our work, but we must challenge ourselves to stay focused, strategic, and proactive. We have come together to show our power, take to the streets, and share our message of independence and empowerment. This is sure to be one of the most exciting Independent Living conferences in history.

I would especially like to thank our sponsors: Centene; Anthem; Verizon; Uber; UnitedHealthcare; Waymo; PhRMA; Walmart; Motor Coach Industries; Center for Disability Rights; Institute for Educational Leadership; Ability360; Airbnb; Pride Mobility; Amtrak; National Disability Institute; Molina Healthcare; Microsoft; and Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation.

Sincerely,

Kelly Buckland

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**Sunday, July 22**

**Monday, July 23**

**Tuesday, July 24**

**Wednesday, July 25**

**Thursday, July 26**

**Friday, July 27**
Schedule of Events

Sunday, July 22

NCIL Board Meeting

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. / Lafayette & Farragut

NCIL Board meetings are open to the public.

Pre-Conference Sessions

Integrating Disability Into Emergency Management – A Blueprint to Saving Lives in the Community

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. / Independence A

Presented by: Christy Dunaway; Todd Holloway; Vance Taylor; June Kailes; and Marcie Roth

2017 was unprecedented in the number and severity of disasters in our country. The disability community was disproportionately impacted because we, and local and state emergency managers and society in general, have not acted upon the lessons we have observed from previous disasters by implementing practices, policies, and procedures to better prepare our response. Natural disasters are more intense, and human-caused disasters more frequent. If people with disabilities are to survive these disasters with less damage to us and our community, we must take action now! To paraphrase Justin Dart, “we must get involved as if our lives depended on it.” The NCIL Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee will discuss promising practices regarding developing strategies to integrate disability into emergency management in your community.

Resistance through Direct Action – How IL and ADAPT Work Together

4:00 - 5:30 p.m. / Independence A

Presented by: Bruce Darling; Anita Cameron; Candie Dalton; Dawn Russell; Denise Figueroa; Lindsay Miller; and Mike Oxford

After the #SummerOfADAPT, there has been a renewed interest in organizing direct action throughout the Independent Living community and this organizing has been critically important. In fact, without the on-the-ground organizing done around the country, we would likely not have saved Obamacare or prevented the proposed draconian Medicaid cuts. The purpose of this Pre-Conference Session is to provide participants with an orientation to ADAPT and disability-led direct action while helping participants understand the various ways that CILs can provide support to local ADAPT organizing and how states can leverage this in effecting systems change.

Youth Caucus Orientation

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. / Independence A

Youth (anyone age 26 and under) are welcome to attend this meeting. NCIL’s Youth Caucus will discuss the layout of the conference, the function of the Youth Caucus, and setting goals
for the Youth Caucus in the next year. Youth scholarship recipients are required to attend.

Monday, July 23

Opening Plenary

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. / Independence A

Join us for an exciting address by Rebecca Vallas (see bio on page 29) to kick off a week of movement-building and mobilization. Don’t miss this exciting conference opener!

Legislative & Advocacy Update

10:15 - 11:30 a.m. / Independence A

Get up-to-date information on the progress of NCIL’s advocacy efforts from Chairs of NCIL’s Legislative & Advocacy Subcommittees. The Chairs will review and answer questions about NCIL’s advocacy talking points so participants are fully prepared for their Congressional visits.

Preparing for the Day on the Hill

11:30 - 11:45 a.m. / Independence A

Learn the ABCs of NCIL’s March & Rally, including where to meet, what to bring, important information about our route, what to do in case of an emergency, and how to get back to the hotel after your Capitol Hill Visits.

Concurrent Workshops I

1:00 - 2:15 p.m. / See page 10-13 for descriptions, presenters, and locations.

Demo: Do It. Make It. Fix It - Assistive Technology You Control

1:00 and 3:00 p.m. / Independence Foyer

Presented by: John Flaherty and Brenda Dare

Assistive Technology is essential for independence, but ready-made devices are often expensive, difficult to trial and may not even meet the needs of users. The current climate of DIY and Maker efforts offer a range of options that can be tailored to the individual. This presentation will speak to the effectiveness of two approaches, one on each end of the tech complexity spectrum: adaptive design work utilizing triple-ply cardboard to create custom answers and a 3D printing program that can generate individualized solutions external to the consumer marketplace. Attend the demo at either 1:00 or 3:00 p.m. to get hands-on assistance with your assistive technology questions! Please note that the 1:00 demo is scheduled concurrently with Concurrent Workshops I and the 3:00 demo is scheduled concurrently with Caucuses for Regions I-V.

Regional Caucuses

→ Regions I through V: 2:45 - 3:45 p.m. → Regions VI through X: 4:15 - 5:15 p.m.
This is your opportunity to strategize for your Capitol Hill Visits. Each state decides who will attend which meeting to ensure that every legislator is visited. A list of Regions by state is available on page 27. Please note the separate times listed for Regions I - V and VI - X.

- Regions 1 & 8: Independence BC
- Regions 2 & 7: Independence FGHI
- Regions 3 & 6: Independence A
- Regions 4 & 9: Independence DE
- Regions 5 & 10: Lafayette / Farragut

Diversity Mixer

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. / Independence A

The Diversity Committee will present awards to NCIL members who have committed themselves to centering people of color, LGBTQ+, young people, and other communities underrepresented in IL. Light snacks and non-alcoholic beverages will be available, accompanied by a cash-bar.

Tuesday, July 24

Organize for the March

9:30 - 10:00 a.m. / 11th & G Streets NW

Participants should assemble at 9:30 a.m. at G and 11th Streets, NW. The March will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m.

March to the U.S. Capitol

10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

NCIL members march from the Grand Hyatt to Capitol Hill demonstrating support for the independence of people with disabilities! Complimentary Do-It-Yourself Sign Kits will be available on the conference floor the afternoon of Monday, July 23. See page 29 for a list of ideas! Directions to and from the Hyatt are available on page 31 and a map of the Rally location is available on page 34.

Lunch

11:00 - 11:30 a.m. / West Front Lawn of the U.S. Capitol Building (Rally Site)

Box lunches will be provided to conference registrants.

2018 Rally at the U.S. Capitol

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Marchers will converge in front of the Capitol Building for an empowering Rally featuring a number of speakers, including leaders in the Independent Living Movement and elected officials working on the issues we care about most.
Capitol Hill Visits

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Participants are encouraged to meet with their elected officials and their staffs to discuss issues important in their districts. Congressional contact information is available at house.gov and senate.gov, or you can call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and ask for your Senators’ and/or Representative’s office. Participants must arrange their own accommodations, including interpreters, for Hill Visits ahead of time. Direct requests for interpreters and other accommodations to Congressional staff. Contact angela@ncil.org with any questions.

Wednesday, July 25

Concurrent Workshops II

9:00 - 10:15 a.m. / See page 13-15 for descriptions, presenters, and locations.

Exhibit Fair

10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. / Independence Foyer

Spend some time browsing the products and services offered by our exhibitors, many of which are your fellow NCIL members. The NCIL Annual Conference would not be possible without the generous support of our exhibitors and sponsors. Exhibits will be open all day Wednesday and Thursday.

Film Screening - Invalid Corps

10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. / Franklin

Created in 1863, the Invalid Corps was made up of men who had been “disabled by wounds or by disease contracted in the line of duty” – men missing limbs, and eyes, those with rheumatism, epilepsy, bullet injuries, those with what we would now call PTSD, and many others. In this film, it is July 1864 and Confederate General Jubal Early is at the gates of Washington, DC. The city is in panic. Almost every able-bodied soldier from the Union has already been sent south with General Grant for the siege of Petersburg. The only defenders remaining are clerks, government officials, and the Invalid Corps. This is the story of men with disabilities, of men with honor, and of men whose place in history shouldn’t be forgotten. Attend this film screening to learn about the Invalid Corps and the men who served in it. Please note that this film screening is scheduled concurrently with the Exhibit Fair and American Health Policy 102.

American Health Policy 102: Understanding Medicaid and Recent / Current Policy Changes

10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. / Lafayette & Farragut

This training workshop will: 1) provide an overview of the evolution and current design of the U.S. Medicaid program, 2) assess the growing role of Medicaid managed care; 3) discuss recent Congressional and Administrative proposals for Medicaid reform; 4) describe the
variety of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) programs funded by Medicaid; and 5) explore implications of current / recent policy changes for Medicaid beneficiaries with disabilities. Please note that this event is scheduled concurrently with the Exhibit Fair and Film Screening: Invalid Corps.

Awards Luncheon

12:00 - 2:00 p.m. / Independence Ballroom

Join us to celebrate and honor this year’s national award winners! Awards will be presented over lunch. Admission to this event is included in full conference registration.

Annual Council Meeting

2:30 - 5:30 p.m. / Independence A

Attend the Annual Council Meeting to vote for Governing Board members and resolutions that will guide NCIL in the coming years. This year, elections will be held for: Vice-President, Secretary, Diversity Chair, and three Members-At-Large. Elections for Youth at-Large and Representatives of Regions II, IV, VI, VIII, and X will be held prior to the conference and the winners will be announced at the meeting. CILs and SILCs must pay their 2018 dues in full by June 25 (30 days prior) to be eligible to vote in person or by proxy.

Closing Social - NCIL@Nite

8:00 - 11:00 p.m. / Independence Ballroom

Join us as we celebrate the 2018 Annual Conference on Independent Living. Come ready to join your fellow advocates in merriment and don’t forget your dancing shoes! Light snacks and non-alcoholic beverages will be available free of charge, accompanied by a cash bar.

Thursday, July 26

Concurrent Workshops III

9:00 - 10:15 a.m. / See page 15-18 for descriptions, presenters, and locations.

Concurrent Workshops IV

10:30 - 11:45 a.m. / See page 18-21 for descriptions, presenters, and locations.

Concurrent Workshops V

1:30 - 2:45 p.m. / See page 21-24 for descriptions, presenters, and locations.

Film Screening - The Sensitives

1:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. / Franklin

The Sensitives is a documentary that premiered at NYC’s Tribeca Film Festival this year.
Drew Xanthopoulos filmed the material over a three-year period during which he stayed with (or near to) people with hypersensitivities. This film provides an up-close education about the barriers and adaptations common to people with this disability. Such an education is unlikely to be available elsewhere, and it is crucial to fulfilling our responsibilities as cross-disability advocates and service providers. Please note that this event is scheduled concurrently with other events.

**Legislative Debriefing**

3:00 - 4:00 p.m. / Independence A

This session will summarize the advocacy accomplished during the week and serve as a springboard for the development of a plan of action that can be implemented at the national, state, and local levels during the coming year.

**ILA Update**

4:15 - 5:00 p.m. / Independence A

Lance Robertson, Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging at the Administration for Community Living (ACL); Mary Lazare, Principal Deputy Administrator and Acting Commissioner on Disabilities at ACL; and Bob Williams, Director of the Independent Living Administration (ILA) at ACL will provide an update on NCIL’s priorities and concerns for oversight of the IL Program, as well as other current affairs at ACL and the ILA.

**Friday, July 27**

**NCIL Board Meeting**

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. / Lafayette & Farragut

NCIL Board meetings are open to the public.

**Workshops & Poster Sessions**

**Poster Sessions**

A poster session is the presentation of research information with an academic or professional focus. Posters are displayed throughout the conference space at the discretion of the presenter.

**Advocacy Anxiety: Don't Stress About It!**

- Presented by: John Morosky and Patrick Griffith
- Location: Independence Foyer
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

For people with disabilities whose independence relies on their ability to communicate and take action for themselves, anxiety can greatly diminish their chances for success. Our poster will be designed to invite conversation by graphically presenting solutions for those who find anxiety to be a barrier in their efforts to self-advocate.
John Morosky, IL Specialist at Transitional Paths to Independent Living, has dealt with the effects of anxiety influencing his ability to advocate for himself. He seeks to use his personal experiences to help open doors for others who may not self-advocate due to worries and fears.

Patrick Griffith, IL Specialist / Internet Café Manager at Transitional Paths to Independent Living, has participated in numerous advocacy activities on the state and federal levels despite his own anxiety. His goal is to help others find inner peace through developing their voice as a self-advocate.

Workshop Tracks

- **Advocacy & Organizing Track**: Workshops related to systems advocacy, individual advocacy, and organizing.

- **Mobilizing New Leaders Track**: Workshops related to building new leadership by including and prioritizing the perspectives of youth, people of color, people who are LGBTQ+, and other advocates underrepresented in the IL Movement.

- **Core Services Track**: Workshops addressing innovation and best practices in the core services of Centers for Independent Living, especially the new core services of youth transition, transition from institutions to the community, and avoiding institutions.

- **SILC Track**: Workshops covering best practices and innovation in operations and programs of Statewide Independent Living Councils.

- **General Track**: Workshops for staff, consumers, and other advocates in the Independent Living Movement that do not fit the other four categories.

Workshop Sessions

The following workshops have been selected by NCIL's Annual Conference Subcommittee. Great care has been taken to ensure that the workshops are, as a whole, relevant to this year's Annual Conference theme and valuable to a cross-section of CIL, SILC, and IL Association staff, board members, consumers, and other advocates.

Workshops are classified by target audience: Front Line Staff & Consumers, Advocates & Project Directors, or Executive Directors & Board Members. Workshops are also classified as Newcomer, Experienced, or Appropriate for all levels.

**CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS I**

Monday, July 23, 1:00 - 2:15 p.m.

**L&A Hot Topic: Organizing and Action to Advance the Disability Integration Act**

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Independence A
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

This workshop will help prepare participants to effectively advocate and organize for passage.
of the Disability Integration Act. Presenters will review the legislation, provide an update on
the status of the bill, explore answers to common questions about the bill and identify
effective organizing strategies to use locally. Finally, participants will learn talking points
targeted to both ends of the political spectrum that will help in securing allies and addressing
potential opposition.

Bruce Darling is a national organizer with ADAPT and President of the NCIL Board with
more than three decades of experience in Independent Living and ADAPT. He is co-founder
and CEO of the Center for Disability Rights and serves and the CEO for the Regional CIL.

Dawn Russell is the lead organizer for the ADAPT chapter based in Denver, Colorado where
she is also a board member for the Atlantis Community. Dawn organized the occupation of
Senator Gardner’s office during the #SummerOfADAPT and has coordinated Colorado’s
efforts to secure cosponsors for DIA.

Greg Beratan, Manager of Government Relations for the Center for Disability Rights,
manages CDR’s legislative advocacy, which includes part-time staff in Washington, DC who
do Hill visits to advance the Disability Integration Act. Gregg is a disabled activist and writer
who co-founded the #CripTheVote and a proud member of ADAPT.

Laura Halvorsen is a native Texan with muscular dystrophy residing near Washington, DC.
She is an organizer with the local DC Metro ADAPT chapter. She is currently volunteering
with CDR doing Hill visits to secure co-sponsors and passage of the Disability Integration Act.

Achieve Success Through Partnership: Collaboration with CILs and other Organizations to
Accomplish Goals

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Independence BC
- Target audience: Advocates & Project Directors
- Knowledge level: Appropriate for all knowledge levels

Recent years have resulted in a mix of positive and negative policy outcomes for the disability
community in Missouri. This workshop will focus on the importance of coalition building with
stakeholders within the disability community and across issue areas. Presenters will highlight
recent successes, challenges, and the lessons learned in their state-level advocacy efforts.
Participants will gain a better understanding of best practices for working with partners to
impact policies that are important to the disability community, and how organizing and policy
efforts can work together to accomplish goals in the current political climate.

Kim Lackey is the Director of Public Policy and Advocacy at Paraquad, Missouri’s largest and
one of the first ten Centers for Independent Living in the U.S. Kim directs and guides
Paraquad’s public policy and advocacy agenda. She conducts research and analysis of
current disability rights laws and policy. She is involved in advocacy projects focused on
community access, access to affordable quality health care, employment, and public
transportation.

Derek Wetherell is the Systems Organizer at Paraquad. Derek leads the organization’s
mobilization efforts on state policy, voting, and local grass-roots organization. Derek has 7
years of organizing experience working on issue-based campaigns, state legislators’
campaigns, and in forming organizations and coalitions. His formal education is in Public
Policy from the University of Missouri - St. Louis. Additionally, he has participated in
numerous leadership and organizing trainings both regionally and nationally.
Chris Worth is the Organizing Team Manager at Paraquad. He has more than fifteen years of experience in community organizing. His team supports a grassroots coalition of more than one hundred people with disabilities and allies to advocate for disability rights in the St. Louis region.

Exploring SILC Authority to Conduct Systems Advocacy

- SILC Track
- Location: Independence DE
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

What does it mean that Statewide Independent Living Councils now have the Authority to "perform such other functions… as the Council determines to be appropriate…" and "…authorized in the approved SPIL?" This Authority provides SILCs with some latitude that was not previously available to them (consistent with the prescribed duties), most notably a more clearly stated opportunity to conduct systems advocacy. This workshop will explore the many forms that systems advocacy can take and be conducted by the SILC as a whole, SILC staff, and individual SILC members.

Ann McDaniel has been the Executive Director of the West Virginia SILC since 1996. She has both a Master’s and Bachelor’s Degree from Marshall University. Ann started working in the Independent Living and advocacy field in 1985. Ann is a mentor to other SILCs and provides technical assistance and training through the IL-NET, including national, state, regional, and local training on a variety of Independent Living topics.

Advocating for our Rights; Adhering to the Rules

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Independence FGHI
- Target audience: Advocates & Project Directors
- Knowledge level: Appropriate for all knowledge levels

This workshop will explore federal rules and regulations that might impact a Center’s ability to participate in advocacy or lobbying activities, and how to fulfill Centers’ advocacy purposes while abiding by applicable rules.

Ami Weidler-Hyten is the Executive Director for Programs & Operations and General Counsel for Topeka Independent Living Resource Center, Inc. For the past 15 years, Ami has provided administrative oversight; direct consumer representation and services; and public policy, grassroots and direct action advocacy for our community.

Lifting As We Climb: Empowering Young Leaders Through Peer Mentoring

- Mobilizing New Leaders Track
- Location: Lafayette & Farragut
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

This workshop will be an interactive and lecture-style discussion on how to engage youth and young adults with disabilities in your Center for Independent Living. The presenters will provide an opportunity to look at developing youth- and young adult-oriented peer groups and how an individual can start out as a peer mentor and end up as a community leader and advocate! It will discuss how to find, engage, and involve youth and young adults in your CIL
and in the community.

**Donna Fox** is employed at the Center for Accessible Living as a Youth Transition Coordinator. She oversees the YES! peer group, which serves youth and young adults. YES! promotes skills required for gaining independence. Priorities in education include: independent living, self-advocacy, legislative advocacy, and disability awareness.

**Tyler Levy** is disability advocate and a peer mentor for youth and young adults with disabilities who has served his community as a peer support leader, a mentor to high school students, and an as a legislative advocate. Tyler served as a board member on the Kentucky Statewide Council for Vocational Rehabilitation from 2012 until March of 2018. Currently, Tyler works at the Center for Accessible Living in Louisville, KY as a peer support leader.

**CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS II**

**Wednesday, July 25, 9:00 - 10:15 a.m.**

**Mobilizing Media Tools For Action**

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Independence A
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

From traditional media to the ever-changing landscape of “new” and social media, disability activists have unparalleled options at our disposal to help get the word out about our work. But with so many choices, it can be difficult to decide which options are best for you and your organization. Here’s your chance to learn from the pros, who will share firsthand examples of what they’ve learned in the field and lead participants in training exercises to help you decide which tools and techniques will work best for you.

**Dominick Evans** is a trans quip (queercrip) filmmaker, writer, and activist who works as a media advocate for the Center for Disability Rights. For the last year he has been a part of the ADAPT media team, and is also the founder of the twitter chat, #FilmDis.

**Day Al Mohamed** is a disability policy executive with more than fifteen years of experience. She presents often on the representation of disability in media, most recently for the National Bar Association, at New York Comic Con, and at SXSW. You can find her online at DayAlMohamed.com and on Twitter @DayAlMohamed.

**Anita Cameron** is Director of Minority Outreach for Not Dead Yet. An ADAPT leader and activist, Anita believes in the power of nonviolent civil disobedience and has been arrested more than 120 times during more than 30 years. As a Black, Disabled Lesbian, Anita has dealt with racism, sexism, ableism, and homophobia - sometimes combinations of these. She has used her experience of discrimination and her unique intersectional perspective to promote understanding among different groups of disenfranchised people and increase social justice among those fighting for social justice.

**Patrick Cokley** is the Disability Policy Engagement Manager at Anthem Inc. In this role, he supports Anthem’s continued engagement and communication with stakeholders on issues related to disability and provides guidance on how changes in legislation and policy may
affect care for individuals with disabilities.

Using Your CIL’s Strong Foundation to Demonstrate Your Value and Fulfill Your Purpose

- General Track
- Location: Independence BC
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

Maintaining the consumer voice in your business is especially important when rapid change is required to maintain, expand, or grow your current operations. In this session, you will learn how to capitalize on the performance of your organization in your advocacy efforts. Receive resources from the HCBS Business Acumen Center along with stories and examples of promising practices from community-based organizations serving people with disabilities.

**Erica Anderson** is the Senior Director of the HCBS Business Acumen Center at the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD). In that role, she manages the Business Acumen for Disability Organizations Resource Center.

**Lindsay Baran** is the Policy Analyst at the National Council on Independent Living, where she helps to implement NCIL’s legislative and advocacy activities. She works closely with the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities on several grants, including the HCBS Business Acumen Center.

The New Role for SILCs Following WIOA and How It Relates to the IL Network

- SILC Track
- Location: Independence DE
- Target audience: Executive Directors & Board Members
- Knowledge level: Appropriate for all knowledge levels

What has changed for your SILC since the passage of WIOA? What is your SILC’s new role in the “IL network” in your state? The workshop will provide you with an overview of what should have / could have changed for your SILC based on the amendments to the Rehabilitation Act made by WIOA and the new IL Regulations. The new partnership between the SILC and CILs and how the SILC fits into the IL network will also be explored and all participants will be asked to share experiences, problems, and solutions.

**Stephanie Jensen** currently manages the Independent Living programs for the Wyoming Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, where she has been for the past seven years. She was previously the Vocational Rehabilitation representative on the SILC and is the liaison between the SILC and VR. Stephanie has perspective from the DSE.

**Matt Seeley, Esq.** began his involvement in Independent Living in 2005 as Policy Coordinator for the Pennsylvania SILC. Matthew earned his Juris Doctorate in 2010. During Seeley’s legal career, he served as an Assistant District Attorney, a Criminal Defense Attorney, and doing pro bono work. Seely currently serves as the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania SILC.

**Paula McElwee** is a Technical Assistance Coordinator for the IL-NET CIL & SILC Training and Technical Assistance Projects at ILRU. Paula has provided training, facilitation, and consultation with state associations, SILCs, and CILs throughout the country. In addition to direct technical assistance, Paula moderates monthly peer calls for CILs and SILCs. Her blog, ilnet-ta.org/wp, is a repository of technical assistance Q&As for SILCs and CILs.
Disability, Diversity and Intersectionality Project

- General Track
- Location: Independence FGHI
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU) in collaboration with Public Research and Evaluation Services (PRES) conducted a three-phase research study entitled “Disability, Diversity and Intersectionality (DDI) Project.” This research study was designed to determine how Centers for Independent Living are designing, implementing, and evaluating culturally and linguistically competent policies and practices to improve services, programs, and outreach for racially / ethnically, culturally, and linguistically diverse groups. The purpose of this workshop is to share best practice models implemented by Centers and provide a platform of knowledge and resource for Centers that want to become more inclusive in outreach and program service delivery.

**Stanley Holbrook** is the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Council on Independent Living. Mr. Holbrook was the President and CEO of Three Rivers Center for Independent Living in Pittsburgh or 12 years. Mr. Holbrook also served as the Diversity Chair of the NCIL Board of Directors for 14 years.

Supporting Independence for Veterans

- General Track
- Location: Lafayette & Farragut
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

What role can a CIL play in working with veterans to promote independence? See how one program in Colorado Springs, The Independence Center’s Veteran in Charge program (Veteran-Directed Home & Community Based Services or VD-HCBS), partnered with a VA Medical Center to operate a program where veterans have the freedom and flexibility to self-direct services to remain in their home and community. VA Medical Centers work directly with Aging & Disability Resource Centers, Area Agencies on Aging, and / or CILs to offer VD-HCBS. The VA has announced plans to expand the program in the coming years.

Marsha Unruh is an Independent Living Program Manager (Veteran In Charge) for The Independence Center in Colorado Springs. Unruh has served with various disability resource groups and has received numerous awards for her work with people with disabilities. Unruh is the Co-Chair of the NCIL Veterans Subcommittee.

**CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS III**

Thursday, July 26, 9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

**Rev Up your Non-Partisan Voter Engagement for the 2018 Midterms**

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Independence A
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels
One in six American voters has a disability, and it is critical to mobilize our community to vote in the 2018 election. In this workshop, voting rights advocates will discuss the best ways to engage voters with disabilities to register to vote, become educated, and show up at the polls on November 6th. Topics will include how to get involved with National Voter Registration Day (September 25th), conducting non-partisan voter education through the AAPD REV UP Candidate Questionnaire and community voter education resources, conducting Get Out The Vote (GOTV) operations, using your voting rights, and reporting barriers at the polls.

**Don Dew** has been the Executive Director at Disabilities Resource Center of Siouxland in Sioux City, Iowa since 2012. Don has been a passionate advocate for the rights of people with disabilities, particularly LGBTQ+ people with disabilities for over a decade. He serves on the NCIL Voting Rights Subcommittee and is the Chair of the NCIL Rainbow Caucus.

**Zach Baldwin** is the Director of Outreach for the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). In this role, he manages the REV UP Campaign, which aims to increase the political power of the disability community while also engaging candidates and the media on disability issues. REV UP stands for Register! Educate! Vote! Use your Power!

**Sarah Blahovec** is the NCIL Disability Vote Organizer. In this role, she advocates for the voting rights of people with disabilities throughout the voting process, including registration, education, and election day. Sarah advocates for accessibility improvements in election infrastructure and also encourages greater civic engagement of people with disabilities through voting and running for office.

### Providing Culturally Competent IL Services in the Orthodox Jewish Community

- Mobilizing New Leaders Track
- Location: Independence BC
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

This workshop will explore what cultural competency and best practices look like in an Orthodox Jewish community. Participants will get an inside look at the unique challenges and opportunities facing disabled Orthodox Jews.

**Sheryl Grossman** has spent over 20 years in the Disability Rights field, working on a variety of issues from housing, assistive technology, transportation and voting rights to employment and home and community-based services. In the last ten years, she has specialized in the areas of advocacy with multiple minority group members and those with rare conditions. Sheryl has a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a master’s degree in social work, both from Washington University in St. Louis.

**Sharon Shapiro-Lacks**, Founding Director of Yad HaChazaka - The Jewish Disability Empowerment Center, brings the disability self-empowerment and advocacy approach to traditional Jewish communities. She currently serves as member at large of the Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled, secretary of the Disability Network of New York City, and vice president of the board of the Yavneh Minyan of Flatbush.

### Policies & Procedures with the New SILC Indicators

- SILC Track
- Location: Independence DE
- Target audience: Executive Directors & Board Members
Knowledge level: Appropriate for all knowledge levels

The role of the SILC changed significantly with the passage of WIOA. Have your policies and procedures been updated to reflect those changes? Have you considered the new SILC Indicators and Assurances and how they affect your policies and procedures? This workshop with give you an overview of the changes in the law, regulations, indicators, and assurances and will provide some guidance on how your policies and procedures may be updated to reflect those changes.

**Stephanie Jensen** currently manages the Independent Living programs for the Wyoming Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, where she has been for the past seven years. She was previously the Vocational Rehabilitation representative on the SILC and is the liaison between the SILC and VR. Stephanie has perspective from the DSE.

**Matt Seeley, Esq.** began his involvement in Independent Living in 2005 as Policy Coordinator for the Pennsylvania SILC. Matthew earned his Juris Doctorate in 2010. During Seeley’s legal career, he served as an Assistant District Attorney, a Criminal Defense Attorney, and doing pro bono work. Seely currently serves as the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania SILC.

**Ann McDaniel** is the Executive Director of the West Virginia SILC and has working the IL field since 1985. She has provided national, state, regional, and local training on a wide variety of Independent Living topics. Ann serves as a peer mentor to other SILCs through APRIL’s SILC Peer-to-Peer project and provides training and technical assistance to SILCs through the national IL-NET project. Ann is a former NCIL Board member and co-chairs the NCIL Rehabilitation Act / IL Funding Subcommittee.

### How to Strengthen the IL Network in Your State

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Independence FGHI
- Target audience: Executive Directors & Board Members
- Knowledge level: Experienced

This workshop is intended to be an interactive discussion on how to build and sustain a unified IL network in your state. Hear from two states that have strong IL networks about their successes, challenges, and lessons learned. Participants will learn about how to share resources and obtain quality and consistency throughout your IL network, hear strategies on mobilizing your IL network for resistance and systems advocacy, and learn how to obtain a unified message for your SPIL development. Presenters will also share results from the recent national survey on state associations. Let’s hear from you what works in your state and what barriers you are still experiencing.

**Maureen Ryan** has been the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers, Inc. for the past 19 years. She is a registered lobbyist for the state association of CILs in Wisconsin. She provides training and technical assistance nationally on facilitating a Quality Peer Review (QUILS), providing and documenting quality services within a CIL, and developing and implementing a Statewide IL network.

**Lindsay Miller** is Executive Director of the New York Association on Independent Living (NYAIL), the statewide membership organization for Independent Living Centers. Ms. Miller has extensive experience implementing and managing statewide programs in collaboration with NYAIL’s member ILCs through various State and private grants.
Participating (Not Just Living) in the Community!

- Core Services Track
- Location: Lafayette & Farragut
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

Transitioning to the community is one thing but PARTICIPATING in the community is another. The Promoting Interventions for Community Living (PICL) project seeks to facilitate a process of removing home barriers and teaching skills and community connections that CIL staff can use to assist consumers. The Home Usability Program increases the ability of consumers with physical disabilities to negotiate their homes while the Out and About Program provides resources and trains goal-setting skills that can facilitate community participation. Come learn how your CIL can teach consumers their rights and facilitate their participation in community change!

Hayley Burghart joined the Research and Training Center for Independent Living at the University of Kansas in July, 2017. As a project coordinator, Hayley is currently working on the RTC for Promoting Interventions for Community Living, which focuses on addressing home usability and community participation barriers for persons with physical disabilities.

Dot Nary is an Assistant Research Professor at the Research and Training Center on Independent Living at the University of Kansas. She has found the IL movement to be life-changing, and has been a staff member at two CILs and a board member at another. She conducts research to promote community living for people with disabilities and to enable everyone to create communities that are accessible for all.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS IV

Thursday, July 26, 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.

CILebrity Squares

- General Track
- Location: Independence A
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

CILebrity Squares is a replica of the game show “Hollywood Squares.” It is a fun and interactive way to learn IL Movement information. This workshop will consist of a panel of 9 ‘CILebrities’ that will answer questions provided by conference presenters and / or experts in the disability field. The audience will be divided in to two teams, “X” and “O” and each audience member will have the opportunity to agree or disagree with the ‘CILebrity’. The topics covered will be derived from the various workshops presented at the conference, disability services, and IL Movement-related information.

Misty Dion, Chief Executive Officer for Roads to Freedom Center for Independent Living of North Central PA, comes with over 12 years of experience working in the Independent Living Movement. She has presented on a wide variety of disability-related topics and provided disability awareness and sensitivity trainings.

Jon Bausinger joined the Center for Independent Living of North Central Pennsylvania
Jon has a degree in Business Administration and is SHRM-CP Certified by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).

**Disability Solidarity for Chronic Pain Advocacy**

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Independence BC
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

Millions of people with chronic pain face major barriers to accessing and maintaining adequate pain management, and new policies aimed at restricting opioid use are making it even more difficult. But despite chronic pain being a widespread issue in the disability community, we've been largely silent on these new challenges. This workshop will focus on explaining the current major issues facing people with chronic pain, why the disability community needs to be involved in conversations about both chronic pain and opioids, and what tangible steps we can take to support chronic pain advocacy.

**Lindsay Baran**, NCIL Policy Analyst, helps to implement NCIL's legislative and advocacy activities. She has been involved with the disability community and disability advocacy for over 15 years. Lindsay has lived with chronic pain since she was young, and she has organized and facilitated chronic pain peer support groups (in person and online) in Chicago and DC. She has strong knowledge of both disability and chronic pain policies, and she has written and presented on both issues in a variety of settings.

**Sarah Blahovec** is the NCIL Disability Vote Organizer and a chronic illness advocate with Crohn’s Disease. As a writer and advocate, Sarah has encouraged greater inclusion of people with chronic illness and chronic pain in the disability advocacy movement. She has advocated individually for her own pain management throughout the course of her illness, and is an advocate for policies and practices that are inclusive of and compassionate toward everyone, from pain management patients to people struggling with addiction.

**How to Establish a Productive Partnership between the SILC and DSE**

- SILC Track
- Location: Independence DE
- Target audience: Executive Directors & Board Members
- Knowledge level: Appropriate for all knowledge levels

What is your SILC’s relationship with your DSE? Do you have problems with SILC autonomy? SILC funding? Timely processing of funds to your SILC? Many SILCs have issues with working with their DSE. The West Virginia SILC has experienced all the above and will share how to build a strong partnership with the DSE. The Wyoming SILC has a long history of working well with its DSE and will share the DSE perspective to give an idea of what a state agency considers.

**Stephanie Jensen** currently manages the Independent Living programs for the Wyoming Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, where she has been for the past seven years. She was previously the Vocational Rehabilitation representative on the SILC and is the liaison between the SILC and VR. Stephanie has perspective from the DSE.

**Matt Seeley, Esq.** began his involvement in Independent Living in 2005 as Policy Coordinator.
Ann McDaniel is the Executive Director of the West Virginia SILC and has been working in the IL field since 1985. She has provided national, state, regional, and local training on a wide variety of Independent Living topics. Ann serves as a peer mentor to other SILCs through APRIL’s SILC Peer-to-Peer project and provides training and technical assistance to SILCs through the national IL-NET project. Ann is a former NCIL Board member and co-chairs the NCIL Rehabilitation Act / IL Funding Subcommittee.

Intersectional Storytelling: Amplifying Your Voice for the Disability Rights Movement

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Independence FGHI
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

As the disability community contends with a political atmosphere that places little value on our human rights and a media landscape that often misrepresents us and ignores our intersecting identities, it’s important to take control of our narratives. Developing skills and strength to share our stories is empowering, and allows us to be part of national conversations about issues that impact our lives. In this session, members of the Rooted in Rights team will discuss how to talk about what matters, how to fill gaps in disability representation, and how to push past barriers to speak truth to power.

Emily Ladau is the Editor in Chief at Rooted in Rights. She graduated with a B.A. in English from Adelphi University in 2013. Emily’s writing has been published in The New York Times and the Huffington Post, and she has spoken to a wide array of audiences. Emily’s activism is driven by her belief that if we want the world to be accessible to the disability community, we must make the disability experience accessible to the world.

Vilissa Thompson is the Digital Manager for Rooted in Rights, where she assists the creative production team in developing content that hones in on the issues that are pertinent to the disability community. She is also a macro-minded social worker who discusses the importance of intersectionality, racism, gender, sexuality, and politics from the disability lens.

How Guardianship Contradicts the IL Philosophy: The Role of CILs

- Core Services Track
- Location: Lafayette & Farragut
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

The number of guardianships in the U.S. has tripled since 1995. This trend represents a drastic shift of power and control away from individuals with disabilities. Significant changes to disability rights have always come at the urging of and thanks to the collective strength of the disability community, so this session will focus on the role CILs can play in changing the culture surrounding guardianship and how to bring power back to the individual. Participants will receive tools and information about alternatives to guardianship and strategies to promote independence through Supported Decision Making.

Jerri Davison, Assistant Director at Able South Carolina, oversees an array of programs related to promoting access and independence for individuals with disabilities. In 2016, she
spearheaded the creation of the SC Supported Decision Making Project, a collaborative effort to educate the community about alternatives to guardianship. Jerri has a law degree and spent six years as a disability rights attorney at the state’s Protection & Advocacy system before joining Able South Carolina to pursue disability advocacy at the grassroots level.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS V

Thursday, July 26, 1:30 - 2:45 p.m.

The Promise of WIOA for Independent Living: Where Are We Now?

- General Track
- Location: Independence A
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

With the passage of WIOA and the move from the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) to the Administration for Community Living (ACL), CILs and SILCs across the country had high hopes for the new Independent Living Administration. This session will provide an update on where we are in achieving our vision. We will explore what changes in Independent Living have occurred since the passage of WIOA and the move from RSA to ACL. The workshop will also focus on NCIL’s concerns with the implementation of WIOA and ACL’s response to those concerns. A listening session for participants to share what issues they are having that they would like to see NCIL address will close this session.

Ann McDaniel has been the Executive Director of the West Virginia SILC since 1996. She has both a Master’s and Bachelor’s Degree from Marshall University. Ann started working in the Independent Living and advocacy field in 1985. Ann is a mentor to other SILCs and provides technical assistance and training through the IL-NET, including national, state, regional, and local training on a variety of independent living topics.

Lou Ann Kibbee is the Systems Advocacy Manager at SKIL Resource Center in Kansas. Lou Ann has been involved with the disability rights movement since 1977 and Independent Living since 1984. She served three terms on the Statewide Independent Living Council of Kansas (SILCK). She has served on the NCIL Board since 1999 in various positions, currently serving as Secretary.

Dan Kessler is Executive Director of Disability Rights and Resources, a Center for Independent Living headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama. He is currently Co-Chair of the NCIL Rehabilitation Act / IL Funding Subcommittee. He has held several positions on the NCIL Board, including President, Vice-President, Regional Representative, and Member At-Large.

Different Strokes for Different Folks: Embracing and Recognizing the Spectrums of Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation

- Mobilizing New Leaders Track
- Location: Independence BC
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

This workshop will be presented by members of the NCIL Rainbow Caucus. The disability
community is diverse. Within our community and outside of it exists LGBTQ+ people with various types of disabilities that have issues and concerns that align with the disability community at large. Unfortunately, there exists a barrier of miscommunication, misunderstanding, and distrust. We aim to erase that barrier by educating participants about the shared history and struggles that the two communities have, and how to bridge the gap created by unique terminology and dissecting challenges specifically faced by disabled queer / gender queer people to make them less intimidating. We will also touch on how to mobilize individuals in the LGBTQ+ community in organizing efforts to further the mission of the Independent Living Movement.

Anita Cameron is Director of Minority Outreach for Not Dead Yet. An ADAPT leader and activist, Anita believes in the power of nonviolent civil disobedience and has been arrested more than 120 times during more than 30 years. As a Black, Disabled Lesbian, Anita has dealt with racism, sexism, ableism, and homophobia - sometimes combinations of these. She has used her experience of discrimination and her unique intersectional perspective to promote understanding among different groups of disenfranchised people and increase social justice among those fighting for social justice.

Yolanda Vargas is the Youth Organizer for the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers youth program, Youth Organizing (YO!) Disabled and Proud. She is also a member of the Board of Disability Rights California; a member of a special advisory committee for the Working for Inclusive and Transformative Healthcare Foundation; and Co-Chair of the NCIL Youth Caucus. She is also a passionate Latinx Bi/Pan/Queer activist who focuses on connecting marginalized communities to resources.

Parker Glick has been involved with the IL Movement for almost a decade. Parker is the Media Coordinator for the SILC of Georgia. Parker identifies as a trans man with a disability. His story and face have been featured in DapperQ and AutoStraddle publications. He is actively involved in disABILITY LINK’s LGBTQIAP++disABILITY group and advocates for recognition of life at this intersection.

Don Dew has been the Executive Director at Disabilities Resource Center of Siouxland in Sioux City, Iowa since 2012. Don has been a passionate advocate for the rights of people with disabilities, particularly LGBTQ+ people with disabilities for over a decade. He serves on the NCIL Voting Rights Subcommittee and is the Chair of the NCIL Rainbow Caucus.

How SILCs Can Be Good Partners to CILs in the Good, the Bad, and the In-Between Times

- SILC Track
- Location: Independence DE
- Target audience: Executive Directors & Board Members
- Knowledge level: Appropriate for all knowledge levels

Do people in your state think the CILs answer to the SILC? What is your SILC’s relationship with the CILs? What are the CILs’ relationships with each other like? With the changes in the law and regulations, the relationship between the SILC and CILs is clearer and more important than ever. This workshop will look at those relationships and discuss the SILC role in collaborating with, supporting, and assisting the CILs when things are good, when CILs are struggling, and all the times in-between.

Kathy Cooper is the Executive Director for the SILC of Kansas. She has a long history of IL advocacy in KS and some of her previous positions include: Coordinator for Capacity Building
Initiative for Kansas Rehabilitation Services, Director of Home and Community Based Services at Coalition for Independence, and Legislative Advocate at Resource Center for Independent Living. She has a B.G.S. in Psychology from the University of Kansas.

**Kim Conner** is the Executive Director of the Washington SILC and has a long history of working with nonprofits and small businesses. Her strengths are in collaboration, strategic planning, consensus building, and program development and management. Throughout Kim’s career, she has primarily worked in the Vancouver / Portland communities working with Council for the Homeless, Nonprofit Technology Network, and various small businesses as both staff and through her consulting business.

**Paula McElwee** is a Technical Assistance Coordinator for the IL-NET CIL & SILC Training and Technical Assistance Projects at ILRU. Paula has provided training, facilitation and consultation with state associations, SILCs, and CILs throughout the country. In addition to direct technical assistance, Paula moderates monthly peer calls for CILs and SILCs. Her blog, ilnet-ta.org/wp, is a repository of technical assistance Q&As for SILCs and CILs.

**IL Partnership with Disability Advisory Councils, Boards and Commissions**

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Independence FGHI
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

The Independent Living Movement is full of disability subject matter experts who make fantastic advisory council and commission members. Does your city or county have a disability or accessibility body to provide subject matter advice or direction? This workshop will discuss positive outcomes and best practices as the result of being involved with your community at the advisory level. Independent Living philosophy is often overlooked by government and non-government organizations alike. Even disability-related organizations miss opportunities to expand awareness regarding IL. Advisory opportunities are a great way to expand awareness about the IL Movement. As a volunteer and advocate, people who know IL can open doors to more accessibility and educate professionals and representatives about disability laws and rights. Creating an advisory group, council, commission, or simply joining an existing group is a powerful way to advocate for the rights of ALL people in the community.

**Luke Byram** serves on the Board of Directors for Center for Independence in Lakewood, Washington. He also serves on the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities, which is the City of Tacoma's Commission on Disabilities advisory group. He also is on the youth advisory board for Kids as Self Advocates and is Co-Chair of the NCIL Youth Caucus.

**Todd Holloway** has been a part of the Independent Living Movement for more than 10 years. He is a part of the staff of Center for Independence as IL Educator in Lakewood, Washington. He serves on the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities as well as Pierce County's disability advisory board and Pierce County's emergency planning group.

**Including Parents WITH Disabilities at your CIL**

- Advocacy & Organizing Track
- Location: Lafayette & Farragut
- Appropriate for all audiences and knowledge levels

Parents with disabilities are often viewed as unfit based solely on their disability and are not
provided with appropriate family preservation and reunification services and supports that are tailored to their needs. This session provides an overview of applicable laws and federal guidance followed by examples of systemic advocacy efforts and services that CILs can provide to support parents with disabilities.

Sarah Wendell Launderville, Executive Director of the Vermont CIL, has worked in the disability rights movement since 1997, and has a psychiatric disability. She serves as the President of the Disability Rights Vermont Board and as Co-Chair of the NCIL Women's Caucus. She is a member of NCIL Board; the Vermont SILC; and the Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights.

Kimberly Tissot is the Executive Director of Able South Carolina and guides the staff in applying the philosophy of Independent Living to real situations. She led the efforts to pass South Carolina’s Persons with Disabilities Right to Parent Act. She is a member of the SC SILC; Co-Chair of the SC Advisory Council on the Education of Students with Disabilities; a member of the APRIL Board; Co-Chair of the NCIL ADA / Civil Rights Subcommittee; and a member of the NCIL Taskforce on Parenting with a Disability.

Susan Yuan serves as President of the Association for Successful Parenting, with members from 26 states and 4 countries. For two decades, she worked at the Center on Disability and Community Inclusion, where she served as Associate Director. Her curriculum, Family Support, Culture and Disability has reached families, self-advocates and professionals in more than 30 states and territories. Recently, she has focused on supports for parents who have disabilities themselves.

Kelly Buckland is the Executive Director of the National Council on Independent Living. He is the former Executive Director of Living Independence Network Corp (LINC) and the Idaho SILC, both in Boise.

**Access, Accommodations, & Resources**

**Environmental / Chemical Sensitivities**

Fragrance and chemicals can be access barriers. To help make this conference accessible to participants for whom chemicals or fragrances are an access barrier, NCIL requests that you come fragrance free.

Please refrain from wearing any scented products or washing with them. This includes clothing that has been laundered with fragranced detergent or fabric softening products. Additionally, please completely air out any dry-cleaned clothing before wearing it to the conference.

Smoke can also be an access barrier. It is essential that we maintain a smoke-free environment. If you smoke, please use the designated smoking area located outside the Hyatt. Please refrain from smoking near any other doorways or paths of travel. The hotel entrance at 11st Street should be the least polluted with cigarette smoke and vehicle exhaust, although it unfortunately has steps.
Van Parking

The maximum vehicle height for the garage at the Grand Hyatt is 6’6”. Taller vehicles (up to 8’2”) may park in the City Center complex, directly across the street from the Grand Hyatt. City Center offers an overnight parking rate of $24 / night, which is actually quite competitive for downtown DC.

Quiet Room / Sensory Retreat

The McPherson room will be available throughout the conference as a quiet room / sensory retreat. This room is reserved for individuals that need a break from overstimulation and / or the large group environment of the conference. Please help us maintain this accommodation. Please do not use this space to hold conversations or meetings.

Dialogue Zone

Those who wish to do so can engage in dialogue in the Franklin room.

Auxiliary Aids & Services

CART (Communications Access in Real Time), sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, personal assistants, accessible materials, and other services will be provided upon request for all NCIL conference activities. However, participants must arrange their own services for Hill Visits on Tuesday, July 24. The following email contact is provided by the Capitol Visitor Center: interpreters@saa.senate.gov.

Local Service Providers: Personal Assistant Services

NCIL’s Personal Assistants will be available during conference hours only. Use the information below to arrange your own personal assistant service during non-conference hours.

ENDependence Center of Northern VA (CIL) - Arlington, VA

- Contact: Ruchika Lalwani, PAS Coordinator
- Phone: 703-525-3268 / TTY: 703-525-3553
- Email: ruchikal@ecnv.org

Local Service Providers: Wheelchair and Scooter Rental and Repair

The route of the NCIL March from the Grand Hyatt to the U.S. Capitol is slightly less than one mile. Many conference attendees rent power chairs or scooters and have them delivered to their hotel to ensure they can participate.

ZASK Medical Supply - Alexandria, VA

- Phone: 703-354-1266
- Email: info@zaskmedical.com

ScootAround

Rentals only. Delivery available.

- Web: www.scootaround.com
- Phone: 1-888-441-7575

Express Mobility Services

- Contact: Jabessa Daba (703-346-8796)
- Website: expressmobilityservices.com

Scooterplus / Lenox Medical Supply

Rentals only. Delivery available.

- Web: www.lenoxmedicalsupply.com
- Phone: 1-866 474-4356 or 202-387-1960
Rules of Conduct for Annual Meetings

To ensure fair and orderly meetings that allow all NCIL members to participate, NCIL uses Robert’s Rules of Order for the conduct of annual meetings to the greatest extent possible. However, NCIL feels that under no circumstances should “undue strictness” be allowed to intimidate members or limit full participation.

The conduct of ALL business is controlled by the general will of the whole membership, with the right of the majority to decide.

The following is a quick reference to the rules of order:

Anyone may obtain the floor (the right to speak) by being the first to stand or raise your hand or indicate in some way that you wish to speak, and wait to be recognized by the Board President before speaking.

A member may make a motion at any time after they have been recognized to speak. All motions must be seconded. Debate cannot begin until the President has restated the motion and asked if there is discussion on the motion.

Rules of order that members can invoke at any time during the meeting, including during discussion of a motion:

- Point of Privilege: Pertains to noise, personal comfort, etc. - may interrupt only if necessary, does not require a second or a vote
- Point of Information: Generally applies to information desired from the speaker: "I should like to ask (the speaker) a question." - does not require a second or a vote
- Point of Order: Infraction of the rules, or improper decorum in speaking. Must be raised immediately after the error is made, does not require a second or a vote
- Any questions regarding correctness of procedure will be referred to the independent parliamentarian secured by NCIL for that purpose.

What to Bring

Conference participants often brave blistering heat, massive thunderstorms, and even chilly workshop rooms, all to bring our message to Capitol Hill! Remember to bring along the following items to ensure your comfort and safety:

- large plastic bags to cover any batteries or electric devices that might be exposed to rain during the March and Rally, and duct tape to secure them;
- an umbrella to shield sun and rain;
- attire appropriate for both very hot and chilly temperatures;
- repair equipment / tools for your devices; and
- any medications or assistive devices you may need during strenuous activity.
Onsite Registration

Please note that rates are per person and include materials, workshops, and Awards Luncheon.

- NCIL Member: $305
- Non-Member: $430
- Daily Rate: $210
- Luncheon Ticket: $75
- Youth (26 or younger): $110

Personal Assistant Registration Policy: Personal Assistants are not required to pay the registration fee but should fill out a form to receive a badge. Personal Assistants are welcome to attend all conference events, including scheduled meals and receptions.

Meals

- Luncheon tickets will be included in your registration materials and collected at the event. Unregistered guests may purchase Luncheon tickets for $75.
- Rally lunches will be available to all registered conference participants. Individuals not registered for the conference are not guaranteed a lunch at the Rally.

NCIL Regions By State


Region VI (6): Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas. Region VI Representative: Julie Espinoza.

Region VII (7): Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska. Region VII Representative: Roger Frischenmeyer.


Region IX (9): Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Region IX Representative: Sheri Burns.

Map of Independence Level (5B)

Service elevators are available to those who wish to use them →

Elevator to 3B: Constitution Level
Elevator to Lobby

NCIL Office: Private

McPherson / Quiet Room

Franklin

Lafayette / Farragut

Exhibit Hall

Independence A (Ballroom)

Independence F & G

Independence H & I

Independence B & C

Independence D & E

Restroom *

Restroom *

Main Elevator

Escalator

Service elevators are available to those who wish to use them →

Elevator to 3B: Constitution Level
Elevator to Lobby

NCIL Office: Private

McPherson / Quiet Room

Franklin

Lafayette / Farragut

Exhibit Hall

Independence A (Ballroom)

Independence F & G

Independence H & I

Independence B & C

Independence D & E

Restroom *

Restroom *

Main Elevator

Escalator

Restrooms

All restrooms on Independence Level (5B) will be gender inclusive for the duration of the conference.
**Do-It-Yourself Sign Kits**

Complimentary Do-It-Yourself Sign Kits will be available on the conference floor the afternoon of Monday, July 23. Please use this kit to create your signs for the March and Rally. This is your opportunity to speak truth to power! Feel free to be creative. Some examples include:

- Disability Integration Act Now
- Medicaid Saves Lives #SaveMedicaid #NoCutsNoCaps
- Disability Is a Natural Part of the Human Condition
- I AM INDEPENDENT LIVING
- Free Our People / Institutionalization Is No Way to Live
- Disability Rights Are Civil Rights #NCIL2018
- Don’t Roll Back Our Rights!
- ADA: Making the Dream Live for ALL (Lead On) #ADA28
- Nothing About Us Without Us
- Full Community Integration Now
- Employment = Empowerment
- Equality Now! America for All
- Down with Nursing Home Lobby Pigs
- I Escaped a Nursing Home
- We Demand Freedom
- Justice Delayed is Justice Denied
- Our Homes Not Nursing Homes! #freeourpeople
- ADA: I Am Equal Too
- Civil Rights Are Not Special Needs
- The Future is Accessible
- Access is a Civil Right
- Cure Ableism #checkyourpriviledge
- Disability Power! #DisabilityPride
- I Am A Pre-Existing Condition
- Disabled People Vote #CriptheVote
- Justice Not Just Us
- People Not Profits
- Resist Injustice
- #MOBILIZE - Resistance through Action
- What Do We Want? ACCESS! #ADA28
- The People United Shall Never be Defeated

**Keynote Speaker: Rebecca Vallas**

Expertise: Poverty, disability, Social Security, criminal justice and re-entry policy

Rebecca Vallas is the vice president for the Poverty to Prosperity Program at Center for American Progress (CAP). Before joining CAP, Vallas served as the deputy director of government affairs at the National Organization of Social Security Claimants’ Representatives, where her work was devoted to preserving and strengthening Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income for workers with disabilities. Prior to that, Vallas worked directly with low-income individuals and communities for several years as a legal aid attorney and policy advocate at Community Legal Services in Philadelphia, where she was named a Skadden Fellow and a Borchard Fellow in Law and Aging. She is also a past co-chair of the national Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Social Security Task Force.

Vallas has appeared on MSNBC, CNN, C-SPAN, Fox News, PBS, Al-Jazeera America, and NPR, as well as several local television and radio outlets, and she is frequently quoted in national and local media. She is the author of numerous briefs and articles on poverty, income security, disability, and criminal justice policy, and she frequently testifies before Congress. She is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and was the inaugural recipient of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association’s New Leaders in Advocacy Award. She was twice named one of Forbes Magazine’s “30 Under 30” for Law & Policy, in 2011 and 2014. Vallas also hosts “Off-Kilter,” a podcast about poverty and inequality.
Each year, the highlight of the NCIL Annual Conference is the convergence of members from across the nation, who unite on Capitol Hill to share stories of discrimination, institutionalization and segregation with their Senators and Representatives. Our message is loud and clear: Independent Living is a civil right we are willing to fight for!

March & Rally

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 has been set aside for NCIL’s March and Rally on Capitol Hill. We will be lining up outside of the Grand Hyatt Hotel along 11th & G Streets NW at 9:30 a.m. for the March. Participants will be divided up into their respective regions where signs will be distributed by state.

We will begin marching at 10:00 a.m. sharp.

The March route is a little over one mile long. We have an area designated on the West Front Lawn of the U.S. Capitol Building, near Constitution Avenue and First Street NW (see text directions below or page 34 for map). The Rally will begin at 11:30 a.m. Please feel free to join the Rally even if you are not able to participate in the March. Lunch will be provided to conference registrants.

The March and Rally will occur rain or shine so it is important to dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared to spend most of your day outdoors on Capitol Hill. Be sure your chair is fully charged, and you have enough medications, supplies, snacks, and drinks to get you through the day. As we learned in years past, it is imperative that people who use power wheelchairs or electric scooters bring plastic bags to protect batteries and controls in case of rain.

After the Rally, NCIL members are strongly encouraged to go and meet with their elected officials to discuss pressing legislation impacting people with disabilities and Independent Living nationwide.

March Route

Directions from the Grand Hyatt Hotel (1000 H Street NW / Washington, DC 20001) to NCIL Rally Site (West Front Lawn of the U.S. Capitol Building)

- From the Grand Hyatt (1000 H Street NW), Head East on H Street NW toward 10th Street NW (118 feet)
- Turn right onto 10th Street NW (0.4 miles)
- Turn left onto Pennsylvania Avenue NW (0.5 miles)
- Continue onto Constitution Avenue NW (0.2 miles)
- At Constitution Avenue NW & 1st Street NW, turn right onto 1st Street.
- Proceed 100 feet on 1st Street – Rally should be to your right.

Directions from Rally Site Back to Grand Hyatt

- From Constitution Avenue NW & 1st Street NW, head west on Constitution Avenue NW toward Louisiana Avenue NW (0.3 mi)
- Continue straight onto Pennsylvania Avenue NW (0.4 mi)
- Turn right onto 10th Street NW (0.4 mi)
- Turn left onto H Street NW
- Destination will be on the left

About Your Visit to Capitol Hill

Security Notice: In order to meet with your elected official, you will have to pass through a security screening in all House and Senate office buildings. You are encouraged to bring photo ID with you
on your Capitol Hill visit. All bags are subject to thorough search and security screening. If you have any of the following items with you on your visit to Capitol Hill, you may not be allowed to visit your representative. Prohibited items include:

- Mace and pepper spray
- Any sharp or pointed object
- Knives of any size, including pocket knives
- Cans and bottles
- Any bag larger than 14" wide x 13" high x 4" deep (per security discretion)
- Weapons of any kind
- Non-aerosol spray
- Aerosol containers
- Protest Signs

This is an abbreviated list. *If in doubt, leave it at the hotel!*

**Tunnels**

Both the Senate and the House Office Buildings are connected by a series of underground tunnels. Once you pass through security to either the Senate or the House Office Buildings, you can move about freely between buildings of that office without having to repeatedly go through security. The interconnecting tunnels can be found in the basements of both the Senate and House Office Buildings.

**Accessible Entrances**

- **Capitol Building:** Public tours enter through the Capitol Visitor Center; Official House business enters on the south side of the Capitol; Official Senate business enters on the north side of the Capitol.
- **Capitol Visitor Center (CVC):** Main entrance at First and East Capitol streets. The CVC also offers an on-demand shuttle and other services.
- **Cannon House Office Building:** Entrance on New Jersey Avenue, SE, south of the terrace at the intersection with Independence Avenue.
- **Dirksen Senate Office Building:** First and C Street entrance.
- **Ford House Office Building:** Entrance on 3rd Street, SW or 2nd Street, SW.
- **Hart Senate Office Building:** Second Street entrance or Constitution Avenue entrance.
- **Longworth House Office Building:** Main entrance, Independence and New Jersey Avenues. Or the South Capitol Street entrance.
- **O'Neill House Office Building:** C Street SW between 2nd and 3rd Streets.

**Hill Cafeterias**

Have some down time in between appointments once you are in the House or Senate Office Buildings? Both offer a number of places to have everything from a quick snack, to a full meal. For more specific information on directions to tunnels, eateries, or to your representatives’ office, feel free to ask Hill staff or security.
Senate Office Buildings:

- Russell Basement: Coffee and Sandwich Shop
- Dirksen Basement: Full Cafeteria - Your best bet on the Hill!

House Office Buildings:

- Longworth Basement: Cafeteria
- Rayburn Basement: Coffee and Sandwich Shop

There is also a cafeteria located inside the U.S. Capitol Building.

Services on Hill Visits

CART (Communications Access in Real Time), sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, personal assistants, accessible materials, and other services will be provided upon request for all NCIL conference activities. However, participants must arrange their own services for Hill Visits on Tuesday, July 24. The following email contact is provided by the Capitol Visitor Center: interpreters@saa.senate.gov.

Directories of the 115th Congress: 2nd Session

Directory of the Senate

To contact your Senator, use the following directory: www.senate.gov/senators/contact. Senators are listed alphabetically with their phone numbers, email addresses, and office locations available. You may also find information by calling the Capitol Switchboard at 202-225-3121.

Your Senator’s office will be in one of three “Senate Office Buildings” or SOB. They are Dirksen, Hart, and Russell. The room number of your Senator coincides with the floor his or her office is on. If your Senator is located in Hart 302, that office is on the 3rd floor; Dirksen 439, is on the 4th floor; Russell 238 is on the 2nd floor.

Directory of the House of Representatives

To contact your Representative, use the following directory: www.house.gov/representatives. Representatives are listed alphabetically with their phone numbers, email addresses, and office locations available. You may also find information by calling the Capitol Switchboard at 202-225-3121.

Your Representative’s office will be in one of three “House Office Buildings” or HOB. They are Cannon (CHOB), Longworth (LHOB), and Rayburn (RHOB). The room number of your representative coincides with the floor his or her office is on. If your representative is located in Cannon 328, that office is on the 3rd floor. If the office number is more than three digits, disregard the first number and the second number represents the floor your representative’s office is located on. For example, an office listed as Rayburn 2439, is on the 4th floor; Longworth 1721 is on the 7th floor.

Additional Resources

For more help with planning your visit to the Capitol please visit the Capitol Visitor Center’s website: www.visitthecapitol.gov/plan-visit/visitors-disabilities
NCIL Rally Site: West Front Lawn of the U.S. Capitol Building
Sponsors

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- Motor Coach Industries
- Center for Disability Rights

Activist
- Airbnb
- Ability360
- Pride Mobility
- Molina Healthcare
- Institute for Educational Leadership

Catalyst
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THE ABILITY CENTER
MAKING INDEPENDENCE POSSIBLE SINCE 1920

JOB POSTING
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

The Ability Center of Greater Toledo is currently recruiting an Associate Director. The position will support the Executive Director while overseeing program development and strategic initiatives. The position will supervise Program Directors responsible for direct consumer services.

The Center will celebrate its Centennial anniversary in 2020. We plan to engage the community in new and transformational strategies going into our next 100 years. The Center has 50 full-time staff, and an annual budget of over $4 million.

With the assistance of competent, professional staff, and the support of volunteers, The Ability Center works for the rights and concerns of people living with disabilities on local, state, regional, and national levels. We are the community's authority related to disability issues, and, with an attorney on staff, we are serious about systems change.

Persons with disabilities encouraged to apply. We offer a competitive pay scale, and access to a comprehensive benefit package. Relocation package available.

For more information on this opportunity, visit our website at www.abilitycenter.org/news/employmentopportunities/

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The RTC on Promoting Interventions for Community Living Congratulates NCIL and Its Members on Mobilizing for Action!

Our researchers are partnering with centers for independent living and their consumers to increase community living and participation.

Home Usability Program

Life starts at home. A usable home is one that fits your needs and allows you to be in control. In this program, people with disabilities work with their local CIL and other community resources to assess and improve the usability of their homes.

Out and About

Life expands in the community. In this program, people with disabilities learn a variety of ways to set goals that matter to them, overcome barriers, and build social networks so they can participate more fully in their communities.

A project of the Universities of Kansas and Montana.

RTC/PICIL
The Research and Training Center on Promoting Interventions for Community Living

For more information:
RTC on Independent Living (RTC/IL)
The University of Kansas
1000 Sunnyside Ave., 4089 Dole
Lawrence, KS 66045-7561
785-864-4095 • TTY 785-864-0706
rtcil@ku.edu
www.rtcil.org/picl
EMILY’s List

is proud to work with the National Council on Independent Living to increase representation at all levels of government.

If you’re interested in serving as an elected official or helping a woman campaign, sign up at www.emilyslist.org/runtowin

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Uber is proud be a sponsor of the 2018 Annual Conference for Independent Living.

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Together, we can create a strong presence on social media, so that the work we do during the Annual Conference on Independent Living reaches far and wide.

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When you post to social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, just add the hashtag at the end of your post. Then, click the hashtag to see what others are posting about. Please caption any photos you post if possible, so they are accessible to the entire community.

Join ADAPT!

Care about healthcare?

Care about Home and Community-Based Services?

Care about Medicaid?

Care about freedom for disabled people?

Here’s your chance to join a group dedicated to Freeing Our People! Join ADAPT!

Visit the NCIL Registration Table / Help Desk to sign up and learn more about how you can make a difference today!

You can also contact Sheryl Grossman at sheryl@ncil.org.