



MEETING MINUTES

**New Mexico Statewide Independent Living Council
Quarterly Meeting
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. May 15, 2015
CHOICES Center for Independent Living
1717 W 2nd Street, Suite 170
Roswell, New Mexico**

I. Welcome/Call to Order Sarah Michaud

- The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.
- Thank you to Audra Hudson CHOICES for hosting meeting

II. Introductions

III. Roll Call Katie Bridgewater, Davis Innovations, SILC Coordinator

- Norbert Archibeque – Present
- Curtis Chong – Present
- Ken Collins – Present
- David Hinkle - Present
- Sarah Michaud – Present
- Albert Montoya - Absent
- Jim Parker - Present
- Larry Rodriguez – Will be coming shortly
- **Quorum was confirmed.**

DI Participants (SILC Support Team)

- Katie Bridgewater - ADA Coordinator, DI
- Tawnya Rowland - Recording Secretary, DI

Visitors

- Tim Carver - San Juan Center for Independence, Farmington
- Audra Hudson - Choices, Roswell, Hobbs, Carlsbad
- Lorie Pacheco Gulley – DVR
- Michael Mulligan – DVR
- Randy Herrera - DVR
- Gil Yildez - ILRC
- Michael Murphy – ILRC



- Jane Ann Oldrop
- Guy Surdi – Governors Commission on Disability

Meeting Handouts for Council Members:

February 2, 2015 SILC Meeting Minutes
SILC Board Member Contact List
NM Independent Living Council Info Sheet
Draft SILC Brochures
ACL PPT Presentation
Current SPIL Goals and Objectives

IV. Action Item – Approval of May 15 Meeting Agenda Sarah Michaud

- Ken Collins - Motioned
- Curtis Chong- 2nd Motion
- **Approved**

V. Action Item – Approval of Minutes from Feb 2nd Meeting Sarah Michaud

Needed Corrections

Mr. Collins requested correction on page 14: Gallup Adult Day Cares; remove the “s”. It is just “Day Care.”

Mr. Parker requested a scaled down version of the minutes. He only wants important things noted like recommendations, money requests, and motions. He wants a two or three page synopsis with items we need to really focus on. Detailed minutes are great for back up.

Mr. Chong requests the files as the source document; WORD not in PDF – he needs them as they were originally typed in WORD for accessibility.

DI will do a synopsis of the meeting minutes, in addition to the full detailed minutes.

Ms. Michaud requested recommendations and action items to go at bottom of the notes.

- Norbert Archibeque - Motioned
- Ken Collins - 2nd Motion
- **Approved with changes**

Mr. Rodriguez arrived.



VI. Discussion of SILC Outreach

Sarah Michaud

Ms. Michaud stated that there was not significant outreach last quarter, and that there are multiple outreach opportunities coming up. It's important as SILC members to conduct outreach activities per requirements. We need to know what opportunities are coming up that may require an expenditure of funds.

- The last table we hosted that required funds was the April Conference.
- Ms. Michaud mentioned during the last meeting that Jemez had an opportunity for a table that was not acted on.
- **Action Item:** National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) 2015 Annual Conference on Independent Living coming up July 27 – 30, 2015 at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, DC. Ms. Pacheco-Gulley will review conference information and report back.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that the Southwest Conference is coming up in October. The SILC membership has hosted a table for the past two years, so it's definitely something we want to do again.
 - We also have the website, which is an outreach tool.

Ms. Michaud asked Council for other ideas on outreach activities to add to the list to organize a SILC presence:

- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker said youth sports coming up this summer may have an opportunity. Summer Youth Sports Camp at UNM. There is usually a large turnout.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Murphy suggested non-disability venues, specifically County Fairs as an option – we can get tables at the fairs.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Collins mentioned his involvement in the Health Fair at the mall. He said they gave out all of SILC brochures. There are a lot of Health Fairs and he mentioned that he needs more SILC brochure copies.

Ms. Bridgewater asked if he was keeping track of brochures he was giving out.

- **Action Item:** Ms. Pacheco-Gulley stated that number of brochures distributed need to be tracked for the 704 report.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker asked if we as a State are we doing anything for the 25th ADA Celebration this year. Local community outreach to non-disabled audience or community at large.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Michaud – we need to make ideas more concrete so we have dates and people committed to each event.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud asked Ms. Bridgewater to get list of County Fairs in New Mexico and get dates and any costs for having a booth or table.



- **Action Item:** Once she receives the County Fair details, Ms. Michaud will then distribute information to the membership to determine who among the Council will man a table at what County Fair.

Ms. Michaud stated she has not heard about any upcoming ADA events. If there is an ADA event, she would like SILC to be involved.

- **Action Item:** Mr. Parker will talk to Tony Cahill and try to get some additional information on potential statewide ADA events.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Collins – Brain Advisory Council – suggested that we could partner with another group who already has something planned?
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Yildez mentioned her involvement in State Fairs and that they gave away helmets.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud asked that as we learn about events, please send information to Ms. Bridgewater and Ms. Davis so that DI can get the information out to the membership and get the materials and table set up items to the members as needed.
 - Ms. Bridgewater mentioned the website as another way to communicate outreach opportunities.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that on June 22nd the JVR will be hosting the third Disability Awareness Conference at Pueblo of Zia, from 9a.m. to 2p.m. The location is TBD but they are looking at the Zia Day School. There is no cost to participate and there will be a free lunch. If there are members wanting to set up a table she would like to know.
- Ms. Michaud stated that although last minute, they are also hosting an event at Santa Ana on Monday May 18.
- Ms. Michaud stated that we need to communicate with each other to ensure that we have at least one member in attendance to man a table. Any IL members or staff that can attend would be great. It's a good way to get information out to community at large, not just disability community.
- Mr. Archibeque stated that the VA sometimes has big events and that would be another opportunity.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that we are not limiting ourselves in any way and that the VA would be a wonderful group to connect with.

VII. **SILC Brochure and Website Update**

Katie Bridgewater

Ms. Bridgewater directed attention to the new brochure with all changes from the last meeting. She asked that any edits be made directly on the hard copies of the brochures and given to her so she can make all requested changes.

Group Discussion on Brochure

- Meeting members made requests for corrections regarding address, phone, fax, email, website address, and general punctuation changes.



- **Recommendation:** Mr. Hinkle stated the website talks about empowering people and that he thinks the brochure may need an image that shows empowerment.
- Ms. Michaud asked if the address for Casa Mira is an official office address. Fox drive address will be changing. Ms. Michaud stated that we must make sure we have office addresses only - not home addresses. This is a safety concern.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud asked Ms. Hudson to send Ms. Bridgewater updated Carlsbad address.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker wants to see plain language. He says the language sounds like 1970's.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that changing the mission statement will need to be an Action Item to vote on for the next meeting – Mr. Parker said this should be an action item for next meeting.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud wants us to make changes discussed today, and print the brochures. Then later we can make additional changes.
- **Action Item:** Mr. Chong stated that blind people need a readable, electronically accessible brochure document.
- **Action Item:** Mr. Chong will provide website feedback to Ms. Bridgewater on accessibility of brochure on website.
- Mr. Parker wants SILC Mission edited to convert to bullets and move the last sentence to top.
- Mr. Collins wants to move on the brochure today because it's important to outreach needs.
- Mr. Chong stated that in the context of brochure, the Mission is not being changed. We are reformatting the brochure. We are changing the brochure not the mission statement. Not changing mission, just clarifying language on the brochure.
- Mr. Hinkle suggested we just remove "SILC Mission" from the brochure and change it to "What the SILC Believes" then reformat language as stated above.
- Ms. Michaud agrees with Mr. Hinkle.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater will make changes as stated and as noted on the edited hard copies of the brochures she received from meeting members.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker wants image to be of advocacy in action in front of legislature.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Hinkle wants to see pictures of people with disabilities playing sports, or other proactive images.
- Ms. Bridgewater mentioned DI has other disability images that we might be able to use-like people working.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Yildez wants to see an image of persons face, not a wheelchair.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Michaud recommends we continue to look for action picture. This is not an action item, brochure has already been voted on and the



brochure has been approved. So, recommendation stands - we will make edits, and add a picture that shows a human element and have it ready in a week.

- **Action Item:** Mr. Murphy said we need to add “unserved” to the brochure.
- Mr. Parker stated that other than stock photo, get a picture of someone in NM. Suggested a photographer that Ms. Michaud might want to use. State of NM owns the photos.
- Mr. Carver suggested we use a picture of the Council. He has his camera.
- Ms. Michaud agreed that we will get Mr. Carver to take a picture of the Council picture later today and use it in the brochure.

Group Discussion on Website

- Ms. Michaud stated that the website changes make it a lot more accessible.
- Ms. Bridgewater announced there is a new face of the website: nmsilc.org; new logo, and links.
- Ms. Bridgewater went through each website link, which can also searched by keyword. She stated that she was taking detailed notes concerning requested changes and that all would be incorporated.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater requested local pictures of CILs but has not received any. When DI receives these pictures, they will be added to website.
- DI now has a generic email for SILC – that will be used on website. Coordinator@nmsilc.org. Do we want to have that be the email address for everyone? DI could then forward any emails to the appropriate person.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Yildez stated there are Board composition requirements that must be posted on website.
- Ms. Michaud stated we are technically a Council not a Board. We need to show the titles of the members and any vacant positions.
- Ms. Michaud asked if we need to have direct contact information.
- Mr. Collins wants the fax number to his office but not his work cell number.
- Mr. Chong wants one contact for everyone and DI should forward emails to applicable Council members.
- Mr. Parker stated we are a public body and need to be accessible to people of the State. If you don’t like it, maybe you shouldn’t be on Council.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater said she can have a link to each person that won’t show the email address. Ms. Michaud agreed.
- Ms. Bridgewater said the contact information on the website will change.
- Ms. Bridgewater stated there will be a pull down listing items for reasons for contact. How may we be of help?
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater stated we will make website changes quickly, including required content fields.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud wants to make sure addresses and contact information are work related not personal.



- Mr. Chong asked how much content is in the heading. Need to put a skip navigation link or an H1 or H2 tag so visually impaired per can just press “H” and be taken right to the part of the page that they can actually use.
- Mr. Hinkle stated listing phone number opens you up to getting a lot of calls from a lot of people. Just say comments important, but we need them in writing.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater will make sure all links will be in PDF and locked WORD documents as well..
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater stated that we need upcoming events information from the council and CILs.
- NM Protection and Advocacy System changed their name.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater will make sure that the Resource List will be reviewed and updated with all recommended changes.
- Ms. Michaud asked why New Vistas is listed and none of the other centers are listed.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater will make sure that New Vistas will be deleted.
- Suggestion was made to just have four tabs broken down by quads of state. Click on the quad link and it takes you to the resources in that quad/ area.
- Mr. Chong asked if resource list is meant to be all things to all people. Don’t want to mention too many. What is the purpose of the resource list?
- Ms. Michaud stated it’s a centralized list that will aid us in helping people find needed IL resources. Under SPIL we have a network of relationships with other resources. Need to list who we are working with for IL services. This is a way to track who we have worked with and who we are currently working with.
- Mr. Chong suggested not all resources for blind be listed.
- Ms. Yildez said their website has resources listed as well. Housing is a big issue. Mortgage Finance Authority. CILs don’t have the ability to provide all services. There are other resources out there that CILs don’t offer that have to be listed. Like legal services. We need all the services to coordinate together better. We need to align all the resources together. We also need to know what each resource provides.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Michaud suggested the Resources be categorized by the type of service.
- Mr. Chong stated that if we are going to do the resources like we are discussing, it’s a big job, a fulltime job and we will have to pay for someone to do this.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker likes breaking list down by services. All the CILs are resource centers. We should refer people to the main resource center of the category they need information from. For example, Commission for the Blind. They are a resource center and can provide additional blind related resources.
- Mr. Collins doesn’t want to see the website with the wrong information. He thinks the topics should be listed and direct the people to the CILs.
- Mr. Chong said let’s say we don’t have a resource list, we just list the CILs, the Commission for the Blind and Deaf linked to SILC.



- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater said the Resource page will be renamed, and will list SPIL members and Partners and the resources available through them.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater said that DI will work with Mr. Chong on accessibility, DI will change contact information ASAP.
- Mr. Parker asked if we can have videos on website. Ms. Bridgewater said yes – they have to be accessible with readers and captions at an additional cost.
- Mr. Collins suggested including a picture of the ADA bus on the website.

VIII. Discussion of SILC Responsibilities under WIOA Group

Ms. Michaud reconvened meeting after break at 12:30 p.m.

Ms. Michaud used the ACL PowerPoint Presentation that Albert Montoya emailed the group as guidance to understanding the SILC responsibilities under WIOA. There are extensive changes that can be confusing.

Please Note: The ACL PowerPoint Presentation is attached for reference regarding the following comments:

Ms. Michaud ran through the presentation to make sure the group is aware of the SILC responsibilities regarding WIOA.

- **Slide 6:** The State Plan for Independent Living shall be jointly developed by the Chair of the SILC, and the Directors for the Centers for Independent Living, after receiving public input. This has not changed; CILs still need to be fully involved in the development process. New SPIL has to be signed by the SILC Chair, the Director of the designated State Entity, and not less than 51% of the Directors of the CILs. We need to obtain multiple signatures, and collaboration is a whole process.
- Mr. Chong stated that Designated State Entity is not defined.
- Ms. Michaud stated that each State will designate their own entity.
- Mr. Chong stated that in NM we have two DSUs – NMDVR and Commission for the Blind.
- Ms. Pacheco-Gulley stated that WIOA is whoever is administering the parties. Now NM has two: DVR and Commission for the Blind. Provider of IL Services needs to be clarified. As far as assigning the entity, it's up to the SILC and Centers. DVR is now the designated entity. Change and transfer is only on the Federal side, not on the State side. Any State Entity changes SILC desires have to be outlined in the State Plan.
- **Slide 7:** Collaboration in SPIL shall provide for review and revision of the Plan not less than once every three years to ensure appropriate planning, financial support and coordination. This slide clarifies who we should be collaborating with more extensively. This is a focus on the Resource list we talked about earlier.
- **Slide 8:** The Plan shall include Designation of State Entity (DSE) – the entity shall retain not less than 5% of the funds for any fiscal year.



- **Slide 9:** SILC Council Composition – this has changed. Focus is on IL services for American Indians.
- **Slide 10-11:** SILC Duties continue to track collaboration - includes more than just building resource lists.
- **Slide 11-12:** SILC Authorities – SILC helps with resource development making recommendations and following up on recommendations at each meeting and getting them up on website. SILC does not provide services directly or manage the services.
- **Slide 13:** SILC Resource Plan – discussion in terms of resource development. We have a budget and should use it.
- **Action Item: Slide 14:** SILC Training and Technical Assistance – so we need to identify areas where we need to learn more. Ms. Michaud emphasized this because there are a lot of training opportunities coming up. The cost isn't very high; around \$75 per site. Trainings cover a lot of topics. We need to coordinate participation.
- **Slide 15:** Fifth IL Core Service focused on transition (slide page 15). Ms. Michaud is in touch with agencies to facilitate moving beyond this. She was contacted last week by FEMA regarding transition as it relates to disaster and moving back into community after disaster. She read letter from FEMA.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud wants to have a teleconference with CILs, SILC, Red Cross, and HHS to discuss how we can work together to utilize this service.
- Mr. Parker stated SILC and CILs need to be responsible for communication with legislature. For example, Housing. If no accessible housing exists, we can't transition someone into it.
- Ms. Michaud stated this is our opportunity to learn more and to provide more advocacy.
- **Slide 16:** CIL Monitoring and Reporting. Ms. Michaud stated this is out of our hands.
- **Slide 17:** Rulemaking. The details are still underway. There is a sequence for Federal Rulemaking. What is a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)? If anyone wants to make comment on any of the statutory changes, now is the time. For IL services, for VR for other support services. Transition is a big area.

Ms. Michaud mentioned the SRC meeting. There was a big discussion on the PET Services Program. There are opportunities to comment on the name as well. The PET project covers only individuals in high school; Students vs. Youths with disabilities. There is an opportunity to make public comment so need to take advantage of it.

- Mr. Parker asked if we should we coordinate the effort for consistency.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud said yes. She has the presentation on how to respond. She will send it out to the Council for review.
- **Action Item:** Mr. Collins asked if we could form a committee and have a conference call. He wants to be part of it.
- Ms. Yildez stated that, in terms of looking at a coordinated response, we want to get the IL perspective. Sue Rankin White is with RSA. There isn't another side to this. We look to NCIL because that's what IL community advocated for. If Sue is giving practical



information, this is good. But adopting the bullet by bullet plan, we should go to NCIL and adopt their points.

- Ms. Michaud agreed that this is a valid point – it is an RSA perspective.
- Ms. Michaud stated that the NCIL information is a good resource. It's on their website. Definitely want to think about NCIL. Regarding Mr. Collin's request to establish a work group. Do we need a vote to do establish a coordinated?
- Ms. Pacheco-Gulley said that the Executive Committee is allowed to form a subcommittee without having a vote.
- Ms. Michaud stated that to avoid a rolling committee, we can't email as a reply to all.
- Ms. Michaud stated that the subcommittee is made up of Ken Collins, Jim Parker, and Larry Rodriguez. **Action Item:** Mr. Collins, Mr. Parker, and Mr. Rodriguez now need to coordinate with Center Directors to get their input to represent network. June 15 is the deadline to submit response so they must move quickly. The subcommittee also needs to coordinate with DI (Ms. Bridgewater or Ms. Davis).

Ms. Michaud asked members to keep in mind the Fifth Core Service, the DSE issue, and SPIL development. We need to amend our SPIL.

IX. Update re: SPIL Amendment and IL Services to NM Pueblos

Lorie Pacheco-Gulley

Ms. Pacheco-Gulley discussed DVR Updates.

- There is a disconnect regarding the SPIL amendment as it relates to the Pueblos.
- Each entities role in amending the State Plan involves RSA and HHS amendments to the State Plan. RSA amendments prior to 2014 are now different. Ms. Gulley read item she received from the ACL website.
- SPIL needs signatures of at least 51% of the CILs and submit hardcopy to RSA. SILC and CILs and DVR will have to conduct public hearings within the catchment area. Because we are going out to the Pueblos doing damage control due to previous contractor performance, Ms. Pacheco-Gulley is getting a more formal update of what is going on with the various Pueblos. There will be a meeting about this on May 19, 2015. She needs to let ACL know what is going on.
- We need permission from each Pueblo. We have met with Acoma, Isleta, and San Felipe. One pueblo said they don't need our services.
- Ms. Michaud stated that because the SPIL amendment is a SILC responsibility, we need to coordinate the meetings, then SILC will have to run those meetings. We need to coordinate with San Juan Center to determine which Pueblos have given permission for visits and which Pueblos we need to get permission to visit.
- The first step is to get permission to go to the Pueblo to discuss services. The second step is to go to the Pueblo and make the presentation on the available services. SILC has to do this.



- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that there will be a meeting next Tuesday (May 19, 2015) to clarify where we are and what Pueblos we still need to hear from and what dates we can schedule to go make presentations. After that is completed, we can make the SPIL amendments.
- DVR representative, Lorie Pacheco Gulley asked if we have to go through all the work to do the hearing due to a vendor change. Can we do this without going through an amendment process?
- We need to talk to the legal people to get an answer.
- Mr. Carver asked if we can just say an agency will provide the service.
- DVR representative, Lorie Pacheco Gulley said that as long as SILC is involved it doesn't seem necessary.
- Ms. Pacheco-Gulley said that when they wrote the SPIL, there was question about pulling funds from a center. They have done it by going out to RFP. So now they are trying to figure out if we need to go through all this or just wait until it's time to do a new State Plan. The new Plan will be revisited in October.
- Ms. Michaud said this is why we have to have this meeting on Tuesday May 19. We thought process would be much simpler.
- Mr. Chong said that very few people show up for public hearings. He sees a lot of effort. Let's find a way to avoid the amendment and focus on the new SPIL.
- Ms. Pacheco-Gulley said they still need to meet. Contracts are only for two years. Example: WIOA needs more information on Center providing services in NW Region – they had to be more specific about what the Center is providing.
- Mr. Carver suggested we just say this is in process and focus on new State Plan.
- Ms. Michaud asked if there is a requirement as to when the hearings have to be held.
- Ms. Pacheco-Gulley said by the end of March 2016 we have to have all public comments.
- Ms. Michaud said we will meet on Tuesday and seek additional guidance. **Action Item:** We need to continue to get and provide updates on this situation.

X. Follow Up on SILC Recommendations

SILC/CIL Directors

Ms. Michaud stated that during the last SILC meeting a few recommendations were made:

- 1) Update on the CHOICES transportation issues and meeting with the Roswell Mayor,
- 2) Obtain a copy of the PowerPoint Presentation, which we achieved earlier today; and
- 3) Follow-up on meetings with the Tribes, which we discussed today and are continuing to get updates to achieve final clarification.

Ms. Michaud asked Ms. Hudson for update on the meeting with Roswell Mayor.

- Ms. Hudson said she talked to the Mayor's office to set up a meeting. She was told to contact the Transportation Department. The Mayor has now refused to meet with CHOICES. When she contacted the Bus Department she was told they couldn't do it because of gas. The accessible housing is located three blocks away - three blocks is all



that is needed to include us in the Bus Route. The next step is to get a meeting with the City Council, and keep knocking on Mayor's door to see if he will talk to her.

- Ms. Michaud asked if CHOICES needs another letter from SILC to support this effort.
- Ms. Hudson stated that it would be okay to get another letter, but they may have to go to City Council to go over/around the Mayor.
- Mr. Carver suggested CHOICES go the City Council that represents this area, then go to the full Council.
- Ms. Hudson stated she was told that she can put her clients on Care Transit even if they don't qualify.
- **Action Item** - Ms. Hudson was asked to continue to follow up on this issue.
- Mr. Collins suggested that maybe David Hinkle could contact the Chamber of Commerce in Roswell.
- Ms. Hudson said that High Desert, which is down the street, has had same problem for years with no resolution.
- Mr. Hinkle suggested it's a commerce issue, if 25% (number of disabled customers) is the number based on population, is it worth the commerce of Roswell to make this a priority.

XI. SILC Chairperson Report

Sarah Michaud

Ms. Michaud said, other than what she has already reported during this meeting, she doesn't have much to report.

- She is working with DI (Ms. Bridgewater and Ms. Davis) to streamline reporting and work assignments.
- Ms. Michaud attended Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) in April so she got to hear a lot about the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) and a lot of "we can't answer questions." It was very educational to hear what has been going on.
- Ms. Michaud is talking to Ms. Pacheco-Gulley about getting meetings with the NM Tribal communities. We had a very good discussion today about website and brochure.
- Ms. Michaud stated she is looking forward to the next SPIL, going through paper work, and getting ready for other activities that are forthcoming. It is going to be a busy year.

XII. SILC Coordinator Report

Katie Bridgewater

Ms. Bridgewater reported on the website, and brochure earlier in the meeting. DI will incorporate feedback and recommendations for both.

- Ms. Bridgewater reminded members that we would like to incorporate any Center pictures and calendar items into the website, so please send DI these items.



- Ms. Bridgewater mentioned that DI has been in discussions with Ms. Michaud and Ms. Pacheco-Gulley regarding redefining and clarifying DI's roles and responsibilities, and having discussions on the Public Hearings.
- We have been working on the report that captures all the good work the Centers is accomplishing, and that is required for us to report on the 704 Report. DI will have a format soon that will capture all the required deliverables that are required in the current SPIL. We will have that to you next week for your feedback.
- Ms. Bridgewater mentioned Grant opportunities, specifically the DRRP Grant.
- Ms. Michaud stated that the SILC does whatever it can to facilitate the Centers as they are looking for additional funding sources. The Centers or the DVR can apply, but the SILC can't apply.
- **Action Item:** Tawnya Rowland (DI) said she would prepare a synopsis of the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) Translating Disability and Rehabilitation Research into Practice (DRRP) grant and send to Ms. Bridgewater and Ms. Davis for distribution to the SILC Council.
- Ms. Michaud stated that Goal 3 of the SILC is to research funding options for the CILs. Please send synopsis of NIDILRR grants, and any other Grant opportunities to the CILs. The SILC will support the pursuit of these opportunities by writing a letter of support.
- Per Ms. Bridgewater, DI may be able to assist the Centers in collaboration to pursue Grant opportunities.

XIII. State Agency Reports/Updates

a. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Ms. Michaud stated that during the February 2, 2015 meeting, DVR offered to have a DVR Representative at the next SILC meeting to discuss budgets.

- DVR representative, Michael Mulligan stated he was attending meeting on behalf of Paul Aguilar, Deputy Director of Finance. He is very busy – in charge of a \$6B budget. There will be an article about Paul Aguilar in the next issue of *The Horn* DVR Newsletter.
- Ms. Bridgewater said that DI can post the newsletter on the SILC website. **Action Item:** DVR will forward it to DI.
- DVR representative, Michael Mulligan said that the July 1 operating budget was submitted May 2015. It is a flat budget for IL. He's new to DVR, but thinks they are under orders to maintain flat budgets. In FY16 they have up to \$200K to expand the IL budget. They have identified other possible funding sources for the IL program. Balances accumulate and can be redirected. The Administrative Services Director goal is to bring clarity and transparency to DVR. State Program Rehab funding. He has done a lot of hard work to bring accounting up to par. He will bring more information to next meeting.
- Mr. Parker asked what the DVR overall budget is.



- DVR representative, Michael Mulligan stated that the overall budget is \$50M. The IL Budget is \$1.3M. DVR freed up about \$40K that came from indirects. Now it's going to the program side. There are a lot of technical details. DVR can help identify grant opportunities and submit for funding. DVR will continue to work to bring the needed information to the SILC.
- DVR representative, Michael Mulligan stated that they go before legislature to support IL budget requests.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Pacheco-Gulley commented on the discussion about the Southwest Disability Conference - she wants to have each IL and SILC bring IL specialists from each center to go over WIOA and additional core services. The DVR will support this effort. On IL side, the formal deadline email is coming next week. The end of year deadlines are fast approaching and we are close to the end of reporting period. Due date is June 30, 2015. Ms. Pacheco-Gulley needs ILs to get reports submitted as soon after 5:00 p.m. June 30 as possible (July 2 or possibly end of that week).
- Ms. Pacheco-Gulley said contract amendments will be skipped this year - DVR will use same amount as last contract year. Amendment will be beginning first of fiscal year – or after July 1.
- Ms. Pacheco-Gulley said, as previously mentioned, additional language was added this past legislation. Now we can use carry-over funds. We can use SSN funds for IL funding.
- There was a question regarding the Hidalgo County catchment area – served vs. underserved. Technically we do not have any underserved individuals. Hidalgo County says “no”, Fed says “yes.” The question is about unserved and underserved. There are no unserved populations. Only underserved. We need you to keep this in mind for your “wish lists.”
- Ms. Yildez stated this will impact Part C funds.
- Ms. Pacheco-Gulley said that if there are additional funds, she needs your wish list of what CILs would do if they had more money. **Action Item:** CILs and SILC need to get her the “wish list” of what they will do if additional funds become available. She mentioned the Youth Transition topic and will put some resource information together for the SILC.

b. New Mexico Commission for the Blind

Mr. Chong addressed the Commission of Blind updates. Greg Trapp sent update to Mr. Chong.

- Mr. Chong highlighted one meeting last year that resulted in them getting digital hand held magnifiers for a discounted price of \$200 each (normally \$600 each). They started handing them out July of last year. They distributed about 125 of the 200 purchased. Blind people sometimes also need additional technology. They received an additional \$40K for additional technology and want to use it to help more blind people get the additional technology they need. For the blind to be integrated into community we need



to do this. The Commission for the Blind does spend SSN money. The goal is to try to get blind people to be more independent than they think they can be.

- Mr. Chong also stated that PETS is an issue because it only includes high school students.

XIV. CIL Reports/Updates

a. Choices – Roswell, NM:

Audra Hudson

- Ms. Hudson reported that the DoJ and County have agreed to complete ADA upgrades. She mentioned several buildings that are not accessible. The agreement results in a 5 year project that will make all county buildings ADA accessible. This also includes public spaces like the mall.

b. New Vistas – Santa Fe, NM No Report

c. Independent Living Resource Center

Gil Yildez

- Ms. Yildez reported having a highly trained person (Anna) who does foreclosure training for individuals with disabilities who need assistance. She also does training on pre-purchase housing. ILRC can go outside their IL catchment area (through NMFA) with these services, so if other centers need help they can use the services.
- Mr. Hinkle received a call from NY Times that McKinley County has the highest rate of foreclosures in state.
- Ms. Yildez stated that the MCOs are up to about 470 people on this program. With Medicaid expansion for eligibility, a lot of people also needed attendant services, so it's grown.
- We contract with MCO's to get home repair money (Centennial Care). There is a Home Modifications program that provides funding. ILRC helps get the bids, and lines up contracts. ILRC can offer this to Presbyterian. ILRC has two architects on staff, and they have seen traction with this.
- There were webinars on Communication and Training that Ms. Yildez participated in, and they were on target.
- Regarding funding - NCIL is doing big push for Part C funding. A funding formula change is needed.
- ILRC programs are going well. A lot of services are being delivered. There has been a big spike over past two years in benefit applications.

d. San Juan Center for Independence – Farmington, NM

Ken Collins

- Mr. Collins is getting a lot of SSN funded stuff.
- Working on Elders First.
- Chapter House Meeting in Tohatchi - Tribe is starting to talk about adult day care so it's moving along.
- Went to several health fairs, and a McKinley County Career Fair. They have been real visual.



- They got an offer from the landlord at Rio West Mall to build a new building, part of mall but separate from mall. Fred Griffith, the owner of mall said he could create large office space at Care 66.
- Economic development with home care. Mr. Hinkle is doing the right thing, which is also the economically advantageous thing to do. Mr. Hinkle is the Chamber of Commerce.
- Mr. Hinkle said he tries to preach keeping elders in the community as long as possible. It creates many customers for the local community.
- Mr. Collins said they started a Women's Support group - but it's really a craft group and they talk to one another. This is Relay for Life at the mall. The Women's Group is making a blanket that the Mall will raffle off. It makes people feel worthwhile and productive, and is how people overcome their problems.

Mr. Carver reported the following:

- They met with Laguna and Isleta. The Elders are moving back to the Pueblos so they will need services.
- Farmington just installed the Musical Garden.
- They held a youth transition day for high school juniors and seniors - 83 students.
- The Youth Summer Program will be a one week program for Jr High, and a one week program for High School students with education on disabilities.
- Next year the Youth Transition will be done in Gallup.
- Teleworks program is underway. This program helps people start or expand businesses. Four loans are being made through NMC Loans for assisted technologies, home modifications, and accessible vans.
- Still working on final stages of DVR funding transfer.
- Participating in project that Study University of Montana is doing for youth with intellectual disabilities living on their own.
- Also waiting to receive about \$100K from a grant.

e. The Ability Center – Las Cruces, NM

No Report

XV. SILC Discussion/Recommendations from CIL Reports

Group

Ms. Michaud has seen a couple of reports, but wants to hear additional reports on the following:

- Ms. Michaud wants additional update on CHOICES Transportation issue and Roswell Mayor next meeting
- Ms. Michaud wants to hear more about IL foreclosure and getting services into Gallup area.
- Ms. Michaud wants to tour musical garden during next meeting in Farmington.



- Mr. Archibeque would like to hear from Santa Fe New Vistas – we have not heard from them for over a year. **Side Note-** New Vistas was present at the November 7, 2014 meeting in Gallup, NM and provided a report of activities.
- Jim Parker wants to hear more about Women’s group the SJCI Gallup got going and about the new building in Gallup, and potential of one-stop format in new building.
- Mr. Parker wants to hear about how many people are going through training, the SPIL amendment, and DVR funding.

XVI. Other Business

- Ms. Michaud asked, regarding the NCIL Conference in July, if anyone wants to go (last week July). We can still register.
- Mr. Collins is interested but not sure if he could go. He will get in touch with Ms. Bridgewater to let her know if he can go.
- Ms. Bridgewater asked if someone from DI should go and do a report.
- Mr. Parker asked if we can figure out a way for the SILC through the Centers to support legislation for parking placard to raise money. The other idea is to put a \$5 fee on vehicle registrations. This would raise over \$8M.
- Mr. Hinkle suggested we go for a larger tax on ATVs or RVs. These vehicles more related to brain and spinal injuries.
- Mr. Parker asked what agency the IL will be located within? Will it always be in DVR? It’s a discussion we should have. What’s the will of the disability community at large?
- Mr. Chong asked that we think about the National Federation of the Blind making the absentee ballot accessible to blind voters in the State. Blind voters need an absentee ballot that works for them. Right now the blind can’t fill it out. Maryland developed a system where you can request absentee ballot on line and fill out online with assistive technology, print it out and mail it in.
- Mr. Parker stated that he knows how people turn out in Farmington. He would like to have some sort of a public forum to determine how well things are working for folks.

XVII. Adjournment

- Ms. Michaud rallied group to get the Council picture.
- Mr. Collins motioned for adjournment
- Mr. Chong 2nd Motion
- **Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.**

Summary of Recommendations and Action Items

SILC Outreach Recommendations



- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker asked if we as a State are we doing anything for the 25th ADA Celebration this year. Local community outreach to non-disabled audience or community at large.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Michaud – we need to make ideas more concrete so we have dates and people committed to each event.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Collins – Brain Advisory Council – suggested that we could partner with another group who already has something planned.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Yildez mentioned her involvement in State Fairs and that they gave away helmets.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker said youth sports coming up this summer may have an opportunity. Summer Youth Sports Camp at UNM. There is usually a large turnout.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Murphy suggested non-disability venues, specifically County Fairs as an option – we can get tables at the fairs.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Collins mentioned his involvement in the Health Fair at the mall. He said they gave out all of SILC brochures. There are a lot of Health Fairs and he mentioned that he needs more SILC brochure copies.

SILC Outreach Action Items

- **Action Item:** National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) 2015 Annual Conference on Independent Living coming up July 27 – 30, 2015 at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, DC. Ms. Pacheco-Gulley will review conference information and report back.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that the Southwest Conference is coming up in October. The SILC membership has hosted a table for the past two years, so it's definitely something we want to do again.
 - We also have the website, which is an outreach tool.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Pacheco-Gulley stated that number of brochures distributed need to be tracked for the 704 report.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud asked Ms. Bridgewater to get list of County Fairs in New Mexico and get dates and any costs for having a booth or table.
- **Action Item:** Once she receives the County Fair details, Ms. Michaud will then distribute information to the membership to determine who among the Council will man a table at what County Fair.
- **Action Item:** Mr. Parker will talk to Tony Cahill and try to get some additional information on potential statewide ADA events.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud asked that as we learn about events, please send information to Ms. Bridgewater and Ms. Davis so that DI can get the information out to the membership and get the materials and table set up items to the members as needed.
 - Ms. Bridgewater mentioned the website as another way to communicate outreach opportunities.



- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that on June 22nd the JVR will be hosting the third Disability Awareness Conference at Pueblo of Zia, from 9a.m. to 2p.m. The location is TBD but they are looking at the Zia Day School. There is no cost to participate and there will be a free lunch. If there are members wanting to set up a table she would like to know.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that we are not limiting ourselves in any way and that the VA would be a wonderful group to connect with.

Brochure Recommendations

- **Recommendation:** Mr. Hinkle stated the website talks about empowering people and that he thinks the brochure may need an image that shows empowerment.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker wants to see plain language. He says the language sounds like 1970's.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker wants image to be of advocacy in action in front of legislature.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Hinkle wants to see pictures of people with disabilities playing sports, or other proactive images.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Yildez wants to see an image of persons face, not a wheelchair.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Michaud recommends we continue to look for action picture. This is not an action item, brochure has already been voted on and the brochure has been approved. So, recommendation stands - we will make edits, and add a picture that shows a human element and have it ready in a week.

Brochure Action Items

- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that changing the mission statement will need to be an Action Item to vote on for the next meeting – Mr. Parker said this should be an action item for next meeting.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud wants us to make changes discussed today, and print the brochures. Then later we can make additional changes.
- **Action Item:** Mr. Chong stated that blind people need a readable, electronically accessible brochure document.
- **Action Item:** Mr. Chong will provide website feedback to Ms. Bridgewater on accessibility of brochure on website.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud asked Ms. Hudson to send Ms. Bridgewater updated Carlsbad address.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater will make brochure changes as stated and as noted on the edited hard copies of the brochures she received from meeting members.
- **Action Item:** Mr. Murphy said we need to add “unserved” to the brochure.

Website Recommendations



- **Recommendation:** Ms. Yildez stated there are Board composition requirements that must be posted on website.
- **Recommendation:** Ms. Michaud suggested the Resources be categorized by the type of service.
- **Recommendation:** Mr. Parker likes breaking list down by services. All the CILs are resource centers. We should refer people to the main resource center of the category they need information from. For example, Commission for the Blind. They are a resource center and can provide additional blind related resources.

Website Action Items

- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater requested local pictures of CILs but has not received any. When DI receives these pictures, they will be added to website.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater said she can have a link to each person that won't show the email address. Ms. Michaud agreed.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater stated we will make website changes quickly, including required content fields.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud wants to make sure addresses and contact information are work related not personal.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater will make sure all links will be in PDF and locked WORD documents as well..
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater stated that we need upcoming events information from the council and CILs.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater will make sure that the Resource List will be reviewed and updated with all recommended changes.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater will make sure that New Vistas will be deleted.
- Suggestion was made to just have four tabs broken down by quads of state. Click on the quad link and it takes you to the resources in that quad/ area.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater said the Resource page will be renamed, and will list SPIL members and Partners and the resources available through them.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Bridgewater said that DI will work with Mr. Chong on accessibility, DI will change contact information ASAP.

Recommendations on Discussion of SILC Responsibilities under WIOA

- **Recommendation:** Ms. Michaud stated that to avoid a rolling committee, we can't email as a reply to all.

Action Items on Discussion of SILC Responsibilities under WIOA

- **Action Item: Slide 14:** SILC Training and Technical Assistance – so we need to identify areas where we need to learn more. Ms. Michaud emphasized this because there are a lot of training opportunities coming up. The cost isn't very high; around \$75 per site. Trainings cover a lot of topics. We need to coordinate participation.



- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud wants to have a teleconference with CILs, SILC, Red Cross, and HHS to discuss how we can work together to utilize this service.

Regarding the SRC meeting - discussion on the PET Services Program.

- **Action Item:** Mr. Parker asked if we should we coordinate the effort for consistency.
- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud said yes. She has the presentation on how to respond. She will send it out to the Council for review.
- **Action Item:** Mr. Collins asked if we could form a committee and have a conference call. He wants to be part of it.
- Ms. Michaud stated that the subcommittee is made up of Ken Collins, Jim Parker, and Larry Rodriguez. **Action Item:** Mr. Collins, Mr. Parker, and Mr. Rodriguez now need to coordinate with Center Directors to get their input to represent network. June 15 is the deadline to submit response so they must move quickly. The subcommittee also needs to coordinate with DI (Ms. Bridgewater or Ms. Davis).

Other Recommendations

- **Recommendation:** Ms. Pacheco-Gulley commented on the discussion about the Southwest Disability Conference - she wants to have each IL and SILC bring IL specialists from each center to go over WIOA and additional core services. The DVR will support this effort.

Other Action Items

- **Action Item:** Ms. Michaud stated that there will be a meeting next Tuesday (May 19, 2015) to clarify where we are and what Pueblos we still need to hear from and what dates we can schedule to go make presentations. After that is completed, we can make the SPIL amendments.
- **Action Item** - Ms. Hudson was asked to continue to follow up on the City of Roswell/Mayor Transportation issue.
- **Action Item:** Tawnya Rowland (DI) said she would prepare a synopsis of the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) Translating Disability and Rehabilitation Research into Practice (DRRP) grant and send to Ms. Bridgewater and Ms. Davis for distribution to the SILC Council.
- Ms. Bridgewater said that DI can post the DVR newsletter on the SILC website. **Action Item:** DVR will forward it to DI.
- **Action Item:** On IL side, the end of year deadlines are fast approaching and we are close to the end of reporting period. Due date is June 30, 2015. Ms. Pacheco-Gulley needs ILs to get reports submitted as soon after 5:00 p.m. June 30 as possible (July 2 or possibly end of that week).