# NC Statewide Independent Living Council Meeting Minutes February 3, 2017

Country Inn & Suites, Burlington, NC

## Welcome/Mission /Minutes

The meeting was called to order at by Chair Keith Greenarch at 9:02am.

**SILC Mission** was read by Keith Greenarch

**SILC Accessibility Reminders** was read by Keith Greenarch. Gary Ray will act as parliamentarian for this meeting.

**Introductions:** Introductions were made by all.

**Absent members:** Ping Miller, Kimlyn Lambert, Vicki Smith Ex. Officio

**Approval of Agenda** –

**Action:** (Gary Ray/Sandy Ogburn) moved to accept the agenda. Motion carried unanimously

**Approval of Minutes** – change to reflect: Absent John Marens and Vicki Smith, Ex. Officios

**(Action) Approval of the minutes** – (Gary Ray/Teresa Staley) Motion carried unanimously

**Swearing in of new member –** Jeff McLoud was sworn in as a new SILC member

**Executive Committee Keith Greenarch, chair**

* Overview of mediated meeting held with Center Directors on December 12th. An agreement of future proceedings was reached.
* December 13th meeting to discuss the following:
  + Meeting guidelines in an effort to conduct quarterly meetings in a professional manner
  + Promoting the SILC and Independent Living philosophy through printed media, this is an ad-hoc committee that is overseen by the Finance committee and will report later
  + Upcoming Independent Living Summit to be held in March in Raleigh with visits to the legislators, we all have to have the same message. The CILs need more money. We are going to ask for state money to be distributed to the centers. All Centers are underfunded and need additional funding.
    - Steve Strom – please reach out to the ID caucus.
* Members of the Executive committee and SILC staff met with Vocational Rehabilitation Independent Living. It was agreed upon that funds would be made available in an effort to bring Part B spending into current year spending. The amended contracts are in the process of being finalized with each center.
* I want to address questions asked of me or regarding the SILC, we want to be transparent:
  + Why does the SILC office spend money on gourmet coffee? No Part B dollars were spent on coffee. SILC staff and Arts Access have provided coffee for use in the office.
  + Why can the SILC only purchase disposable office supplies for the centers? This is because of budget line items, no equipment could be purchased.
  + Why was a member paid mileage to work on a promotional product? They were not paid with Part B funds; it was unrestricted funds from donations.
  + How can a member be removed from the council? Noncompliance to attendance policies. The membership committee will bring a name to the floor for a vote to remove. The name is then sent to the Governor’s board and commissions asked to be removed. The final decision lies with the Governor’s office.

**Finance Committee/Goal 5 Kimlyn Lambert, Chair**

There is no report. The minutes of all meetings are on the website.

**Membership Committee Kay Miley, Chair**

Sandra Hicks spoke to 11 Managers of Vocational Rehabilitation Independent Living offices located in areas east and west where representatives are needed. Packets with a cover letter with member expectations, brochure from the SILC and applications are being sent to each.

An applicant, Michael West would like to attend a SILC meeting to make sure it would be a good fit.

There are four vacancies; participation is being stressed to all applicants.

* Mark Steele, Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke and Patricia Sikes all asked to be sent the same information to share
* Sandy Ogburn encouraged members to be involved with Mayor Councils and other organizations that could provide opportunities to solicit members.

**Policy Committee Rene Cummins, Chair**

The policy committee met to plan the trainings specified in the SPIL. One of these is the presentation on mental health by Corye Dunn, the Director of Public Policy from Disability Rights NC, which was held yesterday.

**Promotional Project Ad-hoc Committee Gerald Green, Chair**

I do political consulting. To reach politicians you go through their constituents. I am proposed a SILC newspaper to be printed a 2 or 3 times a year for the purpose of advocating which is legal under the non-profit status. We need to be seen on a broader scale through media. I will send out emails regarding content. Feel free to contact me with any ideas. This will be totally self sufficient.

**Bylaws Committee Rene Cummins, Chair**

Other SILC issues have caused this committee to wait. The committee’s goal is to have revisions to be voted on by the next quarterly meeting.

Keith Greenarch – the make-up of SILC membership will be revisited.

**Break – 10:10 – 10:30**

**Goal Committee Reports**

**Goal 1 Provision of Quality Services** **Mark Steele, Chair**

This report is based on seven of our CILs as one had a delay in their contract being implemented.

Objective 1.1 Centers for Independent Living staff members are well trained.

Activities:

\* Annually, a minimum of 8 Centers for Independent Living staff members receive training by attending conferences such as, but not limited to, National Council on Independent Living (NCIL), Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL), Southeastern Center Directors Association (SECDA), National ADA Symposium, Disability Rights NC, GREAT Conference, etc.

* Staff from The Adaptables, DARC and Disability Partners attended the APRIL Conference in October. SE Center Director’s Association Meeting was attended by staff of a couple of Centers.

\* Annually, the Centers for Independent Living conduct 2 retreats to focus on network building, and development and dissemination of a uniform service delivery manual.

* We are in the planning stages of the first retreat. None have been held to date.

\* Annually, the Centers for Independent Living meet in person at the Statewide Independent Living Council quarterly meetings to participate in the processes of the Statewide Independent Living Council to ensure collaboration and cooperation between the Centers for Independent Living and the Statewide Independent Living Council.

* Staff from all eight Centers attended the last SILC meeting. I want to point out that no Part B funds were used for the Adaptables to attend as Keith is Chair and I am a voting member both being reimbursed by the SILC office which is funded with I&E funds.

\* Upon request, the Centers for Independent Living provide information on "How to start a Center" for Independent Living to a Grassroots Advocacy Organization in an unserved area of NC.

* No activity to date.

**Goal 2 Leadership and Empowerment of individuals with disabilities:   
Rene Cummins, Chair**

Goal 2 Committee Report—Youth Leadership & Empowerment

Activity 1—Youth Leadership Forum

A contract has been executed with Alliance of Disability Advocates in the amount of $24,257 to coordinate a 2017 YLF, but no report has been sent to the SILC office prior to this quarterly meeting.  The Planning Committee, consisting of youth with disabilities with prior planning experience, has met once, and the application is being tweaked prior to distribution.  In August, the NC SILC office was contacted by NC State Conference Events to tentatively schedule a YLF week on their calendar since only 2 options remained available at that time; Debbie Hippler scheduled the later date in July to give the planning committee the most time since no successful applicant was identified at that time.  The dates that have been held by NC State are the week of July 9 – 14, 2017.  No one was present from Alliance to provide an update on the YLF.

Activity 2—Training on IL for Youth with Disabilities

Disability Resource Center in Wilmington—75 youth received IL training in 2 schools; the topics covered in these trainings were Disability Disclosure, How & When to Disclose, and Stress & Coping skills.

Alliance of Disability Advocates in Raleigh—7 IL trainings were provided through the Teaching Advocacy through Independent Living classes; the topic of these trainings was Disability History.

Activity 3—Outreach to Youth with Disabilities in Rural Areas

No activities reported this quarter.

Activity 4—SILC assists 2 Youth with Disabilities to attend APRIL

No activity to report this quarter.

**Goal 3 Growth and Improvement of Independent Living Services:**

**Tavonne Enoch, Chair**

The report was read by Gerald Green.

Objective 3.1 Current service areas do not become unserved or underserved to a greater degree, and previously unserved consumers in North Carolina are served. At a minimum, the current level of funding for Centers for Independent Living is maintained, and funding increases are the optimum outcome.

Activities:

\* Annually, the Statewide Independent Living Council and the Centers for Independent Living facilitate a minimum of 8 meetings to educate legislators about Centers for Independent Living, and to advocate for state funding of the Centers for Independent Living of North Carolina.

* This will be accomplished at the Independent Living Summit to be held in March.

\* Annually, the Statewide Independent Living Council maintains Title VII Part B funding levels for Part B and Part C Centers.

* The CILs receive 100% of the Part B funds.

\* Annually, the Centers for Independent Living provide a minimum of 1,000 Information and Referrals. In addition, the Centers for Independent Living of North Carolina annually provide a minimum of 24 services each of advocacy, peer support and independent living skills.

* Advocacy – 207; Independent Living skills – 275; Peer mentoring and support – 157; Information and Referrals – 11,430.

\* Annually, the Statewide Independent Living Council coordinates Mental Health training for Centers for Independent Living staff and Statewide Independent Living Council members with key partners from mental health organizations.

* This was accomplished yesterday at the Board Enrichment training.

Objective 3.2 People with disabilities have greater access to transportation in their communities.

Activities:

\* In year 1, the Statewide Independent Living Council forms a committee of not fewer than five members to meet at least once with a representative of disability compliance with the North Carolina Department of Transportation to discuss opportunities for Statewide Independent Living Council, Centers for Independent Living and North Carolina Department of Transportation to advocate for greater access for people with disabilities.

* No activity to report this quarter. This training will be in August.

\* In years 2 and 3, the Statewide Independent Living Council uses findings from year 1, in collaboration with North Carolina Department of Transportation, to implement at least one annual activity to further transportation access for people with disabilities. Activities may include at least one training in accessible transportation to local transit boards.

* No activity to report

\* Annually the Statewide Independent Living Council, in collaboration with North Carolina Department of Transportation, coordinates training on accessible transportation for Centers for Independent Living staff and Statewide Independent Living Council members.

* No activity to report

Tavonne Enoch – There is no funding amount that was provided to me. Going forward we will be sure to have the spending and percentages available.

Mark Steele – The CILs met and discussed the uniform reporting tool that will work for all including the committees. This first quarter this was not in place. We will all have an excel sheet which will include this expenditure information. These will all be sent to the SILC office monthly.

Steve Strom – Thank you for your work on DOT, are there opportunities for you to be a representative on the state DOT boards to inform and educate regarding people with disabilities?

Tavonne Enoch – I will be happy to look into that.

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**Goal 4 People with disabilities in NC live in the community of their choice  
Teresa Staley, Chair**

We met on the 27th, we looked over the quarterly CIL reports. We discussed the reporting tool and are looking forward to this being used.

Objective 4.1 Individuals with disabilities are not forced to live in institutions or shelters and have the opportunity for community-based living.

Activities:

\* Annually, the Centers for Independent Living assist a minimum of 16 transitions or diversions from institutions with potential partners including but not limited to, Money Follows the Person, NC Housing Finance Agency, Local Council on Governments, Housing Authorities and Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Independent Living Rehabilitation Program, etc.

* 17 transitions and diversions.

\* Annually, the Centers for Independent Living refer a minimum of 16 people with disabilities for affordable and/or accessible housing through the Key Program Targeted Housing.

* 4 referrals

Mark Steele – this information on targeted housing was not on the reporting of all the CILs in the past but will be going forward. I have some updated information. The Adaptables had 19 referrals and Disability Rights had 8 referrals.

Barry Washington – We had one question, Where were these people coming from? This is to answer the question raised regarding people from institutions or shelters.

Mark Steele – To answer, this is consumer choice. In these reports, the consumers come from nursing home, shelters, assisted living, group homes, adult care homes, those and more. All these people are moving into their own individual apartment where they have their own choices and live as independently as possible.

**Goal 6 DSUs Provide Independent Living Services**:  
**Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke and Patricia Sikes**

**Objective 6.2: DSB & DVR will provide Assistive Technology supports that will enable People with Disabilities to increase independence in their home and community**

**Activities:**

* **At a minimum, DSB will provide two (2) technology group trainings to consumers per year.**

During this quarter, DSB ILR and ILOB programs provided five technology group training sessions during Mini Centers which also provide instruction on a wide range of daily living skills needs and provide peer counseling as well as resource information. Instruction on technology for communications, identifying objects, money identification and money management was provided.

* **At a minimum, DSB & DVR will provide assistive technology training to a minimum of 100 participants in the community.**

DSB ILR and ILOB programs provided AT group training sessions to 79 participants during this reporting period. A total of 193 DSB ILR and ILOB consumers received assistive technology services either in the home and/or in group trainings.

**Objective 6.3: DSB & DVR will enable Veterans with disabilities to receive seamless supports and services that allow them to live independently.**

**Activities:**

**• At a minimum, DSB & DVR will participate in five (5) events per year to increase communication and collaboration with the Veterans Administration and other programs serving veterans.**

DSB participated in the following events during this reporting period. 90 participants attended.

1. Military Veterans Resource Coalition – Raleigh, NC Dec, 6, 2016 at Joint Force

Headquarters.

2. Veterans Benefits & Resources Information Dec 9, 2016

3. 2016 Veterans Administration Caregivers Fair – Nov, 7, 2016 in Asheville, NC –

sharing information for veterans and family members who take care of veterans.

4. Veterans Tri-County (Hoke, Richmond, Scotland) Stand Down in Raeford, NC (Hoke

County) – It is for Homeless vets and other vets with multiple agencies and

organizations sharing resource

Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke gave a report on the status of the contracts and amendments for all Centers, training opportunities, the legislation regarding service animals and meeting Mandy Cohen, the new Department of Health and Human Services Secretary.

**Comments on Goal Committees:**

Julia Sain – Teresa, as the chair of your committee, as of January 31st the Money Follows the Person is no longer in collaboration with any CILs.

Gary Ray – I am very impressed; we have come a long way from my frustration in October.

**Ex. Officio Reports**

**Disability Rights North Carolina Vicki Smith, Executive Director**

Report was given by Matthew Herr. Our annual conference is coming up in April. Case status is available on our website.

**Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Jan Withers, Director**

* **New Administration**
  + Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services
    - Dr. Mandy Cohen
  + Secretary, Department of Veterans and Military Affairs
    - Larry Hall
* **Major DSDHH Accomplishments 2012-2016**
  + Facebook
  + Created full-time, permanent position of Accessibility Resources Coordinator
    - Tasked with developing partnerships with state-level/state-wide agencies (e.g. social services, health care facilities, law enforcement, etc) to build their capacity to assure accessibility for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind people
  + Public Safety
    - Developed series of videos in ASL for ReadyNC
    - Updated Basic Law Enforcement Training and developed training video for law enforcement officers
    - Interpreters for Governor’s press conferences during times of emergency
    - Number of counties with text-to-911 capability greatly increased
  + National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program fully operational
  + Resource Development
    - Deaf-Blind Interpreter Training series
    - Interpreter Mentoring program
    - Support Service Provider (SSP) Training series
    - Deaf and Deaf-Blind Self-Advocacy Trainings
    - Touch Signals trainings
    - Hearing Aid mentoring curriculum developed and implemented in partnership with DAAS and Senior Centers
    - Formal curriculum developed for training health care personnel
      * Expanding training through AHEC
    - Enhanced outreach and services to veterans with hearing loss
* **DSDHH New Hire**
  + Telecommunications Resources Program Manager
    - Becky Rosenthal
* **National Association of State Agencies of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**
  + Project: Development of training videos for law enforcement officers to be distributed nationwide; Jan Withers, DSDHH Director, is co-chair

**Client Assistance Program John Marens**

I do not have a formal report for this meeting. I do want to say I was very impressed with the new secretary.

**North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities Steve Strom**

Current Initiatives:

Supported Living: Making the Difference

The Council released an RFA in partnership with the Money Follows the Person program to launch a technical assistance initiative supporting the launch of the new Medicaid Waiver service of supporting living. This service will begin with the new waiver on November 1st. The intent of the initiative is to provide a stakeholder group and technical assistance for agencies who are offering the supported living service. There will be three demonstration projects supported through the initiative with a learning community and a communications effort to help all providers learn about the barriers and successes of this service over the next three years.

The Council voted to approve Vaya Health (formerly known as Smoky Mountain MCO) as the contractor for this initiative. The three provide organizations who will be part of the initiative are Turning Point Services (TPS), FIRST, and Liberty Corner Enterprises (LCE). The first meeting for the initiative will be held on 1/16 in Asheville. Additional information on participating in the learning community and how the information will be disseminated throughout the State will be available soon. An overview of this initiative can be found on the nccdd.org website: <http://nccdd.org/supported-living-making-the-difference.html>

Adult Care Home Transition

The Council partnered with Disability Rights NC to carry out the goals of this initiative. Now in its third and final year, Disability Rights wrapped up the work on the initiative and presented a draft final report. Once the draft becomes finalized, the report and the recommendations will be shared in print and on the nccdd.org website.

Guardianship

The Council voted to approve funding for a third year of the Rethinking Guardianship initiative. The DHHS Division of Aging and Adult Services along with the UNC School of Social Work Jordan Family Institute have been working on this initiative. Representatives from all agencies who have a stake in improving the self-determination of those with a guardian, those who at risk of having a guardian, family members and self-advocates are also part of the stakeholder group. New members are invited to be part of this group. All 2017 meetings of the guardianship stakeholder group will be held at the Wake County Commons Building located at 4011 Carya Dr, Raleigh, NC 27610. The meetings are from 10 AM to 3 PM and will be held January 19th, March 16th, May 18th, and October 19th. Thanks to Keith Greenarch for representing the Centers for Independent Living in this workgroup. Copies of the second year are report are available in print and online: <http://bit.ly/2jfUY4x>

Dr. Mary Ann Salmon and Linda Kendall-Fields is still seeking stories if you have any guardianship stories that would help inform the work of this initiative.

Medical/Health Homes for individuals with I/DD

The Medical/Health Homes initiative wrapped up their work on December 31 with a list of recommendations for specific work that can continue to inform the system as policy makers continue their work on Medicaid reform. At the November Council meeting, the Council voted to approve a demonstration initiative to implement test programs around two specific recommendations from the Medical Health Home initiative. The new initiative will begin January 1 and will be called From Planning to Action: Integrated, Collaborative Care for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The demonstration projects will focus on (a) building capacity within primary and community healthcare providers to address medical needs of individuals with I/DD and (b) to create a healthcare navigator that can guide individuals and families through the complexities of healthcare, disability, and community service systems.

Safety and Security: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Coastal Horizons finished up their work on the three grants to increase the capacity and knowledge of domestic violence and/or sexual assault service providers for the needs of victims who have intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD). During this initiative period, Coastal Horizons developed a curriculum and used a train the trainer model to increase the skills and knowledge of I/DD service providers to effectively intervene when someone they provide services to is victimized. The training materials are available for download and use at:

<http://nccdd.org/safety-and-security-domestic-violence.html>

Please feel free to use the materials and distribute them throughout your networks.

Emergency Preparation

The Emergency Preparedness Initiative continues its good work into year #3. Please visit the nccdd.org website link, <http://nccdd.org/emergency-preparedness.html>, to see all of the current resources. While the State continues recovery efforts from Hurricane Matthew, the State will be dealing with winter related emergencies with snow and ice.

Conference Funding Support – FUNDING IS STILL AVAILABLE

The NC Council supports individual with disabilities and their caregivers to participate in educational opportunities that will enhance their ability to be a better advocate or increase independence through the Jean Wolff Rossi Fund. This fund will provide financial support to attend conferences that will meet the goals of the Rossi Fund Program. Those interested in applying for funds may visit the NCCDD website for an application at [www.nccdd.org](http://www.nccdd.org) or call the office at 919-850-2901 to have an application mailed. Self-advocates and family members are encouraged to apply for support though the Jean Wolff Rossi Fund.

The 2017 independent living conferences are:

23rd Annual APRIL Conference and Youth Conference:

Spokane, Washington October 20th-23rd

<https://www.april-rural.org/index.php>

2017 Annual Conference on Independent Living

Washington, DC July 24th- 27th, 2017

<http://www.ncil.org/2017-annual-conference-on-independent-living/>

5 Year Plan goals have been approved

The Council’s new Five Year Plan submitted to the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) was approved for implementation. The three large goals in the plan focus on financial asset development, community living, and advocacy development. Funding for initiatives in the next 5 years will address these key goals. To download a copy of the plan, you can visit the Council’s website or click the link below: <http://bit.ly/1MRMuGL>

Council launches an online portal for new ideas for future initiatives:

The Council has launched a link on NCCDD website to invite the public to submit new, innovative ideas that could lead to the funding of future initiatives to help accomplish the Council’s goals of improved financial stability for individuals with I/DD and their families, expanded community living opportunities and to strengthen advocacy in the area of I/DD as outlined in the new Five Year Plan.

Submit your idea by filling out the form at [www.nccdd.org](http://www.nccdd.org). The Council will consider all ideas that are received and your idea could lead to a request for applications (RFA) by the Council to implement the concept, or a possible sole-source proposal depending on the nature of the concept.

Keith Greenarch – We ask that all

## Old Business: none

## New Business: none

**Public Comments:** Helen Pase,I wanted the SILC to know that our Cil has done a fundraiser for each of the last 7 years. We have raised between $35,000 and $40,000 earmarked for the Center activity and emergency situations for people with disabilities.

## Announcements: Jan Withers, I have flyers to distribute for the Deaf Women of Color which will be happening in Greensboro, April 6 – 9. I can provide electronic copies.

March 9 – 12 the Deaf/Blind Conference in Atlantic Beach. Cynthia Speight and myself wrote a commentary for the NC Medical Journal for an issue focusing on hearing and vision lose. We focus on access in a medical setting. This will be in a future issue.

Steve Strom – I want to remind that the council has the Jean Wolff Rossi fund to help with funds to attend these conferences asking at least 60 days out.

Keith Greenarch – We will be taking requests to attend NCIL in DC.

It is so good to see that the Youth Leadership Forum will happen in 2017. I feel this is one of the SILC’s greatest accomplishments.

Please share your thoughts on the new meeting standards.

Gerald Green – disagreed with the time limits, more time should be allowed.

Steve Strom – Ex. Officios should be allowed the same time as Goal committee reports.

Jan Withers – agreed with time limits being a deterrent

Jeff McLoud – Is there a provisions that you can waive the 3 minute restriction?

Keith Greenarch – Yes there is.

Sandy Ogburn – I like the new format for time but do agree with Steve and Janet that they be allowed more than the 3 minutes.

Barry Washington – I like it too but want to be kind and considerate of others.

Keith Greenarch – The Executive committee will review this format.

Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke – I would request that time limits be observed by all committees not just Ex. Officios.

## Meeting Adjourned at 12:07

Attendees: P = Present / T= attending by Teleconference / A = Absent

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Members** |  | **Ex. Officio** |  | **Guests** |  |
| Rene Cummins | P | Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke VRIL | P | Jenny Pleasants - VR | P |
| Tavonne Enoch | P | Steve Strom DD Council | P | Crystal Jackson Cheek | P |
| Gerald Green | P | Patricia Sikes – DSB | P | Alan Martin | P |
| Keith Greenarch | P | John Marens CAP | P | Emily Katella | P |
| Sandra Hicks | P | Matt Herr – DDNC | P | Becky Rosenthal | P |
| Mark Steele | P | Jan Withers – DDHH | P | Kevin Earp | P |
| Kimlyn Lambert | A |  |  | Jessica Mendelsohn | P |
| Paul LaVack | P | **Center Directors/Reps** |  | Valene Reiser | P |
| Kay Miley | P | Julia Sain | P | Mamie Branch | P |
| Clare “Ping” Miller | A | Barbara Davis | P | Sarah Bennett | P |
| Sandy Ogburn | P | Libby Marshall | P | Mike Ogburn | P |
| Gary Ray | P | Helen Pase | P |  |  |
| Teresa Staley | P | Aaron Shabazz | P |  |  |
| Oshana Watkins | P | **Staff/Support** |  |  |  |
| Barry Washington | P | Debbie Hippler | P |  |  |
| Sabrina Dionne | P | Mark Lineberger ASL | P |  |  |
| Melea Williams | P | Jennifer Johnson ASL | P |  |  |
| Jeff McLoud | P | Tim Sound | P |  |  |

## Next Meeting: May 5 at the Country Inn and Suites in Burlington, NC.

*Respectfully submitted, Debbie Hippler, SILC staff*

*The full recording of the meeting is available at the SILC office upon request*