



DC Statewide Independent Living Council  
1125 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005-2726

## DC Statewide Independent Living Council Meeting Minutes – March 27, 2014

Thursday, May 22, 2014

### Attendees

#### District of Columbia Statewide Independent Council Board Members

Robert Coward, Chairperson  
Elver Ariza Silva, Vice Chairperson  
Marsha Thompson, SILC Secretary  
Catherine Dillahunt, Treasurer  
Yolandra Plummer  
Tiffany Sanders  
Yvonne Smith  
Shileta Gorham  
Thomas Mangrum  
Dahlia Johnson, Administrative Assistant, SILC

#### Rehabilitation Services Administrations (RSA)

Andrew Reese, Deputy Director  
Darnise Henry Bush, DC-RSA Program Liaison

#### Department on Disability Services (DDS)

Adam Mingal

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm by the chair, Mr. Robert Coward.

## Minutes

The minutes were read by the SILC secretary, Ms. Marsha Thompson. The minutes were approved as read with a change to indicate that the March 6, 2014 meeting was the make-up meeting for the January 23, 2014, meeting which was cancelled due in inclement weather.

## Update on Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA)

Ms. Thompson stated there was a conference call with San Diego State University, the project director for the 2014-2016 Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA). The DDS Office of Contracts has confirmed that San Diego State University was selected as the contractor and payment to them is being processed.

RSA is planning for about 15 focus groups. People who will act as the direct points of contact with SDSU will initiate outreach and identify focus group coordinators. They will be the people who will provide direct information to community participants that complete focus group members. This will ensure that the focus groups are prepared and effective. We have an aggressive schedule and our preplanning will ensure a successful CSNA this year.

The SRC was extraordinarily helpful for the last CSNA; therefore, SILC and CIL should ramp up as equally strong partners for this cycle.

Bobby stated that we have a budget to do outreach, and we could use this assessment as a map to outline our 704 Report. We should be heavily involved in this assessment.

## Status of Fiscal Agent

No update yet, as SILC needs a strong Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and wants the best service for the fairest cost.

## Expiration of Current Members' Terms and Recruitment

The Mayor's Order is clear on term lengths for each member. No member can serve more than two consecutive terms (6 years). Current members need to consider recruitment strategies early enough to build the membership prior to term expirations.

## Felipe Lulli, USDE, RSA Independent Living Program (2:30-3:00)

Mr. Felipe Lulli called in and the Chair explained to him that the District of Columbia SILC has a Mayor Order giving it autonomy. The SILC is seeking to handle its own funds, by hiring a fiscal agent.

Felipe Lulli of Federal RSA provided technical assistance, with Robert Coward leading the discussion points for the SILC. Discussion clarified the duties of the SILC, allocation and authorized use of funds from Part B. If the SILC establishes a nonprofit, Part B funds cannot be used to set it up. The SILC can use donations to build its nonprofit. Essential guidance on how the SILC may draw down, document, and manage funds was provided. This led to some rethinking of the fiscal agent recruitment effort, and discussion on how best to move forward. The Executive Committee will meet to further explore the matter.

Adjournment