

Independent Living Programs

Title VI Webinar

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Goals for the Presentation

1. Understand Independent Living Programs
1. Identify Independent Living program and Title VI collaboration opportunities

Administration for Community Living (ACL)

- Established in 2012 by combining the Administration on Aging, the office on Disability and the Administration on Development Disabilities. In following years, additional programs transferred to ACL from other agencies. The independent Living programs transferred to ACL in 2014. ACL programs focus on the unique needs of older Americans and people with disabilities across the lifespan.

Mission

Maximize the independence, well-being, and health of older adults, people with disabilities across the lifespan, and their families and caregivers.

Administration on Aging (AoA)

- 1965: Three Important Programs Enacted
- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Older Americans Act (OAA)



**"Every State and every community can now move toward a coordinated program of services and opportunities for our older citizens."
President Lyndon B. Johnson, July 1965**

Administration on Disabilities (AoD)

Creating Change, Improving Lives

- **Equipping individuals with disabilities of all ages with opportunities, tools and supports to lead lives of their choice in their community.**

Moving from:

- Institutionalization
- Isolation
- Poverty/ joblessness
- Dependency

To:

- Community living
- Inclusion & participation
- Increased employment & financial well being
- Independence & Self-Determination

Title VI Disability Partnerships

“Every State and every community can now move toward a coordinated program of services and opportunities for our older citizens.”

President Lyndon B. Johnson, July 1965

ACL is building partnerships.

Consider....

Who are your disability partners?

What is one disability partnership you can foster?

Let's make it easy.....

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Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act

Purpose:

...To promote a **philosophy of independent living**, including consumer control, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, and individual and system advocacy, in order 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.

A Closer Look at the Programs Established by Title VII of the Rehab Act

- Independent Living Services (ILS)
- Centers for Independent Living (CILs)



Independent Living Services (ILS)

The Independent Living Services program provides formula grants to States and territories for the purpose of supporting and expanding the independent living network. Activities funded may include:

- Support of the Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs);
- Support to the operation of Centers for Independent Living (CILs);
- IL services (via contracts/grants) **especially in unserved areas of the state;**
- Demonstrations to expand and improve IL services.

Centers for Independent Living (CIL)

The Centers for Independent Living program provides discretionary awards to:

Consumer- controlled, community-based, cross- disability, nonresidential, private nonprofit agencies that—

- (1) Are designed and operated within a local community by individuals with disabilities;
- (2) Provide IL services including, at a minimum, independent living **core services**; and
- (3) Comply with the standards and assurances set forth in the Rehabilitation Act, as amended.

CIL Core Services

- Information and referral services;
- Independent living skills training;
- Peer counseling (including cross-disability peer counseling);
- Individual and systems advocacy; and
- Transition and diversion
 - Transition from nursing homes and other facilities
 - Diversion – at risk of entering institutions
 - Transition of youth to post secondary life

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Aging and Disability Shared Ideals



Disability in Native Communities

- Prevalence of disability is higher in Native* communities than the general population
 - 16% v. 12.6%
- Disability is often underreported
- Increasingly Elders are caregivers and/or grandparents caring for grandchildren

*Native = Native American, Alaska Native, Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders

Native American IL Demonstration Projects

3 NA IL Demo Projects

Launched by ACL September 2016 – 3 year project periods

- NY -Western New York Independent Living Project (\$209,652)
- AK - Southeast Alaska Independent Living, Inc. (\$211,000)
- WI - North Country Independent Living in Wisconsin (\$217,202)

2 NA IL Demo Projects launched in September 2019 – 3 year project periods

- CA -Western New York Independent Living Project (\$209,652)
- AK - Southeast Alaska Independent Living, Inc. (\$211,000)
- WI - North Country Independent Living in Wisconsin (\$217,202)

- Gaining an understanding of service needs of Native Americans with disabilities living in Indian Country;
- Improving cultural competence in regards to the needs of specific tribal organizations targeted by current CIL grantees; and
- Capturing lessons learned and best practices for outreach and service delivery for Native Americans with disabilities.

Tribes Represented in NAILD Projects

- Angoon Community Association (AK)
- Hoonah Indian Association (AK)
- Hydaburg Cooperative Association (AK)
- Organized Village of Kake (AK)
- Klawock Cooperative Association (AK)
- Yakutat Tlingit Tribe (AK)
- Tonawanda Seneca Nation (NY)
- 25 reservations in 4 county catchment area (CA)
 - Mendicino, Lake, Sonoma, Napa
- Tuscarora Indian Nation (NY)
- Seneca Nation of Indians – Cattaraugus Reservation and Allegany Reservation in Salamanca (NY)
- Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (WI)
- Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (WI)
- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (WI)
- Saint Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin (WI)

Title VI Services Eligibility Requirements

All participants must be an enrolled member of any tribe aged (identified in the application) or over. Participants must be in the program service area as defined by the Title VI application. Eligibility also includes:

- The spouse of an eligible individual
- **Individual with a disability** in the same household of the eligible participant who accompanies the participant to the congregate meals site....*
- **Non-elderly disabled** American Indian, Alaskan Native, or Native Hawaiians who reside in tribal housing facilities....*
- Volunteers who provide assistance during the meal hour to the program....*

Individuals with Disabilities in Native Communities

1. Who is talking about disability in your community?
2. What services/supports is your community providing?
3. How can people/programs acting alone begin to act together?

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work!

Title VI and IL Network Partner Ideas

- Become part of the State IL network
- Identify unserved/underserved areas in the State
- Help direct Independent Living Services (ILS) funds
- Collaborate with CILs
- Collaborate with NAILD projects
- Encourage community tribal collaboration/partnerships
 - Encourage disability partners to visit congregate meal sites

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CHALLENGE: Make one new disability partnership

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