

**STATE PLAN FOR
INDEPENDENT LIVING
(SPIIL)**

**Chapter 1, Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,
as Amended**

**STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES (SILS) PROGRAM
PART B
CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING (CIL) PROGRAM
PART C
FISCAL YEARS 2008 - 2010**

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

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PART I: Assurances

State of: Idaho

Section 1: Legal Basis and Certifications

- 1.1 The designated State unit (DSU) eligible to submit the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL or the plan) and authorized under State law to perform the functions of the State under the State Independent Living Services (SILS) and Centers for Independent Living (CIL) programs is Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. 34 CFR 76.104(a)(1) and (2); 34 CFR 364.22(a)
- 1.2 The separate State agency eligible to submit the plan and authorized under State law to provide vocational rehabilitation (VR) services to individuals who are blind is Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired. 34 CFR 76.104(a)(1) and (2); 34 CFR 364.20(d) and 364.22(c)
- 1.3 The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) that meets the requirements of section 705 of the Act and is authorized to perform the functions outlined in section 705(c) of the Act in the State is Idaho State Independent Living Council. 34 CFR 364.21(a)
- 1.4 The DSU and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, and the SILC are authorized to jointly develop, sign and submit this SPIL on behalf of the State, and have adopted or otherwise formally approved the SPIL. 34 CFR 76.104(a)(7); 34 CFR 364.20(c) and (d)
- 1.5 The DSU, and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, may legally carry out each provision of the plan and will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the three-year period it receives funding under the SPIL. 34 CFR 76.104; 34 CFR 80.11(c)
- 1.6 The SPIL is the basis for State operation and administration of the program. All provisions of the SPIL plan are consistent with State law. 34 CFR 76.104(a)(4) and (8)
- 1.7 The representative(s) of the DSU and, if applicable, of the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, who has/have the authority under State law to receive, hold, and disburse Federal funds made available under the SPIL and to submit the SPIL jointly with the SILC chairperson is: Michael Graham, IDVR Administrator and Angela Jones ICBVI Administrator. 34 CFR 76.104(a)(5) and (6)

Section 2: SPIL Development

- 2.1 The plan shall be reviewed and revised not less than once every three years, to ensure the existence of appropriate planning, financial support and coordination, and other assistance to appropriately address, on a statewide and comprehensive basis, the needs in the State for:

- The provision of State independent living services;
 - The development and support of a statewide network of centers for independent living; and
 - Working relationships between programs providing independent living services and independent living centers, the vocational rehabilitation program established under title I, and other programs providing services for individuals with disabilities. *34 CFR 364.20(f)*
- 2.2 The DSU and SILC conduct public meetings to provide all segments of the public, including interested groups, organizations and individuals, an opportunity to comment on the State plan prior to its submission to the Commissioner and on any revisions to the approved State plan. *34 CFR 20(g)(1)*
- 2.3 The DSU and SILC establish and maintain a written description of procedures for conducting public meetings in accordance with the following requirements. The DSU and SILC shall provide:
- Appropriate and sufficient notice of the public meetings (that is, at least 30 days prior to the public meeting through various media available to the general public, such as newspapers and public service announcements, and through specific contacts with appropriate constituency groups and organizations identified by the DSU and SILC);
 - Reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication in the conduct of the public meetings, including providing sign language interpreters and audio-loops; and
 - Public meeting notices, written material provided prior to or at the public meetings, and the approved State plan in accessible formats for individuals who rely on alternative modes of communication. *34 CFR 364.20(g)(2)*
- 2.4 At the public meetings to develop the State plan, the DSU and SILC identify those provisions in the SPIL that are State-imposed requirements beyond what would be required to comply with the regulations in 34 CFR parts 364, 365, 366, and 367. *34 CFR 364.20(h)*
- 2.5 The DSU will seek to incorporate into and describe in the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under a project funded under chapter 2 of title VII of the Act and that the DSU determines to be effective. *34 CFR 364.28*
- 2.6 The DSU and SILC actively consult, as appropriate, in the development of the State plan with the director of the Client Assistance Program (CAP) authorized under section 112 of the Act. *34 CFR 364.20(e)*

Section 3: Independent Living Services

- 3.1 The State, directly or through grants or contracts, will provide IL services with Federal, State, or other funds. *34 CFR 364.43(b)*

- 3.2 Independent living services shall be provided to individuals with significant disabilities in accordance with an independent living plan mutually agreed upon by an appropriate staff member of the service provider and the individual, unless the individual signs a waiver stating that such a plan is unnecessary. *34 CFR 364.43(c)*
- 3.3 All service providers will use formats that are accessible to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about:
- The availability of the CAP authorized by section 112 of the Act;
 - The purposes of the services provided under the CAP; and
 - How to contact the CAP. *34 CFR 364.30*
- 3.4 Participating service providers meet all applicable State licensure or certification requirements. *34 CFR 365.31(c)*

Section 4: Eligibility

- 4.1 Any individual with a significant disability, as defined in 34 CFR 364.4(b), is eligible for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs authorized under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act. Any individual may seek information about IL services under these programs and request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities, as appropriate. The determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs meets the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51. *34 CFR 364.40(a), (b) and (c)*
- 4.2 Service providers apply eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services. *34 CFR 364.41(a)*
- 4.3 Service providers do not impose any State or local residence requirement that excludes any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services from receiving IL services. *34 CFR 364.41(b)*

Section 5: Staffing Requirements

- 5.1 Service provider staff includes personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of centers. *34 CFR 364.23(a)*
- 5.2 To the maximum extent feasible, a service provider makes available personnel able to communicate:
- With individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication devices,

Braille or audio tapes, and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act; and

- In the native languages of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act. *34 CFR 364.23(b)*

5.3 Service providers establish and maintain a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services and, if appropriate, in administering the CIL program. The staff development programs emphasize improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of IL services, including knowledge of and practice in the IL philosophy. *34 CFR 364.24*

5.4 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act. *34 CFR 364.31*

Section 6: Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting

6.1 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will comply with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements and will adopt those fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for those funds. *34 CFR 364.34*

Section 7: Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting

7.1 In addition to complying with applicable EDGAR recordkeeping requirements, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will maintain records that fully disclose and document:

- The amount and disposition by the recipient of that financial assistance;
- The total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which the financial assistance is given or used;
- The amount of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources;
- Compliance with the requirements of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act and Part 364 of the regulations; and
- Other information that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate to facilitate an effective audit. *34 CFR 364.35(a) and (b)*

7.2 With respect to the records that are required by 34 CFR 364.35 and .36, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will submit reports that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate

7.3 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 and chapter 2 of title VII of the Act will provide access to the Commissioner and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, to the records listed in 34 CFR 364.37 for the purpose of conducting audits, examinations and compliance reviews. 34 CFR 364.37

Section 8: Protection, Use and Release of Personal Information

8.1 Each service provider will adopt and implement policies and procedures to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names in accordance with the requirements of 34 CFR 364.56(a)(1-6). 34 CFR 364.56(a)

Section 9: Signatures

After having carefully reviewed all of the assurance in sections 1 – 8 of this SPIL, the undersigned hereby affirm that the State of Idaho is in compliance and will remain in compliance with the aforementioned assurances during the three-year period of this SPIL.

The effective date of this SPIL is: October 1, 2007

SIGNATURE OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

DATE

Todd DeVries, SILC Chair

NAME OF SILC CHAIRPERSON

Michael Graham

SIGNATURE OF DSU DIRECTOR

DATE

Michael Graham, Administrator, Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

NAME AND TITLE OF DSU DIRECTOR

SIGNATURE OF DIRECTOR OF THE SEPARATE STATE AGENCY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND

DATE

Angela Jones, Administrator, Idaho Commission for the Blind & Visually Impaired

NAME AND TITLE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE SEPARATE STATE AGENCY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND

State of: Idaho

Part II: Narrative

Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities

1.1 Goals and Mission – 34 CFR 364.42(b)(1)

Describe the overall goals and mission of the State's IL programs and services. The SPIL must address the goals and mission of both the SILS and the CIL programs, including those of the State agency for individuals who are blind as they relate to the parts of the SPIL administered by that agency.

Idaho's mission is to advocate for and achieve independence, choice, equal access, equal opportunity, and empowerment for individuals with disabilities, including people who are legally blind, functionally blind or in danger of legal blindness. We promote a philosophy of independent living, including a philosophy of consumer control, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, and individual advocacy and system advocacy.

Our overall goal is to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence, and productivity of individuals with disabilities, and the integration and full inclusion of individuals with disabilities into the mainstream of American society.

1.2 Objectives – 34 CFR 364.42(a)(1) and (d); 34 CFR 364.32; 34 CFR 364.33

1.2A Specify the objectives to be achieved and the time frame for achieving them.

Goal 1: Increase availability of accessible and affordable transportation statewide.

Objective 1: Increase access to transportation for people with disabilities by adding one new transportation option by 2010.

Goal 2: Increase the enforcement of existing civil rights laws and the advancement of the civil rights of people with disabilities.

Objective 1: Support and advance the civil rights of people with disabilities by proposing at least one policy change or piece of legislation each year that will address this goal for 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Goal 3: Increase public awareness to reduce stigma and increase understanding of people with disabilities.

Objective 1: Provide outreach and education to increase public awareness about blindness and visual impairment and the services available through the Commission by attending a minimum of 20 community fairs or conferences each year for 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Objective 2: Increase public awareness and visibility of CILs and SILC by increasing materials distributed and IL events attended by 1% each year 2008, 2009 and 2010

Objective 3: Influence public perception about people with disabilities by exploring the establishment of a statewide media center in 2008 and no cost press releases and media contacts each year 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Objective 4: Develop SILC membership by training SILC members on IL philosophy and conducting an orientation activity each year 2008, 2009 and 2010 for new SILC members

Goal 4: Increase access to and coordination of information and resources available to people with disabilities.

Objective 1: Provide training in the alternative skills of blindness to promote and maximize independent functioning in family, community or employment to a minimum of 400 clients each year for 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Objective 2: IDVR, ICBVI, and the CIL's will distribute at least 200 pieces of information statewide about "careline" (211) to Idahoans with disabilities through the above entities including information in their offices and directly to consumers .

Objective 3: Provide low vision services, aids, appliances, and training in their use to people with visual impairment to make use of their remaining vision to assist them to continue to function independently in home, community and employment to a minimum of 250 clients each year for 2008, 2009 and 2010

1.2B Describe the steps planned regarding outreach to populations in the State that are unserved or underserved by programs under title VII, including minority groups and urban and rural populations. This section of the SPIL must:

- Identify the populations to be designated for targeted outreach efforts;
- Identify the geographic areas (i.e., communities) in which the targeted populations reside; and
- Describe how the needs of individuals with significant disabilities from minority group backgrounds will be addressed.

The Idaho IL populations, targeted for minority outreach efforts include Hispanic and Native American populations, primarily in the Caldwell, Blackfoot and Coeur d'Alene geographic areas.

- 1. Once a year, ICBVI and CIL staff will contact the Idaho Migrant Councils in each region to educate their staff about IL services and solicit referrals.***
- 2. Once a year, ICBVI and CIL staff will contact the Coeur d'Alene, Nez Perce, Shoshone-Bannock and Duck Valley tribes to conduct outreach and provide information about IL services to American Indians.***

1.3 Financial Plan – 34 CFR 364.42(a)(2) and (3); 34 CFR 364.29-

Describe in sections 1.3A and 1.3B, below, the financial plan for the use of Federal and non-Federal funds to meet the SPIL objectives.

1.3A Financial Plan Tables

Complete the financial plan tables covering years 1, 2 and 3 of this SPIL. For each funding source, provide estimated dollar amounts anticipated for the applicable uses. The financial plan table should include only those funding sources and amounts that are intended to support one or more of the objectives identified in section 1.2 of the SPIL. To the extent possible, the tables and narratives must reflect the applicable financial information from centers for independent living. Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about completing the financial tables and narratives.

- Insert additional rows for the specific funding sources and amounts expected within the categories of Other Federal Funds and Non-Federal Funds.

Year 1

Sources	Approximate Funding Amounts and Uses			
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities
Title VII Funds				
Chapter 1, Part B	\$130,600	\$135,665	\$47,604	
Chapter 1, Part C			\$784,879	
Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)				
Other Federal Funds				
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)				
Other				
Non-Federal Funds				
State Funds	\$13,100	\$15,100	\$5,360	
Other				

Year 2

Sources	Approximate Funding Amounts and Uses			
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities
Title VII Funds				
Chapter 1, Part B	\$130,600	\$135,665	\$47,604	

Chapter 1, Part C			\$784,879	
Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)				
Other Federal Funds				
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)				
Other				
Non-Federal Funds				
State Funds	\$13,100	\$15,100	\$5,360	
Other				

Year 3

<u>Sources</u>	<u>Approximate Funding Amounts and Uses</u>			
	SILC Resource Plan	IL Services	General CIL Operations	Other SPIL Activities
Title VII Funds				
Chapter 1, Part B	\$130,600	\$135,665	\$47,604	
Chapter 1, Part C			\$784,879	
Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)				
Other Federal Funds				
Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)				
Other				
Non-Federal				

Funds				
State Funds	\$13,100	\$15,100	\$5,360	
Other				

1.3B Financial Plan Narratives

1.3B(1) Specify how the part B, part C and chapter 2 (Older Blind) funds, if applicable, will further the SPIL objectives.

Chapter 1 Part B funds (\$130,600 Federal), (\$13,100 State) will be used to fund the resource plan for the SILC and (\$135,665 Federal) and (\$15,100 State) funds will be used to fund the state independent living services through ICBVI. Chapter 1 Part B (\$47,604 Federal) and (\$5,360 State funds) will fund the general operations of a CIL through a contract with IDVR and DAC and Chapter 1 Part C (\$784,879) will fund the state’s network of centers for independent living.

Funds available will provide the personnel to further the SPIL objectives of (1) increased availability of accessible affordable transportation statewide; (2) the enforcement of existing civil rights laws and the advancement of the civil rights for people with disabilities; (3) public awareness to reduce stigma and increase understanding of people with disabilities and (4) increasing access to and coordination of information and resources available to people with disabilities.

1.3 B(2) Describe efforts to coordinate Federal and State funding for centers and IL services, including the amounts, sources and purposes of the funding to be coordinated.

The SILC, IDVR, ICBVI and the CILs are committed to fostering cooperation and coordination to avoid unnecessary duplication with federal, state, and local programs.

The SILC, IDVR, ICBVI and the CILs will ensure coordination and cooperation by with each other and other providers of IL or closely related services at the federal, state, county, municipal and public/private sector levels. The ICBVI, the IDVR, and the CIL’s all serve on the SILC, attend the State Independent Living Conference, and will visit and interact with staff from the other organizations. They also refer consumers to one another and provide information to consumers about each others programs.

Chapter 1 Part B funds (\$130,600 Federal), (\$13,100 State) will be used to fund the resource plan for the SILC and (\$135,665 Federal) and (\$15,100 State) funds will be used to fund the state independent living services through ICBVI. Chapter 1 Part B (\$47,604 Federal) and (\$5,360 State funds) will fund the general operations of a CIL through a contract with IDVR and DAC and Chapter 1 Part C (\$784,879) will fund the state’s network of centers for independent living.

The amounts of funding dedicated to each are shown in the financial table above and

were completed with the assumption that Title VII and state funding sources would remain stable. Should additional Title VII, Part B funding become available during the course of this three-year Plan, the funds will be distributed to organizations at the same percentages as currently used.

1.3 B(3) Describe any in-kind resources including plant, equipment or services to be provided in support of the SILC resource plan, IL services, general CIL operations and/or other SPIL objectives.

N/A

1.3 B(4) Provide any additional information about the financial plan, as appropriate.

N/A

1.4 Compatibility with Chapter 1 of Title VII and the CIL Work plans – 34 CFR 364.42(c) and (e)

1.4A Describe how the SPIL objectives are consistent with and further the purpose of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act as stated in section 701 of the Act and 34 CFR 364.2.

The road to empowerment includes changes in the individual and systems change. The SPIL includes goals that promote individual and systems change. Systems change in the SPIL includes further de-medicalization, de-institutionalization, strengthened public policies for equal access and further utilization of individual and system advocacy. Individual change in the SPIL includes the use of peer support, individual advocacy, information and referral and independent living skills training. Idaho also will evaluate existing programs to determine their effectiveness, and then encourage redirection of resources to provide optimum opportunities for people with disabilities.

1.4B Describe how, in developing the SPIL objectives, the DSU and the SILC considered and incorporated, where appropriate, the priorities and objectives established by centers for independent living under section 725(c)(4) of the Act.

Four initial focus groups were held at the Centers for Independent Living (CILs) to gather input for the new three-year State Plan for Independent Living. In cooperation with Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC), the SILC conducted focus groups in Boise and Twin Falls in September and October 2006. In cooperation with Living Independently for Everyone (LIFE), the SILC conducted a focus group in Pocatello in September 2006. In cooperation with Disability Action Center-Northwest (DAC-NW), the SILC held a focus group in Coeur D'Alene in August 2006. The CILs recruited people with disabilities to attend and provided logistical support to organize the focus groups. The DSU and ICBVI were asked to distribute information about the focus groups throughout their organizations. A total of 59 people attended the first round of focus groups. The SILC also held a Three-Year State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) one and one half day planning session in January 2007. Council members, including representatives from IDVR, ICBVI and CILs voiced the concerns

and priorities that they received from people with disabilities in their communities. The SILC's and the DSU's joint efforts in the development of the plan are evidenced by the DSU's participation in the January planning session. Each three year planning cycle the DSU's participate fully in the SPIL planning session. The DSU's send representatives to the planning session and these DSU representatives participate fully in the development of the SPIL.

A second round of focus groups followed the planning session to review and comment on the draft plan. These were held in Caldwell and Burley and scheduled in Lewiston in April 2007 in cooperation with the centers for independent living in these areas. The SILC also provided opportunity to comment on the plan through the SILC web site.

A compilation of priorities and common themes from the focus groups and the planning session are as follows: (1) increased availability of accessible affordable transportation statewide; (2) the enforcement of existing civil rights laws and the advancement of the civil rights for people with disabilities; (3) public awareness to reduce stigma and increase understanding of people with disabilities, especially in schools and with law enforcement professionals; (4) access to and coordination of information and resources available to people with disabilities.

Before being finalized, the draft three-year plan was distributed to all of the centers for independent living for review.

1.5 Cooperation, Coordination, and Working Relationships Among Various Entities – 34 CFR 364.26

Describe the steps that will be taken to maximize the cooperation, coordination and working relationships among the SILS program, the SILC, and centers; the DSU, other State agencies represented on the SILC and other councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues; and other public and private entities determined to be appropriate by the SILC.

- The description must identify the entities with which the DSU and the SILC will cooperate and coordinate.

The SILC, IDVR, ICBVI and the CILs will ensure coordination and cooperation with other providers of IL or closely related services at the federal, state, county, municipal and public/private sector levels. The ICBVI, the IDVR, the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Welfare and the Commission on Aging staff serve on the SILC, attend the State Independent Living Conference, and visits and interacts with CIL staff.

The SILC, IDVR, ICBVI and the CILs are part of the Consortium for Idahoans with Disabilities (CID). CID is comprised of 30 disability related member groups and meets monthly. These groups include the Council on Developmental Disabilities, Co-Ad and Idaho Parents Unlimited. CID's mission is to protect, promote and advance the rights and interests of Idahoans with disabilities of all ages in a manner consistent with the following principles:

1. *Meaningful personal choice and self-determination*
2. *Independence and self-sufficiency*
3. *Inclusive, adapted, accessible services, residences, transportation, education, health care and employment*

1.6 Coordination of Services – 34 CFR 364.27

Describe how IL services funded under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will be coordinated with and complement other services to avoid unnecessary duplication with other Federal, State, and local programs, including the OIB program authorized by chapter 2 of title VII of the Act, that provide IL- or VR-related services.

Idaho coordinates with the Dept. of Special Education, universities, developmental disability agencies, public health entities, Department of Health and Welfare, state organizations and agencies handling housing, transportation and veteran’s programs and finally with IDVR and ICBVI, including the older blind services. We ensure no unnecessary duplication occurs by referring consumers to these other programs and through formal and informal interface with other service providers such as, community fairs, peer support groups and state conferences.

IDVR and the SILC’s responsibility to the ILOB program is to provide information about ILOB and make appropriate referrals to ICBVI for provision of services.

1.7 Independent Living Services for Individuals who are Older Blind – 34 CFR 364.28

Describe how the DSU seeks to incorporate into and describe in the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under the Older Individuals who are Blind program and that the DSU determines to be effective.

Independent Living for Older Individuals Who Are Blind (ILOB) Services: The objectives of this project are to; (1) provide independent living services to the older blind; (2) expand services for these individuals; and (3) conduct activities to help improve public understanding of the problems of these individuals. These objectives will give older blind individuals in Idaho the ability to live and function with maximum independence in their homes and community environments.

New approaches that ICBVI is initiating for the provision of IL services to the Older Blind population were determined by consumer request as relayed through service providers and include:

- *Phone tree networks for people to stay in touch when transportation is an issue, as there is no or limited transportation in the major population areas and no public transportation in rural areas, such as Sandpoint.*
- *Assistance with computer hardware, software and assistive technology issues, as well as some assistance with the training for seniors to use these items.*

- *Assist clients to get registered and connected to Newslines*
- *Organize a loaner pool of Closed Captioned Televisions (CCTVs) available for Independent Living – Older Blind (IL-OB) clients to use*

Section 2: Scope, Extent and Arrangements of Services

2.1 Scope and Extent – 34 CFR 364.42(b)(2)(3); 34 CFR 364.43(b); 34 CFR 364.59(b)

2.1A Check the appropriate boxes in the SPIL Instrument table indicating the types of IL services to be provided to meet the objectives identified in section 1.2 of this SPIL, and whether the services will be provided by the CILs or by the DSU (directly and/or through contract or grant).

Table 2.1A(1): Independent living services	Provided by the DSU (directly)	Provided by the DSU (through contract and/or grant)	Provided by the CILs (Not through DSU contracts/grants)
Core Independent Living Services, as follows:	ICBVI	IDVR	CILs
– Information and referral	ICBVI	IDVR	CILS
– IL skills training	ICBVI	IDVR	CILS
– Peer counseling	ICBVI	IDVR	CILS
– Individual and systems advocacy	ICBVI	IDVR	CILS
Counseling services, including psychological, psychotherapeutic, and related services	No	No	No
Services related to securing housing or shelter, including services related to community group living, and supportive of the purposes of this Act and of the titles of this Act, and adaptive housing services (including appropriate accommodations to and modifications of any space used to serve, or occupied by, individuals with significant disabilities)	No	No	CILS
Rehabilitation technology	ICBVI	No	CILS
Mobility training	ICBVI	No	CILS
Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life skills training, and interpreter and reader services	ICBVI	No	CILS
Personal assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services	No	No	CILS
Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation, accessible transportation and other support services	No	No	CILS

Table 2.1A(1): Independent living services	Provided by the DSU (directly)	Provided by the DSU (through contract and/or grant)	Provided by the CILs (Not through DSU contracts/ grants)
Consumer information programs on rehabilitation and IL services available under this Act, especially for minorities and other individuals with disabilities who have traditionally been unserved or underserved by programs under this Act	ICBVI	No	CILS
Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities	ICBVI	No	CILS
Supported living	No	No	No
Transportation, including referral and assistance for such transportation	ICBVI	No	CILS
Physical rehabilitation	No	No	No
Therapeutic treatment	No	No	No
Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices	ICBVI	No	No
Individual and group social and recreational services	ICBVI	No	CILS
Training to develop skills specifically designed for youths who are individuals with significant disabilities to promote self-awareness and esteem, develop advocacy and self-empowerment skills, and explore career options	ICBVI	No	CILS
Services for children with significant disabilities	No	No	CILS
Services under other Federal, State, or local programs designed to provide resources, training, counseling, or other assistance of substantial benefit in enhancing the independence, productivity, and quality of life of individuals with significant disabilities	No	No	CILS
Appropriate preventive services to decrease the need of individuals with significant disabilities for similar services in the future	No	No	CILS
Community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with disabilities	ICBVI	No	CILS
Other necessary services not inconsistent with the Act	ICBVI	No	CILS

2.1B Describe any service provision priorities, including types of services or populations, established for meeting the SPIL objectives identified in section 1.2.

Idaho has established systems advocacy, consumer information programs on rehabilitation and IL services available under the Act and community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with significant disabilities as the states service priorities. The populations to be targeted are Hispanic and American Indian.

2.1C If the State allows service providers to charge consumers for the cost of services or to consider the ability of individual consumers to pay for the cost of IL services, specify the types of IL services for which costs may be charged and for which a financial need test may be applied, and describe how the State will ensure that:

- Any consideration of financial need is applied uniformly so that all individuals who are eligible for IL services are treated equally; and
- Written policies and consumer documentation required by 34 CFR 364.59(d) will be kept by the service provider.

Indicate N/A if not applicable.

N/A

2.2 Arrangements for State-Provided Services – 34 CFR 364.43(d) and (e)

2.2A If the DSU will provide any of these IL services through grants or contractual arrangements with third parties, describe such arrangements.

The DSU awards funds in the amount of \$52,964 as a grant to the Disability Action Center Northwest with the requirements that the recipient comply with requirements of TITLE VII, Chapter 1, Part C regulations.

2.2B If the State contracts with or awards a grant to a center for the general operation of the center, describe how the State will ensure that the determination of an individual's eligibility for services from that center shall be delegated to the center.

The DSU awards funds in the amount of \$52,964 as a grant to the Disability Action Center Northwest with the requirements that the recipient comply with requirements of TITLE VII, Chapter 1, Part C regulations. Eligibility for services will be determined by the CIL. An excerpt of the CIL's annual work plan is the document which is referenced in the DSU grant. In that addendum the CIL goals state that the CIL will determine eligibility and specify that services are provided to individuals with a significant disability.

Section 3: Design for the Statewide Network of Centers

3.1 Existing Network – 34 CFR 364.25

Provide an overview of the existing network of centers, including non-Part C-funded centers that comply with the standards and assurances in section 725 (b) and (c) of the Act, and the

geographic areas and populations currently served by the centers.

Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC) — The Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC) is a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) grassroots organization that incorporated in Idaho 1988. LINC operates as center for independent living as provided for in Chapter 1, Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act, as Amended. The organization has three offices, located in Boise, Caldwell, and Twin Falls, Idaho, and serves Ada, Canyon, Boise, Elmore, Payette, and Twin Falls counties.

LINC is a consumer controlled, cross-disability, non-residential, community-based organization that provides Information and Referral, Peer Counseling, Individual and Systems Advocacy, Independent Living Skills training, Nursing Home/Other Institution placement prevention and relocation, and a consumer-directed Personal Assistance Services program. LINC also provides assistance in accessible home modifications, assistive technology, accessible transportation, and other individualized services designed to help people with disabilities maintain or regain their independence in the community.

Living Independently for Everyone (LIFE) -- LIFE maintains two satellite offices specifically to serve the main minority populations in the LIFE service area. The Blackfoot office, which is located in Bingham County, serves the Hispanic, Native American and immigrant worker population mainly in the Power, Bingham, and Bannock counties. The Burley office serves Cassia and Minidoka counties. Staff are employed from these communities that know and relate to the cultures and traditions. The Pocatello office serves the remainder of LIFE's nineteen counties. There are 40,426 square land miles in total for these counties with a population of approximately 400,000.

Disability Action Center Northwest (DAC) - DAC serves the 10 northern counties. Services in outlying areas are not equivalent to those in the areas immediately surrounding office locations - Moscow, CDA, and Lewiston. The DAC NW mission is "building community, achieving equality, and creating independence in an accessible world."

3.2 Expansion of Network – 34 CFR 364.25

Describe the design for the further expansion of the network, including identification of the unserved and underserved areas in the State and the order of priority for serving these areas as additional funding becomes available (beyond the required cost-of-living increase).

Idaho will continue to support the development of a network of centers through the following activities:

- 1. Advocating for additional state and federal funding to bring all CILs and satellite offices to adequate funding levels.***
- 2. Using available resources for the provision of technical assistance, which will benefit the CILs.***

Should additional Title VII, Part C federal funding become available during the course of this

three-year Plan, the funds will be distributed according to the following:

Idaho has determined that CILs in this state need a base budget of \$250,000. Therefore, all new federal funds allotted specifically to support the operations of centers for independent living in this state shall be distributed in equal amounts to the existing centers in this state until such time as each center's base budget is \$250,000. After existing centers are funded at \$250,000, any remaining federal funds shall be used to bring existing Satellite centers up to a base funding of \$100,000, any remaining federal funds will then be used for the creation of new centers for independent living or new satellite centers on an Idaho Native American Indian Reservation and then in central Idaho, the Salmon area. These two population areas are the un-served and underserved geographic populations in Idaho.

Idaho is proposing the following plan to expand the core services offered through the Idaho Centers for independent living.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Work to secure an adequate state appropriation and continue to seek state general funds for the operation of CIL satellite offices.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Work to develop additional resources to support special projects that may be implemented through CILs.

OBJECTIVE 3:

Continue national efforts to increase distribution of funds to rural states.

3.3 Section 723 States Only – 34 CFR 364.39

3.3A If the State follows an order of priorities for allocating funds among centers within a State that is different from what is outlined in 34 CFR 366.22, describe the alternate order of priority that the DSU director and the SILC chair have agreed upon. Indicate N/A if not applicable.

N/A

3.3B Describe how the State policies, practices and procedures governing the awarding of grants to centers and the oversight of these centers are consistent with 34 CFR 366.37 and 366.38.

N/A

4.1 Administrative Support Services – 34 CFR 364.4; 34 CFR 364.22(b)

4.1A Describe the administrative support services to be provided by the DSU for the SILS (Part B) program and, if the State is a Section 723 State, for the CIL (Part C) program.

- Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about administrative support services.

ICBVI provides general oversight, budget development, and financial accounting services for its state independent living service program. IDVR provides contract monitoring services for the contract with DAC in Coeur d’Alene.

4.1B Describe other DSU arrangements for the administration of the IL program, if any.

N/A

Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

5.1 Resource plan – 34 CFR 364.21(i)

5.1A Describe the resource plan prepared by the SILC in conjunction with the DSU for the provision of resources, including staff and personnel, made available under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII, section 101(a)(18) of the Act, and from other public and private sources that may be necessary to carry out the functions of the SILC identified in section 705(c). The description must address the three years of this SPIL.

- Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

The resource plan was developed to support operational expenditures approved by the State Independent Living Council. Funds for the plan will come from Title VII, Part B of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, State General Funds, and other federal, state and private funding sources.

Sufficient Appropriation:

It is understood and agreed that ICBVI and IDVR are governmental agencies and this SPIL shall in no way be construed so as to bind or obligate the State of Idaho, SILC, ICBVI or IDVR beyond the term of any particular appropriation of funds by the Idaho State Legislature or the United States Congress (hereafter “Appropriating Bodies”). The amounts set out in the Financial Plan Tables of the SPIL (hereafter “Resource Plan”) for FY 2008 have been appropriated by the Appropriating Bodies and are committed for the use of the SILC. However, SILC acknowledges and agrees that if the Appropriating Bodies shall, for whatever reason, hold back the whole or a percentage of the FY 2008 funds a similar amount shall be withheld from the funds committed to SILC for FY 2008. The amounts set forth in the Resource Plan for FY 2009 and FY 2010 are not approved budget requests by SILC, IDVR or ICBVI. It is understood that these figures represent the projected budget of SILC and are

included for planning purposes. If IDVR or ICBVI determine they cannot support the budget requests of SILC, or if the appropriation approved by the Appropriating Bodies is different than the projected budgets, for FY 2009 and FY 2010, as set forth in the Resource Plan, ICBVI, IDVR and SILC shall meet and agree upon an appropriate amendment to the resource Plan

State FY 2008 Resource Allocation

FROM:

State appropriated funds.....\$..... 13,100
Title VII Part B funds from IDVR\$.....130,600
TOTAL.....\$.....143,700

FOR:

Personnel\$.....100,000
Operating Expenditures.....\$..... 43,700
TOTAL.....\$.....143,700

State FY 2009 Resource Allocation

FROM:

State appropriated funds.....\$..... 13,100
Title VII Part B funds from IDVR\$.... 130,600
TOTAL.....\$.....143,700

FOR:

Personnel (FTE 3.0)\$...\$100,000
Operating Expenditures.....\$... \$ 43,700
TOTAL.....\$ \$143,700

State FY 2010 Resource Allocation

FROM:

State appropriated funds.....\$.....\$13,100
Title VII Part B funds from IDVR\$...\$130,600
TOTAL.....\$...\$143,700

FOR:

Personnel (FTE 4.0)\$...\$100,000
Operating Expenditures.....\$.....\$43,700
TOTAL.....\$...\$143,700

5.1B Describe how the following SILC resource plan requirements will be addressed:

- The SILC’s responsibility for the proper expenditure of funds and use of resources that it receives under the resource plan.
- Non-inclusion of conditions or requirements in the SILC resource plan that may compromise the independence of the SILC.
- Reliance, to the maximum extent possible, on the use of resources in existence during the period of implementation of the State plan.

The SILC will be solely responsible for its budget and for the approval of expenditures. The resource plan will support the Council’s activities, including personnel, operating, and funding projects such as; demonstrating ways to expand and improve IL services, outreach to un-served or underserved populations, providing training regarding IL philosophy, conducting studies and analyses, developing model policies, etc. ID will not include any conditions or requirements in the SILC resource plan that may compromise the independence of the SILC. The ID SILC will ensure reliance, to the maximum extent possible, on the use of resources in existence during the period of implementation of the State plan.

Funds for the plan will come from Title VII, Part B of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, State General Funds, and other federal, state and private funding sources.

5.2 Establishment and Placement – 34 CFR 364.21(a)

Describe how the establishment and placement of the SILC ensures its independence with respect to the DSU and all other State agencies.

- Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

The Idaho SILC is not a 501(c)(3). Since 2004, the SILC has been an independent state entity due to legislation passed by the Idaho Legislature and signed by Governor Dirk Kempthorne.

5.3 Appointment and Composition – 34 CFR 364.21(b) – (f)

Describe the process used by the State to appoint members to the SILC who meet the composition requirements in section 705(b).

- Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

Council members are usually referred as nominees by CIL directors or other Council members and disability advocates throughout the state. Nomination forms are accepted on an ongoing basis. Selection of a nominee is based upon one’s knowledge of the independent living philosophy along with the desire and ability to serve and statutory requirements. Full participation is crucial to the success of the Council, so candidates must carefully consider their time commitment and other factors when submitting a nomination form. When a vacancy occurs in a specific category, nominations are reviewed by the Membership Committee. The Committee makes a recommendation to the full Council regarding its

selection. The Council forwards its recommendation to the Governor. The Governor appoints all members. Idaho ensures that no member of the SILC serves more than two consecutive full three-year terms in the SILC bylaws and state law. Idaho ensures that the SILC is composed of members who provide statewide representation, represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities from diverse backgrounds, and are knowledgeable about CILs and IL services in the SILC bylaws, policies and in state law. Idaho also ensures that a majority of the SILC members and voting members are individuals with disabilities who are not employed by any state agency or CIL by noting this in the SILC bylaws and in state law.

5.4 Staffing – 34 CFR 364.21(j)

Describe how the following SILC staffing requirements will be met:

- SILC supervision and evaluation, consistent with State law, of its staff and other personnel as may be necessary to carry out its functions.

Since 2004, the SILC has been independent of any state agency due to legislation passed by the Idaho Legislature and signed by Governor Dirk Kempthorne. The SILC employee's are all employed, supervised and evaluated directly by the SILC.

- Non-assignment of duties to SILC staff and other personnel made available by the DSU, or any other State agency or office, that would create a conflict of interest while assisting the SILC in carrying out its duties.

Since 2004, the Idaho SILC has been independent of any state agency due to legislation passed by the Idaho Legislature and signed by Governor Dirk Kempthorne. There are no staff made available by the DSU that would create a conflict of interest. The SILC employee's are all employed, supervised and evaluated directly by the SILC.

Section 6: Service Provider Requirements

Describe how the following service provider requirements will be met:

6.1 Staffing – 34 CFR 364.23; 34 CFR 364.24; 34 CFR 364.31

- Inclusion of personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of centers.
- Availability, to the maximum extent feasible, of personnel able to communicate (1) with individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication devices, Braille, or audio tapes and (2) in the native languages of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act.
- Establishment and maintenance of a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services and, where appropriate, in administering the CIL program, improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of IL services, including knowledge of and practice in the IL philosophy.

- Affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act.

Idaho has policies and procedures in place that insure that service providers include personnel that are specifically trained in the provision of IL services and support of centers. We require a background with either education or experience in independent living and/or teaching independent living skills both on an individual and group basis. Idaho also strongly supports continuing education for all staff members who work directly with Idahoan's with disabilities who receive IL Services and will put the appropriate policies and procedures in place to ensure that all current and potential IL service providers in the state establishment and maintain a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services.

Idaho has the capability and have policies and procedures in place that require providing all information in Braille, large print or on tape or CD. We also have policies and procedures in place that require hiring language interpreters including sign language interpreters and interpreters for people with disabilities who have limited English proficiency if needed.

ICBVI provides ongoing in-service training to all staff that includes a statewide in-service as well as sending staff to other relevant training in other states. They just developed and attended a four-state blind agency training in the Pacific Northwest with assistance from the regional RRCEP.

Idaho practices affirmative action in hiring and advancing in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities. Idaho will put the appropriate policies and procedures in place to ensure that all current and potential IL service providers in the state meet the requirement to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act.

6.2 Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting – 34 CFR 364.34

- Adoption of those fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for funds made available through parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act, in addition to complying with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements.

Idaho staff who have fiscal responsibilities have appropriate control and fund accounting policies and procedures in place for disbursement and accounting of IL funds.

6.3 Record-Keeping, Access and Reporting – 34 CFR 364.35; 34 CFR 364.36; 34 CFR 364.37

- Maintenance of records that fully disclose and document the information listed in 34 CFR 364.35.
- Submission of annual performance and financial reports, and any other reports that the

Secretary determines to be appropriate

- Access to the Commissioner and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, for the purpose of conducting audits, examinations, and compliance reviews, to the information listed in 34 CFR 364.37.

Idaho requires case service records, either electronic or hard copy, on Idahoan's receiving IL services; submits annual performance and financial reports and maintains records that are available to both state and federal auditors. The SILC, IDVR and ICBVI jointly develop and submit the 704 Report and all records are available to both state and federal auditors/reviewers. The CIL's all develop and submit their own 704 reports and all of their records are available to both state and federal auditors/reviewers.

6.4 Eligibility – 34 CFR 364.40; 34 CFR 364.41

- Eligibility of any individual with a significant disability, as defined in 34 CFR 364.4(b), for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs.
- Ability of any individual to seek information about IL services under these programs and to request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities.
- Determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs in a manner that meets the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51.
- Application of eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion, or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services.
- Non-exclusion from receiving IL services of any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services, based on the imposition of any State or local residence requirement.

All case service records contain information documenting individuals' eligibility for IL services consistent with the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51. ICBVI and the CILS also record the number of individuals seeking information on services and programs and provide information and referral to individuals requesting referral to other services or programs.

IDVR, ICBVI and the CILs do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion of type of significant disability. There is no residence exclusion from IL services for anyone present in the state.

6.5 Independent Living Plans – 34 CFR 364.43(c)

- Provision of IL services in accordance with an IL plan complying with Sec. 364.52 and mutually agreed upon by the individuals with significant disabilities and the appropriate service provider staff unless the individual signs a waiver stating that an IL plan is unnecessary.

All IL clients are given the option of writing an independent living plan or signing a waiver negating this necessity.

6.6 Client Assistance Program (CAP) Information – 34 CFR 364.30

- Use of accessible formats to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about the availability of the CAP program, the purposes of the services provided under the CAP, and how to contact the CAP.

CAP information is presented to IL clients in a variety of accessible formats: large print, Braille or audio tape.

6.7 Protection, Use and Release of Personal Information – 34 CFR 364.56(a)

- Adoption and implementation of policies and procedures meeting the requirements of 34 CFR 364.56(a), to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names.

ID has the appropriate policies and procedures in place to ensure that all current and potential IL service providers in the state have safeguards in place regarding the confidentiality of all client information, according to 34CFR 364.56(a).

Section 7: Evaluation

Describe the method that will be used to periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the plan in meeting the objectives established in Section 1. The description must include the State's evaluation of satisfaction by individuals with significant disabilities who have participated in the program. 34 CFR 364.38

The independent living objectives are guided by a philosophy that values all human beings equally and emphasizes the dignity and need for self-determination of all people with disabilities. It supports the right and the opportunity for each individual to pursue a course of action of their own choice.

RSA will be responsible for CIL Compliance with the standards and assurances outlined in the Act and any on-site visits.

The SILC will request from the CILs consumer satisfaction data obtained by surveys required by the Act. The SILC will evaluate this data annually to determine gaps, needs and satisfaction with services identified by the consumer. The SILC will use this information to guide its own policies and program decisions.

The SILC will request from the ICBVI consumer satisfaction data obtained by surveys required by the Act. The SILC will evaluate this data annually to determine gaps, needs and satisfaction with services identified by the consumer.

The objectives/activities outlined by the SPIL will be evaluated quarterly first by the SILC standing committees and then by the full council, noting the following information:

- a. The activities conducted during the quarter that have a relationship to the stated goals and objectives, and*
- b. The results of the activities conducted, including benchmarks and performance measures.*

With this report of the past year's accomplishments in mind Idaho will evaluate the current goals and objectives to determine whether to:

- a. Continue with existing goals and objectives,*
- b. Modify existing goals and objectives,*
- c. Terminate existing goals and objectives, or*
- d. Add new goals and objectives.*

During this evaluation process, Idaho will determine changes, modifications, and recommendations for action in the coming year.

The SILC, IDVR and ICBVI will develop, as necessary, other evaluation initiatives as required by federal rule and regulation.

Section 8: State-Imposed Requirements

Identify any State-imposed requirements contained in the provisions of this SPIL.

Indicate N/A if not applicable.

N/A