

**NYS ILC COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLANS
CONTRACT PERIOD: October 1, 2011 - September 30, 2012**

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1. ALBANY

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Capital District Center for Independence
Address: 875 Central Ave., South 4, Albany, NY 12206
Contract No.: C008929
Report Period: October 1, 20011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Laurel Lei Kelley, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Harold Conley, Board President

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- A local school district will make procedural changes to transition plans for students with disabilities to include developing information on PASS, ACCES-VR, Independent Living advocacy, and linkages to other community based agencies and organizations.
- CDCI will establish a written arrangement whereby at least one NYS Correctional facility will offer on-site presentations on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages as a regular part of preparing inmates who are disabled for their transition back to the community.

B. Employment Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs, and job readiness training programs for persons with disabilities.
- At least one business in the Center's service area will make documented changes in its employment policies and procedures to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

C. Health Care Advocacy

- There will be a change in procedure and policies, which will allow more people with disabilities, to leave long-term facilities and return/remain in the community.
- Long-term care facilities, Hospitals and rehabilitation centers will change their policies to include information on community resources, which allow people to remain in the community.

- As a result of providing technical assistance, at least one community agency will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community services, including Independent Living Center services, and resources.
- As a result of collaborating with local agencies, at least one community agency will establish a new Peer Program to provide options for Living a healthier lifestyle through peer services to the disability community in the Capital Region.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of affordable integrated and accessible housing options for people with disabilities.
- At least one Fire Department/ Police Department will modify its in-service training plan to include Disability Awareness & Sensitivity Training either developed, endorsed or conducted CDCI.
- At least one Albany County agency or community-based provider/organization/trusted agent will change its outreach and marketing policies and procedures to more effectively communicate with vulnerable/special needs residents in order to promote inclusion and supply information about services.

E. Social Advocacy

- At least one recreational facility/program will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for consumers with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.
- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated community social activities that become accessible.
- One social venue will become accessible to individuals with disabilities.
- As a result of working cooperatively with other agencies, there will be an increase of integrated recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of individuals with disabilities or Center staff serving on community boards/committees and task forces that previously had no or limited consumer/disability representation.
- A local Board of Elections will change its poll workers training and related educational materials to include disability awareness and sensitivity training that is developed, endorsed or conducted by CDCI.

2. AMSTERDAM

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Resource Center for Independent Living
Address: 347 West Main Street, Amsterdam, NY 12010
Contract No.: C008943
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Burt Danovitz, Ph.D., Executive Director
Peter Lenz, Operations Manager
Board President Authorization: Gary Scalzo

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- One local school district BOCES, or Early Intervention Program, will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation either developed or endorsed by RCIL-Amsterdam into a training curriculum for its staff and parents.
- A local school district will implement policies, procedures and/or practices resulting in the inclusion of assistive technology information in Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for students with disabilities.

B. Employment Advocacy

- Establish formal agreements whereby more community agencies have presentations to consumers about work incentives.
- One area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- Increase accessibility at hospitals, clinics, private doctors' offices and/or dental offices for persons with disabilities.
- A local Department of Social Services will incorporate disability awareness/sensitivity training, developed or endorsed by RCIL-Amsterdam, as part of their training program.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of public accommodations that are fully accessible to individuals in the center's service area.

- At least one restaurant will provide its menu in an alternative format for consumers and make it available upon request.

E. Social Advocacy

- At least one social venue will become accessible to individuals with disabilities.
- There will be an increase in the number of theaters providing closed captioning or audio description.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- At least one local Board of Election will incorporate disability awareness training, either developed or endorsed by RCIL-Amsterdam, to election workers.
- There will be an increase in the number of accessible polling sites for individuals with disabilities.

3. AUBURN

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center:	Options for Independence
Address:	75 Genesee Street, Auburn, NY 13021
Contract Number:	C008941
Report Period:	October 1, 2011-September 30, 2012
Contact Person:	Gregory D. Guy, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Susan Storms

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

- At least one school district in Cayuga or Seneca County will change its policy to allow Options for Independence to assist in the transition process of students.
- At least one additional local school district will implement policies, procedures and/or practices resulting in the inclusion of assistive technology in Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for students with disabilities.
- Options for Independence will establish a written arrangement whereby at least one NYS Correctional facility will offer on-site presentations on Independent Living Centers, ACCESS-VR, and agency linkages as a regular part of preparing inmates who are disabled for their transition back to the community.

B. Employment Advocacy

- One business in Cayuga or Seneca County will produce an audio/taped version of its employee handbook.
- OFI will establish a contract with the US Social Security Administration to serve as an Employment Network to provide employment services under the Ticket To Work Program.
- At least one major employer in Cayuga or Seneca County will incorporate Disabilities Awareness and Sensitivity training, conducted by Options for Independence staff, as an annual in-service program for all personnel.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of local human service agencies and public health services that provide brochures and pertinent program information in accessible formats.

- At least one health care provider in Seneca or Cayuga County will make its facility more accessible to patients with disabilities.
- At least one local medical facility in Cayuga or Seneca County will make a policy and procedural change in how it identifies and refers patients who are deaf to community resources that include sign language interpretive services.
- OFI will establish a “Personal Care Bank” supported by grant funding and/or assigned human resources to assist consumers to obtain toiletries and cleaning products at no cost.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- At least one additional restaurant in Cayuga or Seneca County will provide its menu in an accessible format.
- At least one local catering establishment in Cayuga or Seneca County will improve access for people with disabilities through the physical modifications of its entrance(s) and/or parking facilities.
- There will be a measurable increase in Cayuga or Seneca County in the accessibility of public right-of-ways, such as curb cuts, constructed for people with disabilities.

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of accessible, municipal-sponsored recreation opportunities and/or facilities in Cayuga and/or Seneca County.
- There will be an increase in the number of accessible faith-based organizations and institutions in Cayuga and/or Seneca counties.
- There will be an increase in the number of accessible special events and gatherings held in Cayuga and/or Seneca County.
- The accessibility of at least one existing recreational facility in Cayuga or Seneca County will be measurably enhanced.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- To increase the number of residents becoming aware of the Americans with Disabilities Act, at least one municipality in Cayuga or Seneca counties will pass appropriate legislation establishing and promoting a Day of Celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- A local Board of Elections in Cayuga or Seneca County will implement a policy to notify all voters of enhanced accessibility at its polling site(s).
- At least one local government in Cayuga or Seneca counties will start providing agendas in an alternate format for/at publicly attended meetings.
- There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff/Board that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

4. BATAVIA

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Independent Living of Genesee Region
Address: 113 Main Street, Suite #5, Batavia NY 14020
Contract Number: C010640
Report Period: October 1, 20011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Douglas J. Usiak
Board President Authorization: Dennis M. Kessel

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

- GOAL: At least one college or university will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation, approved by Independent Living of Genesee Region, into its curriculum for professional preparation programs that work with persons with disabilities.
- GOAL: At least one local school district, BOCES, or Early Intervention Program will incorporate ILGR's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into a training curriculum for its staff and/or parents.

B. Employment Advocacy

- GOAL: As the result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, a person with a disability will be appointed to a county workforce investment board that previously has not had representation from the disability community.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, a One-Stop Center will incorporate Independent Living Philosophy and/or disability benefits training either developed or endorsed by ILGR as part of its training for their staff in providing services for individuals with disabilities.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, one business within the service area will become complaint with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, one medical facility will incorporate an Independent Living Philosophy presentation, approved by ILGR, into curriculum for its discharge planning staff.

- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, one community agency will change its policies and procedures to ensure individuals with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of services available to help them transition from an institution to the community. This includes information about and applying for services related to Independent Living and the NYS Department of Health Nursing Facility Transition and Diversion (NFTD) Waiver.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, one health care provider will become compliant with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of the collaboration between Independent Living of Genesee Region and other community agencies, more accessible and integrated housing will be available for persons with disabilities.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, one first responder agency will incorporate training, approved by ILGR, on the needs of persons with disabilities in crisis or disaster.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of the Independent Living of Genesee Region, at least one law enforcement agency will offer on-site disability sensitivity training, approved by ILGR, as a regular part of its training for employees.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, one public entity shall establish a consumer advisory council for persons with disabilities.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, one public entity shall become complaint with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

E. Social Advocacy

- GOAL: As the result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, one recreational facility shall become compliant with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- GOAL: As the result of the advocacy of Independent Living of Genesee Region, one municipal or community-sponsored recreation program will become accessible for persons with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- GOAL: Independent Living of Genesee Region will increase physical access to local polling places.

5. BINGHAMTON

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center:	Southern Tier Independence Center
Address	135 East Frederick Street, Binghamton, NY 13904
Contract No.:	C008948
Report Period:	October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person:	Maria Dibble, Executive Director
Board President Authorization:	Linda Giese

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- The NYS Legislature or Congress will adopt a law defining the use of restraints in schools.
- A local school district will change policies, procedures and or practices to provide appropriate use of assistive technology and augmentative communication devices with students in their educational setting.
- As a result of the advocacy efforts of STIC, a local school district will change one of its facilities' programs, services, policies, practices and/or procedures to offer or reflect a more integrated inclusive approach.

B. Employment Advocacy

- Achieve a reallocation of employment related funding from sheltered to integrated employment programs on a statewide basis.
- The Governor will sign a bill waiving the State's sovereign Immunity in Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Rehabilitation Act section 504 cases.
- ACCES-VR will end the statewide practice of inappropriately sending the majority of consumers to direct placement and will instead change their policy/practice to appropriately refer consumers to supported employment.
- Congress will pass the TEAM Employment Acts (HR 602, 603, and 604) and the President will sign them.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- Increase the availability of psychiatric/evaluation and other mental health services (including services for consumers with dual diagnoses), as well as non-psychiatric diagnostic and

evaluative medical services for children and/or adults with disabilities in the Broome County area.

- Prevent any changes to the Medicaid program that restrict or limit eligibility and choice.
- Achieve a measurable improvement in the physical and programmatic accessibility of medical facilities in the Center's service area.
- Achieve adoption of legislation in NY requiring health insurance to cover all or part of the cost of hearing aids and related expenses.
- NY will pass legislation and/or adopt regulations to increase access to and use of consumer-directed models of service for community-based long term care to ensure people with disabilities of all ages are served in the most integrated setting.
- NYS Office For People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) and/or the Broome Developmental disabilities Service Office (DDSO) will change policies and practices to implement a consumer-directed model for services such as Day Hab, Res Hab, etc.
- NY will develop and implement a new waiver that includes supports for people with co-occurring conditions and establishes integrated alternatives to segregated living and segregated day services for people with developmental and other disabilities.
- NYS will adopt an Olmstead Implementation Plan, which complies with the letter and spirit of the Supreme Court decision.
- Congress will pass the Community Choice Act and the President will sign it.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- Achieve a measurable increase in the number of accessible local businesses, housing rental properties, accessible apartments, etc.
- The governor will sign a bill to incorporate the housing provisions of Section 504 Rehabilitation Act into state law.
- The Governor will sign a bill establishing standards for "visitability" for housing built with public funds.
- As a result of the recommendations of a coalition of consumers, families and providers established by STIC, there will be an increase in the number of affordable, accessible, integrated housing options for people with disabilities with appropriate support services.
- The state and/or the local community will establish a new program(s) to provide a safety-net of services that would prevent people with developmental and mental health disabilities from entering the criminal justice system due to behaviors that are part of the person's disability.
- The Governor will sign a bill putting Title II of the ADA into state law.
- As a result of a US Department of Justice investigation, brought about through STIC's advocacy efforts, the NYS Office For People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) will change its practices to appropriately place consumers in services and programs that do not segregate them and/or violate their civil rights.

E. Social Advocacy

NO GOALS

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- The Governor will sign a bill requiring that ballot marking devices be made available for all elections in the state, including village and special district and school board elections.
- Increase participation of individuals with disabilities and/or center staff on community, regional and state boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had effective representation from the disability community.

6. BRONX

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Bronx Independent Living Services
Address: 4419 Third Avenue Suite 2C Bronx, NY 10457
Contract No.: C008926
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Brett Eisenberg- Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Calvin Solomon

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- One high school will establish a policy and procedures to present special education students and their family's information on accessing services from ACCES-VR and CBVH.
- In order to increase parental awareness of services for students with disabilities, a local public school district will add BILS website and mission statement to their website, under the link for "Helpful Student Links for Parents."

B. Employment Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs, and job readiness training programs for persons with disabilities.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- A long-term facility will change its policy to allow BILS to conduct a support group for residents.
- At least one community or governmental agency in Bronx County providing health care services to victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities

D. Commerce Advocacy

- As a result of collaboration between BILS and other community agencies, more accessible and integrated housing will be available for persons with disabilities.

E. Social Advocacy

- At least one recreational facility/program will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for consumers with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.

7. BROOKLYN

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled
Address: 27 Smith Street, Suite 200, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Contract No: C008927
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Marvin Wasserman, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Yvon Alexis

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- At least one school district will change its policies and procedures to incorporate parent information nights as an educational component for families with children with Individualized Education Program (IEP) and Rehabilitation Act section 504 plans.
- A disabilities awareness tract either developed or endorsed by BCID will be incorporated as part of the school personnel-training curriculum in at least one school district.
- At least one Brooklyn based school district will change its policies and procedures to distribute a BCID developed Individualized Education Program (IEP) Bill of Rights to all students whenever an IEP is developed.
- In at least one school district, a student/parent advocacy network/infrastructure will be established with organized teams of trained consumer advocates available to address special education issues as they arise.
- At least one Brooklyn school will increase its physical accessibility through the removal of existing barriers.

B. Employment Advocacy

- At least one employment or job placement agency will change its recruitment process to eliminate questions that discriminate in regards to people with disabilities.
- The local office of the New York State Department of Labor will improve its access by installing Assistive Technology on site.
- At least one union or business council will improve its access by providing materials in alternate formats and holding meetings at an accessible location.
- The NYS Department of Civil Service will change its policies and procedures regarding the State Workers with Disabilities Program (55 a, b, c) to improve access and assistance provided for people with disabilities applying for employment through this program.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- Increase access to health care services for people with mobility, visual, hearing, cognitive, and mental health disabilities.
- New York City Human Resources Administration will change its policies and procedures to allow as many hours as needed of home care to avoid placement in nursing homes.
- There will be an increase in the number of Physicians offices, clinics, hospitals, and dental offices that improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities e.g. examination table, dental chairs, mammography equipment and American Sign Language Interpreters.
- At least one patient based facility will make the information being provided to the general public available in alternate formats.
- At least one nursing home will improve its physical and programmatic access to increase its compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and to increase the civil rights of its patients.
- A nursing home will change its policies and procedures to include in its admission literature information about community supports available to maintain independence in the community.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- A private and/or a public retirement community will improve access by making its resident's handbook available in alternate formats.
- Local catering halls and restaurants will improve access by making menus available in large print, and Braille.
- Improve public and Para-transportation access in Brooklyn for inter-borough and inner-borough trips.
- The New York City Department of Transportation will improve the access of all bus shelters (replace the white frosted strip on the edge of the glass with yellow and black alternating strips).
- The New York City Department of Transportation will increase the number of accessible pedestrian signals in Brooklyn.
- Increase the availability of accessible taxi and community car service in Brooklyn.
- The New York City Police Department, Fire Department or other emergency first responder organization will modify its in-service training plan to include the training of all personnel on disability awareness and sensitivity for people with disabilities.

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be an increase the number of integrated community social activities that become accessible.
- There will be an increase in the number of recreation and fitness facilities and programs that are accessible to people with disabilities.
- Increase the number of theaters providing closed captioning and audio description.

- Increase access to public parks and museums.
- At least one senior center will expand its physical and sensory access for members who are disabled.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had Representation from the disability community.
- Political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings, rallies and forums on disability rights and access issues are held in accessible locations.
- The New York City Board of Elections will make inaccessible polling sites in Brooklyn compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Guidelines.

8. BUFFALO

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Western New York Independent Living
Address: 3108 Main Street, Buffalo NY 14214
Contract Number: C008972
Report Period: October 1, 20011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Douglas J. Usiak
Board President Authorization: Dennis M. Kessel

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

- **GOAL:** At least one college or university will incorporate WNYIL's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into its curriculum for professional preparation programs that work with persons with disabilities.
- **GOAL:** At least one local school district, BOCES, or Early Intervention Program will incorporate WNYIL's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into a training curriculum for its staff and parents.
- **GOAL:** One school will incorporate transition services, developed by WNYIL and their community partners (Examples Reality Fair, Accessible Job Fairs, or Mentoring programs) into their curriculum for students.

B. Employment Advocacy

- **GOAL:** As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, at least one vocational program provider will integrate a training on Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act, created by the WNYIL into its services.
- **GOAL:** As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one consumer will be appointed to the Workforce Investment Board in Erie County that previously has not had representation from the disability community.
- **GOAL:** As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one community agency will become a new provider of employment services for persons with disabilities who are ex-offenders.
- **GOAL:** As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one New York State department will implement regulations that enhance the ability of persons with disabilities who are employed to access Home Health Services.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of WNYIL's involvement on the Erie County Integrated Setting Committee, one county department will adopt policies, which will maximize the community inclusion of persons with disabilities.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one medical facility will incorporate WNYIL's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into its curriculum for its discharge planning staff.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, the Veterans Administration will implement a Consumer Directed Personal Assistance (CDPA) Program Option for Veterans with disabilities under its care.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one health care facility will provide Mental Health treatment services targeted to Senior Citizens.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of collaboration between WNYIL and other community agencies, more accessible and integrated housing will be available for persons with disabilities.
- GOAL: As the result of advocacy by WNYIL, para-transit scheduling services will be extended beyond normal business hours.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one first responder agency will incorporate training on the needs of persons with disabilities in crisis or disaster, created by the WNYIL.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, one community agency will become a new provider of housing services for persons with disabilities who are ex-offenders.
- GOAL: As the result of the advocacy of WNYIL, at least one agency in the Family Court system will integrate Independent Living presentation, provided or approved by WNYIL, into their training for professionals working in Family Court.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, consumer choice in selection and provision of Mental Health Services will be protected by the removal of Forced Outpatient Treatment regulations in New York State.

E. Social Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL, at least one place of worship will increase its access to persons with disabilities.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL one area theatre will increase its access to or use of assistive listening devices.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of WNYIL one area theatre will increase its access to or use of alternative formats.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of advocacy by WNYIL, the City of Buffalo will modify its policy to allow for easy access to interpreters for Common Council and other public meetings sponsored by the City of Buffalo.
- GOAL: WNYIL will increase physical access to local polling places.

9. CORNING

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name Of Center: AIM Independent Living Center
Address: 271 East First Street, Corning, NY 14830
Contract No.: C008924
Report Period: October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Diane Demuth, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Sabrina O'connell

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- At least one school district will incorporate a transition event where families and students can come to learn about community resources, employment, higher education and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.
- At least one high school in AIM's catchment will increase its level of programming for students with disabilities and/or physical access for students with disabilities.
- Establish a student disability advocacy network/infrastructure comprised of high-school students to address special education issues as they arise
- At least one college or university will implement policies or services to reduce disenrollment on the basis of disability.
- At least one additional school district will establish a written contract with AIM to provide related services to students with disabilities.
- There will be at least one new integrated Summer Program in our service area for students with disabilities.
- At least one school will adopt or change policy that allows for a disability awareness class either developed or endorsed by AIM to be taught as part of the curriculum.
- A local Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) will change its policies and procedures to ensure that preschool children suspected of having a disability are referred, evaluated, and have eligibility determined by the CPSE within 30 school days of receipt of the parental request for evaluation.
- A local Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) will change its policies and procedures to ensure that children, who are found eligible, transition from early intervention to preschool special education services with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) developed and implemented by their third birthday.
- A local elementary school will incorporate a yearly disability awareness assembly into its curriculum.

- AIM will establish an advocacy network/infrastructure with organized teams of trained volunteer advocates comprised of Chemung County High School students with disabilities and their parents to address special education issues as they arise.
- At least one school district will incorporate a Parent Informational Fair Night where families and students can come to learn about community resources, education and other services available for students with disabilities in pre-k-5th grades.
- At least one local school district will change its policy to provide equal access to extracurricular activities for students receiving special education services.

B. Employment Advocacy

- There is an increase in the availability of new supported employment programs in Steuben County.
- There is an increase in the availability of new supported employment programs in Chemung County.
- At least one employer will change its policies and procedures to ensure employees with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of and procedures for obtaining assistive technology and devices.
- A local high school changes its policies and procedures to increase the number of students and schools that participate in transition work programs.
- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs and job readiness training programs, for persons with disabilities.
- At least one area small business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
- Establish a written arrangement whereby one One-Stop Center in AIM's catchment area will offer an on-site advocacy program for person with disabilities.
- At least one area employer will make its employment application available in large print for applicants who are visually impaired.
- Increase rural transportation opportunities in order to have more successful employment objectives for rural consumers.
- A county youth board will change its policies and procedures to increase the availability of integrated employment preparation programs for youth with disabilities, such as internship programs, work experience programs, and job readiness training programs.
- As a result of the advocacy of AIM, one Chamber of Commerce will integrate a disability awareness training either developed or endorsed by AIM to its members.
- AIM will establish a new employment service program for people with disabilities in the Center's service area supported by grant funding and/or self-sustaining fee-for-service agreements.
- AIM will establish a written arrangement with a local food pantry or soup kitchen to provide on-site outreach services including: information and referral, benefits advisement and information about employment support programs for the disabled participants who desire the Center's assistance.
- As a result of AIM's establishment of an Employment Network, at least one employer will make documented changes in its employment policies and procedures to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- An increased level of community agencies will contract with AIM to provide employment readiness training services.
- At least one local Ticket to Work Program provider will improve access to its program and services to people with disabilities who are interested in going to work.
- At least one Employment Network will provide brochures and pertinent program information in accessible formats at every consumer orientation.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one community or governmental agency providing health care services to victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.
- There will be an increase in the number of physicians' offices, clinics and hospitals that improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
- A nursing home in AIM's geographic jurisdiction changes policies and procedures to implement community based living options.
- A local rehabilitation center makes a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community based living services.
- There will be an increase in the number of local human service agencies and public health services that provide brochures and pertinent program information in accessible formats.
- At least one long-term facility and/or health care facility will change its policies to include information on community resources that allow people to remain in the community.
- At least one health care provider during the Program Year will make its facility more accessible to their patients with disabilities.
- AIM ILC will enter into a contract to provide Consumer Directed Personal Assisting Services in a County that is not contracted to provide those services.
- At least one community agency providing health care services to veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan will improve its access to veterans with disabilities to facilitate their reentry.
- AIM will cause one major health facility or hospital to increase its physical access for persons with disabilities.
- AIM will cause one major health facility or hospital to adapt examining rooms to accommodate persons with disabilities.
- A major health facility or local hospital will adopt policies and procedures designed to identify persons with pre-existing mobility or sensory disabilities and their special care and adaptive equipment needs at the time of admission into the hospital. The special needs will be communicated to the nursing and other appropriate staff. The patient advocate will be responsible for providing oversight to ensure that the needs are being properly addressed.
- At least one institution will make a policy and procedural change in how it makes referrals to community resources, including Independent Living, during the discharge planning process to facilitate more successful transitions from the facility to the community.
- At least one hospital in Allegany, Chemung, Schuyler or Steuben County will change their practices to include information on resources that allow people to remain in the community.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of ADA Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in AIM's service area.
- A diner, bakery, or laundry in AIM's geographic jurisdiction will become accessible by installing automatic door openers.
- The Steuben County public transit system expands service hours, and increases accessible cross-county service.
- The Chemung County public transit system expands service hours, and increases accessible cross-county service.
- At least one (1) local restaurant will provide its menu in an alternative format for consumers and make it available on request.
- The Steuben County Court System will provide effective communication and accessibility for persons who are Deaf.
- A local municipality will adopt policies and/or procedures resulting in increased installation and/or maintenance of local curb cuts.
- A private and/or a public retirement community will improve access by making its resident's handbook available in alternate formats.
- At least one area Chamber of Commerce will make a policy and procedural change to routinely provide accessibility information for people with disabilities.
- A local restaurant will add a ramp to the main entrance to accommodate people with disabilities.
- At least one American Legion post in our service area will install a ramp and/or other building modifications to improve access for persons who are disabled.
- One local business or not-for-profit agency will install a TTY, Video Telephone system or Relay services.
- As a result of collaboration between AIMILC and other community agencies, more affordable, accessible/adaptable, integrated housing will be available for persons with disabilities in Steuben and/or Chemung counties.
- Increase public transportation availability in rural areas in Steuben County.

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of integrated community social activities that become accessible.
- There will be an increase in the number of recreation and fitness facilities and programs that are accessible to people with disabilities.
- As a result of working cooperatively with other agencies, there will be an increase in integrated recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.
- There will be a measurable increase in the architectural and communication access in local social activities and/or establishments for people with disabilities.
- At least one recreational facility/program will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for consumers with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.
- One social venue will become accessible to individuals with disabilities.
- A local library will establish a book (or film) discussion program that meets periodically to explore disability literature and its portrayal of Disability Culture.

- Increase the number of theaters providing closed captioning and audio description.
- As a result of the AIM CIL advocacy, at least one place of worship will increase its access to persons with disabilities.
- At least one area special event will improve access for people with disabilities.
- AIM will establish a program supported by grant funding and/or assigned human resources to peer mentor individuals with disabilities and mental health disabilities to increase their participation in social and recreational activities/events.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
- There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
- An ILC staff member is appointed to the County Emergency Planning Committee that previously did not have representation from the disability community.

10. CORTLAND

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Access to Independence of Cortland County
Address: 26 N. Main Street, Cortland, NY 13045
Contract Number: C008932
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Mary E. Ewing, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Gail Bundy, Board Chair

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

- At least one local school system or Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make a policy change in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities, so that plans will include information on independent living centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages.
- The Cortland School District will incorporate in its curriculum an Access to Independence developed peer advocacy group for transition age youth with disabilities, including programs on topics such as: goal setting, independent living skills, self-advocacy and empowerment.
- At least one school system will change its policies and procedures to have the community resource referral packet include information about independent living centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages to facilitate successful transitions from high school.
- As a result of ATI's establishment of a youth transition partnership with an institute of higher learning, the institute of higher learning will establish a new program to address transition issues for youth with disabilities (i.e., mentoring, training, volunteering, and teacher training).
- At least one school district will incorporate into its curriculum a Transition / Career Fair where students and parents can learn about opportunities available to students with disabilities after graduation.
- State University of New York (SUNY) Cortland will increase the availability of accessible handicapped parking for students, professors and guests with disabilities.

B. Employment Advocacy

- As a result of a partnership with the Cortland Works Career Center, the Career Center will establish a new program to offer computer training and service provider information to people with disabilities.

- At least one agency, organization or business will incorporate an ATI developed or endorsed disability awareness and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) component into its staff training program.
- The Cortland Works Career Center (One-Stop) will incorporate training sessions and workshops designed by ATI and focused on issues related to disability as they relate to the employment services that they offer the community.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- The number of health care providers who are universally accessible will increase.
- A program will be established that will assist one or two consumers per year to return to the community from an institution.
- Local medical facilities will provide sign language interpreter services to their patients.
- Access to Independence will develop a written agreement with the Cortland Housing Assistance Council (CHAC) to provide lead and asbestos assessments, at no charge, to low income people with disabilities.
- At least one new local healthcare facility will change their policies to include information on community independent living resources, which allow individuals to remain in the community.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- Increase the number of businesses that are fully accessible.
- Increase the number of crosswalks in the City of Cortland which are fully accessible.
- There will be a measurable increase in the number of government buildings that become fully accessible.
- Cortland Transit will have at least two Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant buses; expanded service hours; and accessible, limited cross-county service.
- There will be an increase in the number of affordable, integrated, and accessible housing options for people with disabilities.
- At least on local police department will modify its in-service training plan to include disability awareness training, developed or endorsed by ATI, to all law enforcement personnel.

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated social activities in the community for persons with disabilities.
- There will be a measurable increase in architectural and communication access to social and recreational activities for people with disabilities in Cortland County.
- There will be an increase in the number of special events and gatherings in Cortland County which are accessible to travelers, tourists and community members.
- There will be a measurable increase in the number of faith-based organizations in Cortland County which are accessible to people with disabilities.

- There will be at least one new accessible trail created for people with disabilities in Cortland County.
- Opportunities for participating in integrated fitness programs in the community will be increased.
- A local public transportation company will make available transportation for use by persons with disabilities to attend social activities that they previously could not attend.
- At least one community recreational facility will increase its accessibility to allow for people with disabilities to enjoy its use.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of accessible polling sites in Cortland County.
- There will be a measurable increase in the number of people with disabilities who serve on community or statewide boards, committees, and task forces which have not previously included representation from the disability community.
- Disaster preparation and relief plans which address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted by Cortland County.

11. DELAWARE

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Catskill Center For Independence
Address: PO Box 1247, Oneonta, NY 18320
Contract No.: C-008930
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: C. Zachmeyer
Board President: Don Gersch

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- Goal: Schools will add an independent living component either developed or endorsed by CCFI to their curriculum.
- Goal: At least one school will make a procedural change that allows for a disability awareness class either developed or endorsed by CCFI to be taught as part of their curriculum.

B. Employment Advocacy

- Goal: Physical and program access will improve throughout the local one stop system sites.

C. Health Care Advocacy

NO GOALS

D. Commerce Advocacy

- Goal: The Center will increase accessibility to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities in the community.

E. Social Advocacy

- Goal: The Center will increase accessibility to places of worship.
- Goal: The Center will increase accessibility to recreation facilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Goal: At least one political candidate or incumbent will adopt a policy or make a procedural change to hold their meetings and rallies in accessible locations.

12. GLENS FALLS

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Glens Falls Independent Living Center
operating as Southern Adirondack Independent Living
Center (SAIL)
Address: 71 Glenwood Avenue, Queensbury, NY 12804
Contract No.: C008936
Report Period: October 1, 20011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Karen A. Thayer
Board President Authorization: David Bogue

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- At least one (1) area school district will add disability awareness education and training developed or approved by SAIL to their curriculum
- At least one (1) area school district will change policies and procedures to add SAIL as a listed resource for students with disabilities to the information provided to students/families through the Committee on Special Education (CSE)
- At least one (1) area school district will change policies and procedures to include staff from SAIL in transition planning activities
- At least one (1) area school district will add a Transition Fair where families and students can learn about community resources, employment supports, higher education supports and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation
- At least one (1) area school district will adopt or change policies and procedures to add American Sign Language as a regular part of the menu of second language options for students

B. Employment Advocacy

- At least one (1) area employment agency will improve access for people with disabilities
- At least one (1) area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities
- NYS Civil Service will change the designation for school aides for students with disabilities from "Handicapped Student Aide" to a designation either developed or endorsed by Southern Adirondack Independent Living Center

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one (1) area medical provider will improve accessibility for patients with disabilities
- As a NYS Department of Health (DOH) Regional Resource Development Center (RRDC), SAIL will increase the number of agencies providing services through the NYS Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waiver and Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) Waiver programs
- The NYS Department of Health (DOH) will make a policy change to allow Local Districts of Social Services and/or Area Offices for the Aging to become providers for the Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) Medicaid Waiver Program
- The NYS Department of Health (DOH) will make a policy change to expedite enrollment into the Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) Medicaid Waiver Program
- State agencies will change policies, practices and/or procedures to allow individuals with co-occurring psychiatric and other disabilities to receive appropriate mental health services.
- NY will pass legislation and/or adopt regulations to increase access to and use of consumer-directed models of service for community-based long term care to ensure people with disabilities of all ages are served in the most integrated setting.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in affordable, accessible and integrated housing units for individuals with disabilities
- At least one (1) area Chamber of Commerce will make a policy and procedural change to routinely provide accessibility information for people with disabilities
- At least one (1) newspaper will make a policy and procedural change to report on accessibility for people with disabilities when reporting on local restaurants/eateries
- The downtown areas in the Saratoga, Warren, and Washington County region will become more accessible
- NYS will pass legislation establishing standards for “visitability” in State law to require all newly constructed single- family houses, townhouses and ground-floor units of duplexes and triplexes built with public funds to be made accessible

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of accessible churches (houses of worship) that people with disabilities can attend
- There will be a measurable increase in the number of accessible outdoor recreational venues for individuals with disabilities
- At least one (1) area special event will improve access for people with disabilities

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of accessible polling sites for individuals with disabilities
- There will be a measurable increase in the number of Towns that hold Town Board Meetings in accessible venues

- Area Boards of Elections will incorporate a disability awareness training either developed or endorsed by the Southern Adirondack Independent Living Center to election workers
- Disaster preparation and relief plans addressing the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted by local counties
- There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and local boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community

13. HARLEM

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Harlem Independent Living Center
Address: 289 St. Nicholas Avenue, lower level, NY, NY 10027
Contract Number: C008937
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Christina Curry
Board President Authorization: Vanessa Young

I COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- A disabilities awareness track either developed or endorsed by HILC will be instituted as a regular part of the school personnel training curriculum in at least one emerging charter school in the Center's service area.

B. Employment Advocacy

- At least one local fast food chain within the Harlem area will change its policies, procedures and/or practices to become compliant with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- NYS Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will provide disability sensitivity training either developed or endorsed by HILC as a regular part of their training procedures to their employees.
- NYS Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will change its policies, procedures and/or practices to become compliant with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- At least one East Harlem employment firm will institute disability sensitivity training either developed or endorsed by HILC as a regular part of the training curriculum to all staff.
- At least one East Harlem employment firm will improve its physical and/or client services access for people with disabilities.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one community hospital located within Washington Heights/East Harlem will improve its physical access for people with disabilities.

- At least one community medical clinic within Washington Heights/East Harlem will institute disability sensitivity training classes either developed or endorsed by HILC as a regular part of the training curriculum for emergency personnel.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- At least one area deli will become accessible for their Deaf, Hard of Hearing patrons.
- The New York City Public Libraries will have computer programs installed enabling access for blind/low vision patrons.
- New York City Public Libraries will offer disability/Deafness sensitivity training either developed or endorsed by HILC as a regular part of their training procedures to all employees.
- NYS Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office will become accessible to blind/low vision patrons.
- New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) will demonstrate enforcement of existing policies to ensure better compliance with federal laws regarding accessibility for disabled tenants and applicants for all scheduled meetings, etc.
- New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) will provide materials in alternate format on request by blind/low vision tenants and applicants. This will include all online information as well.

E. Social Advocacy

- At least one recreational facility will offer accessible programs for people with disabilities, which will also include physical accessibility.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

NO GOALS

14. HERKIMER

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Resource Center for Independent Living
Address: 401 E. German Street 2nd Floor, Suite 208
Herkimer, NY 13350
Contract No.: C009023
Report Period: October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Burt Danovitz, Ph.D., Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Gary Scalzo

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

- Herkimer County BOCES will institute a system of providing information in the form of a flyer sent to parents about the need for benefits advisement services to be included in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) Transition Plans for all appropriate special education students.
- At least one area school district will change policies and/or procedures to include staff from RCIL-Herkimer in transition planning activities.
- At least one high school in Herkimer County will change its policies and procedures to have the community resource referral packet provided to students who are disabled include information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages to facilitate successful transitions from high school.

B. Employment Advocacy

- One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to individuals with significant disabilities.
- One-Stop Career Centers will establish a protocol within policies and procedures for including work incentives planning and assistance services in employment plans developed by Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) beneficiaries.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- A nursing home will establish policies and procedures to include as part of its community transition process, a peer group to explore issues regarding community living.

- At least one nursing home will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community based living services.
- At least one community agency providing health care services to veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan will improve its access to veterans with disabilities to facilitate their reentry.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of affordable, integrated, and accessible housing options for people with disabilities in the Mohawk Valley.
- The local public transit company will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all transit/driving personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
- As a result of the advocacy of RCIL-Herkimer, one first responder agency will incorporate training created by RCIL-Herkimer on the needs of person with disabilities in crisis or disaster.

E. Social Advocacy

- As a result of the advocacy of RCIL-Herkimer, at least one place of worship will increase its access to persons with disabilities.
- At least one area special event will improve access for person with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- RCIL-Herkimer will continue to make sure that polling places are truly accessible to all people with disabilities and that poll workers are trained in assisting people with disabilities.
- There will be an increase in the number of consumer/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

15. ITHACA

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Finger Lakes Independence Center
Address: 215 Fifth Street, Ithaca, NY 14850
Contract No.: C008935
Report Period: October 1, 20011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Lenore Schwager
Board President Authorization: Greg Gizewski

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

- GOAL: At least one school district in Tompkins County will change its policy to allow FLIC to assist in the transition process of students.
- GOAL: At least one Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make procedural changes to have transition plans include information on Independent Living and other community based agencies and organizations.

B. Employment Advocacy

- GOAL: FLIC will assure that at least one employer adopts diversity policies and procedures, including policies and procedures which attract and employ people with disabilities.
- GOAL: As a result of the FLIC sponsored World of Skills job fair, at least one area business will change its recruitment process to eliminate questions that discriminate in regards to a person's disability.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- GOAL: There will be an increase in the number of medical facilities, doctor's offices, clinics and hospitals that improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
- GOAL: FLIC will improve access to health care for women with disabilities in Tompkins County.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- GOAL: FLIC will increase Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in the business community.

- GOAL: Schuyler County Transit will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all transit/driving personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.

E. Social Advocacy

- GOAL: FLIC will increase integrated recreational opportunities for people with disabilities.
- GOAL: FLIC will increase equal access to the performing arts in Tompkins County, including access to temporary events such as festivals.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- GOAL: Continue to make sure that polling places are truly accessible to all people with disabilities and that poll workers are trained in assisting people with disabilities.
- GOAL: FLIC will ensure that political candidates and/or current political leaders will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
- GOAL: FLIC will increase the number of consumers/staff that serve on community boards and task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

16. JAMESTOWN

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Southwestern Independent Living Center
Address: 843 N. Main St., Jamestown, NY 14701
Contract No.: C008949
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Marie Carrubba, Richard Johnson
Board President Authorization: Rita Carson

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- BOCES will institute a system of providing information in the form of a flyer sent to parents about the need for benefits advisement services to be included in the Individual Education Plan Transition Plans for all appropriate special education students.
- A local school district will make procedural changes to transition plans for students with disabilities to include developing information on a Plan for Achieving Self-Support (PASS), ACCES-VR, Independent Living advocacy, and linkages to other community based agencies and organizations. ((Goal continued from 2010-11 contract).
- One school district will change its policies and procedures to have the list of community resources include information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages and to distribute it at Committee on Special Education (CSE) meetings.
- One preschool in Chautauqua County will adopt a special needs coloring book either developed or endorsed by SILC into its curriculum.

B. Employment Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs and job readiness training programs for persons with disabilities.
- SILC will establish a written arrangement with a local food pantry or soup kitchen to provide on-site outreach services including: information about employment support programs for the disabled participants who desire the Center's assistance. (Goal continued from 2010-11 contract).
- SILC will establish a written memorandum of understanding with the local Department of Social Services to provide training regarding benefits planning on an ongoing and periodic basis to its office staff to ensure that working consumers who qualify for the Medicaid Buy-

In will be appropriately reviewed under the Medicaid Buy-In rules and not the more stringent Medicaid eligibility requirements.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one institution will change its procedures and/or policies to allow more people with disabilities to transition from institutions into integrated community living.
- At least one long-term care or healthcare facility will change its policies to include information about community supports available to maintain independence in the admission literature.
- There will be an increase in the number of physicians' offices, clinics and hospitals that improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
- At least one local health care provider will change its policies to ensure individuals with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of long-term home care services, including information about funding such services.

D. Commerce: Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the center's service area. (Goal continued from 2010-11 contract).
- The local public transit company will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all transit/driving personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
- There will be an increase in the number of integrated accessible/adaptable housing units available to persons with disabilities. (Goal continued from 2010-11 contract).
- Local Department of Social Services offices will establish practices and procedures that will enable people with disabilities to obtain the necessary accommodations to receive services from those offices in an equitable manner.
- A local library will establish an integrated and accessible book (or film) discussion program that meets periodically to explore disability literature and its portrayal of Disability Culture. (Goal continued from 2010-11 contract).

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of integrated community social activities that become accessible.
- There will be an increase in the number of recreation and fitness facilities and programs that are accessible to people with disabilities.
- There will be an increase in the number of accessible municipal sponsored recreation opportunities and facilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Disaster preparation and relief plans which address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted by Chautauqua County.
- There will be an increase in the number of accessible polling sites.

- Political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
- There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

17. KINGSTON

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Resource Center for Accessible Living
Address: 727 Ulster Avenue, Kingston, New York 12401
Contract Number: COO8942
Report Period: October 1, 2011 - September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Susan J. Hoger, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Paul Scarpati

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

- RCAL will establish a written agreement with one Ulster County Human Service organization to offer on-site Special Education Advocacy Training. This will be a regular part of its staff training for professionals who work with high risk children.

B. Employment Advocacy

NO GOALS

C. Health Care Advocacy

- RCAL will increase the accessibility of health care providers in Ulster County.
- RCAL will increase access to health insurance to persons with disabilities.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- RCAL will increase the accessibility of businesses and for public facilities in Ulster County.

E. Social Advocacy

- RCAL will increase accessible recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- RCAL will cause inaccessible polling sites within Ulster County to be made accessible and usable by persons with disabilities.

18. LONG ISLAND

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Long Island Center for Independent Living
Address: 3601 Hempstead Turnpike, Suite 208
Levittown, NY 11756
Contract No.: C008938
Report Period: October 1, 20011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Patricia Moore, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Mary Ellen Lewis

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- New York State legislature will pass legislation to promote greater awareness and understanding of people with disabilities by amending current NYS Education Law 801 (Chapter 265 of the Laws of 2000) to make available to all students, grades kindergarten through twelve, suitable curriculum materials to aid in the instruction, understanding and acceptance of students with disabilities.
- A local University will change its policies and procedures to ensure students and alumni with disabilities are fully informed about its Department of Career Support and the procedures for obtaining services.
- A local school serving students with a wide range of disabilities will institute policies and procedures aimed at increasing awareness among its college-bound students about reasonable accommodations and their appropriate application in the University setting.
- A local private elementary school will change Its policies and procedures to establish a LICIL developed or endorsed storybook reading and discussion event during Disability Awareness Week to increase age-appropriate understanding and acceptance of disability among pupils in the second grade.
- A local school district will implement policies, procedures and/or practices resulting in the inclusion of assistive technology in IEPs for students with disabilities.
- A local Committee on Special Education (CSE) will incorporate the New York State Independent Living History and Philosophy DVD as a regular part of disability awareness training for committee members.
- A local school district CSE will make a policy change in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities so that plans will include information about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages.

- At least one area school district will change their transition policy to include distribution of brochures or other publications about Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and agency linkages.
- A local school district will modify its practices and procedures so that the parents' information packet will be distributed prior to CSE meetings.
- A local school will change its policies and procedures to incorporate a "Parents' Information Night" as an educational component for families of children with IEPs or Rehabilitation Act Section 504 plans.

B. Employment Advocacy

- A local One-Stop center will change its policies and procedures for referring customers to additional community services by making available informational materials on LICIL programs and services.
- A member of LICIL's staff will be appointed to serve on a local Workforce Investment Board.
- As the result of the recommendations of a newly established membership organization for professionals with disabilities on Long Island, at least one business in the Center's service area will make documented changes in its employment policies and procedures, to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- A local supermarket will install screen readers on their Jobs Express kiosks to increase accessibility for blind/visually impaired job applicants.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- A community or governmental agency providing counseling services to victims of domestic violence will improve its access for persons with disabilities.
- A local hospital will adopt a policy to identify, serve and be accountable for properly serving the specific needs of its patients with disabilities.
- A local hospital will change its staff training policies and procedures to include disability awareness materials either developed or endorsed by LICIL.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- A local municipality in Nassau County will adopt a policy to post the monetary fine for disabled parking violations adjacent to parking signs.
- The proper standing signage will be added to designated disabled parking spaces throughout Nassau County.
- A local township will increase the accessibility of public rights of way by adding curb cuts.
- A Nassau County municipality will establish a policy for regular snow removal from curb cuts, bus stops and disabled parking spaces to improve access for persons with disabilities.
- A local catering hall will increase its accessibility by adding a ramp to its main entrance.
- A local restaurant will make its location properly accessible to customers with disabilities by adding a ramp to its main entrance.

- A library in Nassau County will improve the access of its computers and software for persons who are blind or visually impaired.
- A local library will offer alternative accessible computer access for its patrons with disabilities.
- A local fire district will adopt policies and procedures to include training of first-responders on safe and effective practices when evacuating people with disabilities during emergency situations.

E. Social Advocacy

- At least one recreational facility or program will establish and post easily identifiable policy and procedures for consumers with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Nassau County Board of Elections will implement policies and procedures to include a LICIL-developed Checklist for use by poll workers as a systematic way to ensure that poll sites are accessible for voters with disabilities on Election Day.
- As a result of LICIL advocacy efforts, the number of accessible polling places in Nassau County will increase.
- The Nassau County Board of Elections will adopt a policy whereby poll site coordinators will routinely use a LICIL-developed check-list designed to ensure that the appropriate accessibility features are properly in place for each Election Day.

19. MANHATTAN

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Center for Independence of the Disabled of New York
Address: 841 Broadway, Suite 301, New York, NY 10003
Contract No.: C008931
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Susan Dooha, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Martin Eichel

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- Education Advocacy Goal 1: The New York State Department of Education will amend Individualized Education Program (IEP) forms that will be effective 2011-12, requiring diploma goals to be identified.
- Education Advocacy Goal 2: The New York State Department of Education will establish a policy with a detailed plan for local implementation of the Dignity for All Students Act in compliance with the Regents January 2011 Report.
- Education Advocacy Goal 3: The New York State Board of Regents will establish policies and procedures or regulations that increase the utilization of Independent Living Centers and services in order to provide more effective transition planning and services in New York State.
- Education Advocacy Goal 4: Defeat legislation that reduces the amount of time available to enforce due process rights against school districts by cutting the statute of limitations to 180 days for parents who unilaterally place their children in non-public schools and to one year for everyone else.
- Education Advocacy Goal 5: At least one school in New York City will participate in Paso a Paso, a transition program for youth with intellectual disabilities who are Spanish-speaking, in partnership with CIDNY.
- Education Advocacy Goal 6: The New York City Department of Education will establish a cabinet-level position for Special Education.
- Education Advocacy Goal 7: New York State Mandate Relief Team will reject the proposal to remove psychologists from the Committee on Special Education.

B. Employment Advocacy

- Employment Advocacy Goal 1: The Governor will waive the hiring freeze imposed on State Agencies.
- Employment Advocacy Goal 2: ACCES-VR will revise the indicators related to its Order of Selection Policy as a result of recommendations made by the New York State Rehabilitation Council.
- Employment Advocacy Goal 3: ACCES-VR will revise its economic need policy to streamline the determination requirements and phase in a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA).
- Employment Advocacy Goal 4: As a result of a White Paper jointly developed by the State Rehabilitation Council and ACCES-VR, ACCES-VR will adopt recommended strategies to increase the numbers of workers with disabilities that can fill middle-skill jobs in the economy.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- Health Care Advocacy Goal 1: The New York State Department of Health will adopt a policy and procedure for prequalifying immigrants' residence and income eligibility for emergency Medicaid.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 2: New York State will pass legislation to merge the individual direct pay and small group health insurance pools resulting in lower premiums for people who must purchase comprehensive coverage on their own.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 3: New York State will pass legislation providing for Medicaid reimbursement for language interpretation.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 4: The New York State Legislature will establish Navigators and a Consumer Assistance Program that meets the health care needs of people with disabilities.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 5: New York will establish biennial renewal (with passive renewal in odd years) for all public insurance enrollees.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 6: The legislature will provide authority and enhanced reimbursement rates for patient-centered models of care that hold promise for improving care coordination and quality, including behavioral health organizations, health homes, medical homes and accountable care organizations.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 7: The legislature will establish a Health Benefit Exchange that is capable of evaluating people for all possible Medicaid eligibility categories including Supplemental Security Income (SSI)-related budgeting so that people with disabilities have equal access to the program.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 8: Current required benefits under the insurance law will be maintained in policies sold inside and outside the Exchange.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 9: To minimize adverse selection, New York will require insurers participating in the Exchange to offer standardized health plans sold in the Exchange to individuals and small groups outside the Exchange.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 10: New York State will establish a Basic Health Plan that will serve people with incomes up to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 11: The legislature will provide authority for the Health Benefit Exchange to serve as an active purchaser or selective contractor of health plans sold in it.

- Health Care Advocacy Goal 12: New York will continue to require all benefits currently required under the public health law and social services law to newly Medicaid eligible individuals regardless of whether they are identified as “benchmark benefits” by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 13: New York’s Health Benefit Exchange will change its policies and procedures to decrease disparities in health care services and performance on the basis of race or ethnicity, primary language, gender and disability status.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 14: The New York State Dept. of Health will implement regulatory changes to expand eligibility for the Medicaid spenddown program.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 15: State legislation will be enacted to limit the Part D prescription drug co-pays for dual eligible beneficiaries to \$200 or less per year.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 16: The New York State legislature will amend health law to require prior approval of physical therapy (PT)/occupational therapy (OT) for Medicaid beneficiaries to require the providers’ opinion will prevail.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- Commerce Advocacy Goal 1: The New York City Housing Authority will restore the “health related priority” it had for housing applicants until 2007, which aided individuals with disabilities whose current living conditions presented a direct threat to their lives.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 2: The state and local legislatures will amend the Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) law to establish income threshold parity with Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE).
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 3: New York State’s Office of Temporary Disability Assistance will implement policies and procedures for county Departments of Social Services on compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act Section 504.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 4: New York State will pass legislation to make the State Supplement to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) permanent.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 5: New York City Homeless Shelters will accept people with service animals.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 6: New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and New York City Homeless Shelters will offer accessible placement to people with disabilities.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 7: The U.S. District Court will require that the NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) improve the availability of accessible taxis in New York City.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 8: As the result of collaboration with the New York State Division on Human Rights and Ernst & Young volunteers to perform an access study of Manhattan restaurants, bars and coffee shops near accessible transportation hubs, at least one restaurant will improve its access.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 9: An Americans with Disabilities Act and Disability Awareness training either developed or endorsed by CIDNY will be incorporated by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services as a regular part of its curriculum for training state-certified security guards.

E. Social Advocacy

NO GOALS

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Civic Advocacy Goal 1: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) and the Campaign Finance Board will provide voter material in alternative formats.
- Civic Advocacy Goal 2: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will establish a procedure for voters to request ASL interpreters at their poll site and for the NYC BOE to provide them
- Civic Advocacy Goal 3: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will adopt CIDNY's Manual for Poll Site Accessibility, distribute it to each county BOEs and require the county BOEs to complete poll site accessibility trainings by the PAVA Agencies.
- Civic Advocacy Goal 4: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will create an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance plan for all polling sites, with input from the disability community that is public and prominently displayed on their website and reviewed annually. The plan will be distributed to all polling site supervisors and deputies. The NYCBOE will monitor compliance with the ADA plan and report publicly after each election all poll sites that do not meet the plan's standards.
- Civic Advocacy Goal 5: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will implement a policy that makes main entrances to all polling sites the accessible entrance.
- Civic Advocacy Goal 6: The New York City Board of Elections will, as a matter of policy, provide "learning centers" at each county Board office at least 30 days prior to primary and election days so that voters can practice on the ballot marking devices (BMDs) and provide demonstrations at organizations on request.

20. MASSENA

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Massena Independent Living Center
Address: 156 Center Street, Massena, New York 13662
Contract No.: C008939
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Mr. Jeff Reifensnyder - Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Wanda Harvey

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

- The Massena Independent Living Center, Inc. will ensure that an Independent Living History & Philosophy awareness track either developed or endorsed by MILC is instituted as part of an educational institution's academic curriculum in the Center's area.
- A local school will change its policies to ensure better compliance with Laws and Regulations Related to Special Education and Students with Disabilities.

B. Employment Advocacy

- Change at least one employer's recruitment policies directed at increasing their hiring of people with disabilities.
- Change at least one Employment Services Provider policy toward enabling persons with disabilities greater access to the good and services offered.
- A Department of Social Service will change its policy to increase their compliance to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations relative to recipients of Welfare who are disabled and seeking employment.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one institution will make a policy and procedural change in how it makes referrals to community resources, including Independent Living, during the discharge planning process to facilitate more successful transitions from the facility to the community.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- The Massena Independent Living Center, Inc. will increase Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in the business community.

E. Social Advocacy

Increase the number of integrated recreational activity opportunities for people with disabilities in the Center's service area.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

NO GOALS

21. MIDDLETOWN

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Independent Living, Inc.
Address: 66 Bennett Street, Middletown, NY 10940
Contract No.: TBD
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Stuart Kessler, Director of Compliance & Program
Operations and Suzanne Tremper, Director of Programs
Board President Authorization: Matthew Migliaccio

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result universal access to educational opportunities and related supportive services for children ages birth to 21, and to ensure a successful transition of students with disabilities from school to adult life. Advocate for an end to educational services that segregate children with disabilities, denying them the right to equally choose, equally participate and equally benefit.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate to reduce the incidence of segregated special education services for students with psychiatric disabilities by advocating for the adoption of inclusive educational practices and demand responsive supportive services that enable these students to learn in regular classroom settings.
- Provide student self-advocacy training that will enable students to better understand their rights, options, choices concerning their education and transition to adult services.

OUTCOMES

- One or more school districts in Orange County will institute a disability awareness track developed by ILI as part of the school personnel-training curriculum.
- One school district will change its policies and procedures to facilitate increased participation by students with disabilities in the Committee on Special Education (CSE) process.

B. Employment Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, sheltered workshops.

ACTIVITIES

- Increase the capacity of persons with disabilities to obtain and retain competitive employment.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who (a) are deaf or hard of hearing; (b) are blind or visually impaired; (c) have developmental disabilities; (d) have significant psychiatric disabilities.

OUTCOMES

- At least one area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
- At least one employer will make its employment application available in large print for applicants who are visually impaired.

C. Health Care Advocacy

Advocate for increasing the capacity of community-based supportive services to a level sufficient to enable persons presently confined to nursing homes and other restrictive settings, or at-risk of confinement, to return to, or remain in the community as an alternative to institutionalization – consistent with the Olmstead decision of 1999.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate to government agencies and other providers for the most integrated setting for people with disabilities when providing programs and services, including housing.
- Advocate for changes in local institutional policies and practices that will result in increased referrals to community based living options.
- Advocate with community organizations so as to produce a measurable increase in the number of such organizations referring consumers to Consumer Directed Personal Assistance services that have not previously done so.
- Advocate for improved access to health care services for individuals with disabilities who are victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence.

OUTCOMES

- At least one local physician's office will improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
- A local health care facility will adopt a practice assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
- At least one community or governmental agency providing health care services to victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.

D. Commerce Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in universal access to public transportation, public buildings, communication systems and other amenities. Increase the capacity of people with disabilities to engage in local marketplace activities including shopping, dining out, using recreational facilities and participating in community events by increasing the number of Title III entities that are accessible in the Orange County area.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate with local municipalities regarding the consistent enforcement of accessible/adaptable requirements in new construction.
- Provide ADA training and technical support to local code enforcement officials and or other municipal departments.
- Advocate for increased accessible housing options for persons with disabilities.
- Advocate for compliance under the newly enacted state law and the ADA, requiring physical accessibility to local marketplace activities.

OUTCOMES

- There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the center's service area.
- A local housing organization will establish an accessible housing program that makes home modification services available to residences throughout Orange County, with technical support provided under contract with the independent living center.

E. Social Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, dead-end day programs, and the increased inclusion of people with disabilities in service and social clubs, special interest organizations, and other integrated community activities.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate to increase the number of community clubs and service organizations that are accessible by individuals with significant disabilities.
- Advocate with local municipalities to ensure that stadiums, auditoriums, parks and other public recreational facilities are fully accessible.
- Advocate for an increase in the number of integrated social and recreational activities in the community for persons with disabilities.

OUTCOMES

- At least one community club or service organization will adopt a policy assuring that meeting places are fully accessible.
- One or more community service organizations will establish a formal agreement with ILI to provide disability awareness training for all of its members.

- A municipal recreation department will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel in the areas of disability awareness and the ADA.
- A local health club/fitness center will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
- One or more community club or service organizations will create integrated community programs for the purpose of increasing the self sufficiency, wellness and self worth of individuals with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in universal voter access to polling places. Increase self-advocacy and leadership skills among youthful and adult citizens with disabilities.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate for the local Board of Elections to adopt policies and processes that ensure the training of all newly hired election officials about persons with disabilities at polling places, and the issues of accessibility at the polling site and at the machines.
- Advocate and provide means to help register the underserved and non-registered voters of Orange County, especially persons with disabilities.
- Advocate that more people with disabilities be registered to vote.

OUTCOMES

- One or more political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
- The Orange County Board of Elections will establish policies and procedures to train poll workers on the accessible voting machines.

22. NEWBURGH

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name Of Center: Independent Living, Inc.
Address: 5 Washington Terrace, Newburgh, NY 12550
Contract No. C008934
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Stuart Kessler, Director of Compliance & Program
Operations and Suzanne Tremper, Director of Programs
Board President Authorization: Matthew Migliaccio

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result universal access to educational opportunities and related supportive services for children ages birth to 21, and to ensure a successful transition of students with disabilities from school to adult life. Continue to advocate for an end to educational services that segregate children with disabilities, denying them the right to equally choose, equally participate and equally benefit.

ACTIVITIES

- Will identify and promote transition processes that ensure that preschool children suspected of having a disability are referred, evaluated, and have eligibility determined by the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) within 30 school days of receipt of the parental request for evaluation.
- As the Mid-Hudson Regional Early Childhood Direction Center, we will continue to advocate for increasing access to early intervention and preschool education services by families of children with disabilities birth to age five, with emphasis on those residing in traditionally underserved and unserved neighborhoods in culturally diverse communities in Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and Sullivan Counties.
- Identify and promote typical early childhood settings that service preschool students with disabilities and increase the per cent of children with IEPs who receive special education and related services with typically developing peers to meet and/or exceed the state target work plan for each year.
- Advocate to increase the number of parents and students actively participating in the IEP process in public school districts served by the Orange Ulster Board of Cooperative Educational Services, and in Parent trainings throughout Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and Sullivan Counties.

- Identify and promote processes that ensure children, who are found eligible, transition from early intervention to preschool special education services with an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthday.
- Continue to advocate, to reduce the incidence of segregated special education services for students with psychiatric disabilities by advocating for the adoption of inclusive educational practices and demand responsive supportive services that enable these students to learn in regular classroom settings.
- Provide training and technical assistance to families and CPSEs to increase parent and district skill in partnering for the success of preschool students with disabilities.
- IL's ECDC, in coordination and collaboration with their regional Special Education Regional Associate, will provide regional forums to identify improvement activities and learning opportunities for CPSE chairpersons, preschool providers and families.
- Will advocate to increase the enforcement of the rights and responsibilities of schools under laws related to special education, especially Section 504 and IDEA. Specifically advocate with school administration and instructional staff to create effective Individual Education Program (IEP) and 504 Plans for students with disabilities at school districts throughout Orange County.
- Provide researched-based instructional programs to improve outcomes for preschool children with disabilities in areas of early literacy and communication, social-emotional skills and positive behaviors.
- Advocate to improve school districts' compliance with the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education Parts 200 & 201 and support parents and students with Due Process when a school district has violated a requirement of Part B of IDEA.
- Provide student self-advocacy training that will enable students to better understand their rights, options, choices concerning his/her education and transition to adult services.
- Advocate with Orange County School Districts to provide collaborative efforts to ensure the equal dissemination of promotional materials and educational opportunities for the middle schools students who would like to participate in Independent Living's (LEAP) program: a Learning Enrichment Afterschool Program.
- Advocate that all educational interpreters be NAD/RID or NY State certified and are evaluated by a reputable interpreter agency for the appropriate level of skill necessary to efficiently and effectively interpret for all mainstream Deaf students.

OUTCOMES

- At least one school district in the counties served will change its policy to engage parents in a child's transition from Early Intervention to Preschool Special Education planning process.
- One or more neighborhood-based organizations in culturally diverse community will establish a policy to include as part of its informational materials, information about disability and early intervention/education services in both English and Spanish.
- A local school district will make policy and procedural changes in how it makes referrals to after school learning enrichment programs to facilitate increased participation by students with disabilities.
- One or more school districts in Orange County will institute a disability awareness track developed by ILI as part of the school personnel-training curriculum.

- One school district will change its policies and procedures to facilitate increased participation by students with disabilities in the Committee on Special Education (CSE) process.
- To reduce NY State complaints and due process requests, one school district will make policy and procedural changes to improve its physical and program access.
- One (or more) preschool(s) serving non-disabled children will develop and implement an integrated co-teaching program to serve children with disabilities.
- At least one school district in the counties served will change or adopt policy that requires all sign language interpreters to be certified and evaluated prior to being hired to serve in the classroom.

B. Employment Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, sheltered workshops. Increase the capacity of persons with disabilities to obtain and retain competitive employment.

ACTIVITIES

- Continue to advocate for a shift in funding that will provide greater financial incentives to programs and agencies providing integrated employment services, than to those operating sheltered, segregated employment programs.
- Will continue to advocate for the closure of sheltered workshops.
- Continue to advocate for an increase in the availability of supported work opportunities for persons with significant disabilities – that have historically been excluded from consideration as candidates for integrated employment.
- Continue to advocate for physical and procedural changes at One-Stops in the Cities of Newburgh and Middletown that facilitate increase participation by persons with significant disabilities.
- Continue to advocate for on-site advocacy services for persons with disabilities, at the local One-Stops.
- Continue to advocate for an increase in the availability of flexible, individualized supportive services (e.g. intensive vocational service coordination, flex funds, transportation and child care assistance) designed to address issues outside of work that directly bear upon placement stabilization.
- Advocate for increased participation by individuals with significant disabilities in the New York State Medicaid Buy-In for Working People with Disabilities Program which is designed to reduce or eliminate fear of losing important medical benefits when entering employment.
- Continue to advocate for a measurable increase in the number of competitive employment opportunities that are made available to persons with significant disabilities, by employers that have not previously hired persons with disabilities.
- Advocate for an ongoing collaboration with The Orange County Employment and Training Administration that will provide an annual job fair within Orange County that will highlight the benefits of hiring persons with disabilities to local employers.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

- Advocate for equality of employment for persons with developmental disabilities.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons with significant psychiatric disabilities.
- Provide orientation and training opportunities to transitioning special education students to help them to become familiar with ILI employment services and to jump start their transition plan.
- IL, Inc. will advocate against efforts by NYSDOT and USDOT in prohibiting Deaf persons pursuing truck driver licensing, and encourage both NYS and USDOT to reconsider archaic policies and develop licensing procedures for Deaf truck drivers.

OUTCOMES

- At least one local business will change its recruitment process so as to create new supported employment opportunities for people with significant disabilities.
- One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons who are deaf.
- One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons who are blind.
- One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodation to employees with developmental disabilities.
- One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with significant psychiatric disabilities.
- The Center will establish a written arrangement whereby the local One-Stop will offer an on-site employment-related medical benefits program for persons with disabilities.
- ILI will establish a written agreement with at least one local school district to conduct an annual orientation presenting pertinent employment programs and services available to transitioning special education students.
- NYS Department of Transportation and US Department of Transportation will develop policies that allow Deaf persons to obtain truck driving licensure, thus expanding employment opportunities.

C. Health Care Advocacy

Continue to advocate for increasing the capacity of community-based supportive services to a level sufficient to enable persons presently confined to nursing homes and other restrictive settings, or at-risk of confinement, to return to, or remain in the community as an alternative to institutionalization – consistent with the Olmstead decision of 1999.

ACTIVITIES

- Will advocate for changes in the local institutional policies and practices in the area of Long Term care needs assessment, and work in close collaborative effort with local government agencies.
- Will continue to advocate for appropriate funding for consumer directed personal care assistance services programs.
- Will continue to advocate for the closure of OPWDD Developmental centers and other state run institutions that have been previously designated for closure by the state.

- Will continue to advocate to government agencies and other providers for the most integrated setting for people with disabilities when providing programs and services, including housing.
- Continue to advocate for changes in local institutional policies and practices that will result in increased referrals to community based living options.
- Continue to advocate for changes in local institutional policies and practices that will result in significantly increasing the number of nursing home residents engaged in discharge planning.
- Continue to advocate for changes in local mental health system policies and practices that refocus services on recovery and wellness.
- Continue to advocate for changes in policies by local county departments of social services so as to provide self-directing consumers with control over their PA's work schedule(s).
- Continue to advocate with local county departments of social services to authorize as many hours as necessary, without restriction, to enable persons with disabilities to remain in the community of their choosing.
- IL, Inc. will advocate for consumers by organizing and attending a Fair Hearing session when an unjust ruling is submitted.
- Continue to advocate with community organizations so as to produce a measurable increase in the number of such organizations referring consumers to Consumer Directed Personal Assistance services that have not previously done so.
- Continue to advocate for changes in the policies and practices of providers in the local health care system that will ensure full access to health services by individuals who are Deaf.
- Continue to advocate for changes in the policies and practices of providers in the local mental health care system that will ensure equal access to mental health services by individuals who are Deaf.
- IL Inc. will advocate and position itself to be part of housing education and information through the Money Follows the Person program.
- Will continue to advocate and develop resource strategies related to facilitating nursing home transition and diversion. IL Inc. will actively participate as a service provider in this arena.
- Will continue to advocate for the passage of the Community Choice Act in Congress.
- IL, Inc. will advocate for passage of the Hearing Aid Bill requesting that NYS legislature require insurance companies doing business in NYS to provide hearing aid coverage policies as an alternative to more costly cochlear implants. Additionally, to support any NYS tax credits that can be provided to users of hearing aid devices.

OUTCOMES

- One or more county departments of social services will adopt policies that enable self-directing individuals to schedule the hours authorized for Personal Attendant services at their own discretion.
- At least one community or governmental agency providing mental health services will improve its accessibility to people who are Deaf.
- At least one hospital or community health care center will change its policies and practices to ensure full access to health services by individuals who are Deaf.
- One or more ILI staff will become a member of a key Long Term Care Task Force that will set the direction and tone of how the county will adopt changes from the state to provide

Long Term Care services to the disability population and that previously has not had representation from the disability community.

- At least one local physician's office will improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
- NYS Department of Health will change policies and procedures to establish Fair Hearing proceedings to ensure equity relating to community discharge from institutions.
- One or more county departments of social services will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities in the Long Term Care services system, to make informed choices as to where they would like to reside.
- A local health care facility will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
- One or more local departments of social services will establish an agreement with the independent living center to adopt an ongoing practice of providing periodic disability awareness training to all DSS personnel.
- The Orange County Mental Health Department will establish an agreement with the independent living center to adopt an ongoing practice of providing periodic Deaf cultural awareness training to all mental health practitioners.
- One or more county departments of social services will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities in the Long Term Care services system, to make informed choices as to where they would like to reside utilizing Money Follows the Persons (MFP) initiatives.
- One or more county departments of social services will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities in the Long Term Care services system, to make informed choices as to where they would like to reside utilizing nursing home transition and diversion initiatives.
- Congress will pass the Community Choice Act.
- One or more behavioral health units at community hospitals will establish an agreement, and change their protocol, to enable on-site inpatient participation of Mental Health Peers regarding inpatient engagement and discharge planning to ensure reduction in recidivism of inpatient care and better consumer connection to community supports and resources.
- NY State will pass the Hearing Aid Bill requiring insurance companies to provide Hearing Aid Coverage and support NYS tax credits that can be provided to users of hearing aid devices.
- One or more local departments of mental health, mobile mental health teams and hospital emergency departments will change policies and procedures to allow ILI trained mental health peers to assist in hospital diversion initiatives and supports, thus reducing recidivism and first time psychiatric admissions.
- The IL, Inc. Wellness Center will establish a written agreement with NYS Department of Health to conduct smoking cessation workshops as a wellness activity in an integrated community setting.

D. Commerce Advocacy

Continue to advocate for systemic changes that result in universal access to public transportation, public buildings, communication systems and other amenities. Increase the capacity of people with disabilities to engage in local marketplace activities including shopping, dining out, using recreational facilities and participating in community events by increasing the number of Title III entities that are accessible in the Orange County area.

ACTIVITIES

- Continue to advocate with local municipalities regarding the consistent enforcement of accessible/adaptable requirements in new construction.
- Provide ADA training and technical support to local code enforcement officials and or other municipal departments.
- Continue to advocate with federal and state legislators on technology and accessibility bills in Congress and the state legislature, including Making Title II of the ADA part of state law.
- Continue to advocate with state and federal legislators on housing issues for people with disabilities, including visitability, Section 504, and source of income legislation.
- Continue to advocate for increased accessible housing options for persons with disabilities.
- Continue to participate in the Orange County Housing Consortium which addresses homelessness and the housing crisis, especially for people with disabilities.
- Advocate for greater access to community amenities by persons who are Deaf.
- IL, Inc. will continue to advocate for increased accessible transportation in the City of Newburgh and seek to establish an accessible transportation program, including accessible transportation in all new city development planning and neighborhood development.
- Advocate for mass transit accessibility as Newburgh becomes a transportation hub.
- Continue to advocate for compliance under the newly enacted state law and the ADA, requiring physical accessibility to local marketplace activities.
- Continue to advocate with local legislators on transportation issues, including accessibility of taxis. Advocate for this legislation to become New York State law.
- Advocate with Orange County to have an agreement for Independent Living to assist the county to be in compliance with the ADA, through access to facilities, training to employees in all departments regarding disability awareness, and rebirth of the ADA Advisory committee.
- Advocate with Orange County so the Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan for Orange County is brought up-to-date (from 2002).
- Advocate with Orange County so the ADA advisory committee is rejuvenated and becomes active with at least one representative from Independent Living.
- ILI will advocate for federal passage of HR 3101 (Communications and Video Accessibility Act) which will benefit countless Deaf residents of New York State with mandating all internet enabled telephone, computer and television products to be accessible including captioning requirements.
- Advocate for funding to provide “Housing First” model living arrangements for individuals with psychiatric disabilities.

OUTCOMES

- There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
- The NYS Legislature will pass the accessible taxi legislation.

- At least one municipal police department will establish a written agreement with the Center that implements the ongoing practice of providing Deaf and disability awareness as part of the training/orientation for law enforcement officers.
- A local housing organization will establish an accessible housing program that makes home modification services available to residences throughout Orange County, with technical support provided under contract with the independent living center.
- At least one local landlord will make additional, accessible housing units available for persons with physical disabilities.
- The County of Orange and the City of Newburgh will adopt policies that enable individuals with disabilities in Newburgh and County of Orange, to have and make accessible transportation choices.
- Independent Living will establish a written agreement with Orange County to conduct scheduled trainings for all county departments regarding disability awareness training.
- Independent Living will establish a written agreement with Orange County to provide training on compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act to improve access to their facilities
- ILI will become a member of the re-enacted Orange County Americans with Disabilities Act advisory board that previously has not had representation from the disability community.
- Orange County DSS brochures for the Americans With Disabilities Act/grievance policy will be printed so that they are available in large print and Braille.
- Orange County DSS will make environmental improvements for access at their various sites.
- Orange County will update its Americans With Disabilities Act Self Evaluation and Transition Plan (originally drafted in November 2000).
- Orange County DSS will establish policies and procedures to improve access specifically for consumers with sight disabilities and hearing disabilities.
- The federal Passage of HR 3101, mandating that all internet enabled telephone, computer and television products be accessible including captioning requirements.

E. Social Advocacy

Continue to advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, dead-end day programs, and the increased inclusion of people with disabilities in service and social clubs, special interest organizations, and other integrated community activities.

ACTIVITIES

- Continue to advocate for changes in funding policies and practices as necessary to encourage the creation of an on-going, “free-market” driven process for providing individuals receiving day services the opportunity to evaluate and, potentially change service providers based upon individually determined criteria.
- Continue to advocate for changes in funding policies and practices as necessary to create incentives for day service providers to develop integrated community based program models and eliminate segregated day services.
- Continue advocating to increase the number of community clubs and service organizations that are accessible by individuals with significant disabilities.

- Continue to advocate with local municipalities to ensure that stadiums, auditoriums, parks and other public recreational facilities are fully accessible.
- Create integrated community activities that increase opportunity for people with disabilities to increase their self sufficiency, wellness and self worth.
- Advocate for an agreement with NYSDOH for the IL, Inc's Wellness Center to become an approved site for reimbursable smoking cessation workshops.

OUTCOMES

- At least one community club or service organization will adopt a policy assuring that meeting places are fully accessible.
- One or more community service organizations will establish a written agreement with ILI to provide disability awareness training for all of its members.
- A municipal recreation department will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel in the areas of disability awareness and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- A local health club/fitness center will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
- There will be an increase in the number of integrated social and recreational activities in the community for persons with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in universal voter access to polling places. Increase self-advocacy and leadership skills among youthful and adult citizens with disabilities.

ACTIVITIES

- Continue to advocate for the local Board of Elections to adopt policies and processes that ensure the training of all newly hired election officials about persons with disabilities at polling places, and the issues of accessibility at the polling site and at the machines.
- Continue to advocate for an increase in the participation of individuals with significant disabilities on governing boards of community organizations responsible for making decisions about the funding of disability services that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
- Continue to advocate for increased participation by individuals with significant disabilities on governing boards of community organizations responsible for making decisions affecting the lives of persons with disabilities, in the areas of employment, recreation, citizenship, education, housing, and health care that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
- Continue to advocate and provide means to help register the underserved and non-registered voters of Orange County, especially persons with disabilities.
- Continue to advocate with state legislators to pass legislation requiring all polling sites to be accessible and eliminating the waiver currently allowed in NYS elections law.
- Continue to advocate with the Orange County Board of Elections and local municipalities to ensure that ballot marking devices and the accessible voting machines are fully used in

2011 and 2012. Continue to advocate with the Orange County Board of Elections and local municipalities to achieve 100% polling place accessibility.

- Advocate that all polling sites in Orange County remain accessible.
- Continue to advocate that the accessible voting machines for 2011 and 2012 elections will be available and monitored by knowledgeable election poll workers, so that people with disabilities are able to vote privately and independently.
- Continue to advocate that more people with disabilities be registered to vote.
- Conduct voter awareness presentations at Self Advocacy workshops.
- Work with collaborative local agencies to provide a Candidates Forum for the upcoming elections in part to finalize and publicize positions on disability related issues

OUTCOMES

- One or more political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
- The Orange County Board of Elections will establish policies and procedures to train poll workers on the accessible voting machines.
- There will be an increase in the number of individuals with disabilities serving on community boards/committees and task forces that address issues that previously have not had consumer representation.
- The Orange County Board of Elections will have no inaccessible locations listed on its polling sites.
- ILI will establish a written agreement whereby the Orange County Board of Elections will offer at ILI (on-site) accessible voting machine training for disability support groups.

23. NIAGARA FALLS

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Independent Living of Niagara County
Address: 746 Portage Rd., Niagara Falls, NY 14301
Center Number: Contract #C009032
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Douglas J. Usiak
Board President Authorization: Dennis M. Kessel

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one post-secondary educational institution will integrate Independent Living Philosophy training either developed or endorsed by ILNC, into its academic programs.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one school district will add an independent living philosophy program, either developed or endorsed by ILNC, into its academic curriculum.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one school district will integrate a disability awareness training program either developed or endorsed by ILNC into its employee training program.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one school district will change its policies, procedures, and practices to strengthen the coordination of vocational rehabilitation services in transition planning for persons with disabilities.

B. Employment Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, Niagara County one-stop services will be more accessible to persons with disabilities.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one business will become compliant with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one New York State department will implement regulations that enhance the ability of persons with disabilities who are employed to access Home Health Services.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of advocacy of ILNC, one community agency will establish a new Peer Program to provide recovery-oriented peer services to the community.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one hospital will change its policies and procedures to provide training on access to interpreter services to its employees.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one County Department of Social Services will incorporate Independent Living Philosophy either developed or endorsed by ILNC to the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance (CDPA) Medicaid Home Services Program and allow consumer choice of personal care aides.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, the Veterans Administration will implement a Consumer Directed Personal Assistance (CDPA) Program Option for Veterans with disabilities under its care.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of the ILNC, the NYS Commissioner of Jurors Office for Niagara County will incorporate a training program either developed or endorsed by ILNC on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in Jury Duty as a regular part of its staff training.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, more accessible and integrated housing opportunities will be available to persons with disabilities.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority will extend paratransit scheduling services beyond normal business hours.
- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one business will be compliant with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

E. Social Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of ILNC, one outdoor event will become compliant with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- GOAL: As a result of the advocacy of the ILNC, one polling place will become accessible to persons with disabilities.

24. OLEAN

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Directions in Independent Living
Address: 512 West State Street, Olean, New York 14760
Contract No: C08933
Report Period: October 1, 20011 to September 30, 2012
Contact person: Leonard Liguori
Board President Authorization: Robert Wood

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- An After-School Educational Program created or endorsed by DIL having a strong peer component will established in the Center's service area.
- Directions' Disability Sensitivity Program will be adopted by an elementary school in the Center's service area as a regular part of its curriculum.
- Portville Central School will adopt Directions in Independent Living's After School TEENS Model to establish an on-going program similar to the one developed by Olean Middle School as part of its curriculum.
- A school in Allegany County will officially adopt the Center's Disability Sensitivity Program as part of its curriculum.
- A collaborative funding application involving Directions and the Olean School District will be approved for an 'Extended School Day Program' grant which will incorporate the Olean Middle School Youth Group that is based on the Center's after school TEENS Group model.

B. Employment Advocacy

- An established employer in the Center's service area will adopt Directions in Independent Living's Disability Sensitivity training for all new hires.
- A business within the Center's service area will adopt a youth/leadership academy program that will be created or endorsed by Directions.

C. Health Care Advocacy

NO GOALS

D. Commerce Advocacy

- The State legislature will amend the Procurement Stewardship Act to allow a waiver for the Minority and Woman Owned Business Enterprise mandate.
- The OATS bus route will expand to other areas of Cattaraugus County not currently served.
- A village or city in the Centers' service area will install pedestrian crossing lights at a busy intersection.
- A police department or law enforcement agency will adopt DIL's Disability Sensitivity Program as a regular part of its training curriculum for its personnel.

E. Social Advocacy

- A community organization within the Center's service area will establish an ongoing after school social and recreational program targeting children with disabilities that is accessible and integrated and that meets on a regular basis.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- There will be an increase in accessible polling sites within the Center's service area.
- A grass-roots peer run structured advocacy group will be established within the Center's service area to address statewide and local issues affecting people with disabilities and the community. Whenever possible these goals will be integrated with the center's priority and system change goals.

25. PLATTSBURGH

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: North Country Center for Independence
Address: 102 Sharron Avenue, Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Contract No.: C008940
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Andrew Pulrang, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Douglas Durocher

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- At least one college-level teacher education course will incorporate content designed and / or presented by NCCI staff.
- At least one school district will implement a disability awareness program for students, designed and / or presented by NCCI staff.

B. Employment Advocacy

- At least one area business will change its recruitment process to eliminate practices and questions that discriminate in regards to people with disabilities.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of physicians' offices, clinics and / or hospitals that improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of public accommodations that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
- There will be an increase in the number of accessible pedestrian pathways in the City of Plattsburgh.
- There will be an increase in accessible public transportation options for people with disabilities.

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of accessible outdoor recreational options for individuals with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of consumers / staff that serve on community or statewide boards / committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.
- The Clinton County Board of Elections will incorporate a disability awareness training, either developed or endorsed by NCCI, to election workers.

26. POUGHKEEPSIE

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Taconic Resources for Independence
Address: 82 Washington St. Suite 214, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Contract No.: C008951
Report Period: October 1, 2011- September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Cynthia L. Fiore, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Thomas J. Marone

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- At least one school district will incorporate a Transition Fair /Transition Night where families and students can come to learn about community resources, employment, higher education and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation.
- At least one school district will change its policies to engage all special education students and their parents in the Committee on Special Education (CSE) or transition planning process.
- Taconic Resources for Independence will establish a written agreement with one Dutchess County Human Service organization to offer on-site Special Education Advocacy Training. This will be a regular part of its staff training for professionals who work with high risk children.
- At least one local school system or Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make a policy change in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities to include information on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and community based service agency linkages.
- There will be an increase in the number of people with disabilities that serve on education related non-profit community based agency or organization boards, committees, and tasks forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

B. Employment Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience programs, and job readiness training programs for persons with disabilities.
- At least one area business will change its application form to eliminate questions that discriminate concerning a person's disability.

- At least one local employer will incorporate disability awareness/sensitivity training either developed or endorsed by Taconic Resources for Independence as part of its new employee training/orientation process.
- One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to persons with psychiatric disabilities, developmental disabilities, and/or who are deaf.
- The Dutchess County Board of Elections will change policies and procedures regarding its poll worker training to improve the access for people with disabilities applying for employment as poll workers.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one nursing home, adult home, or assisted living facility in Dutchess County will make a policy and procedural change in how it identifies and refers residents who wish to leave the facility to community resources to facilitate successful transitions to the community.
- A local Health Care facility will change its procedures to have information packets include materials on Independent Living Centers and Agency linkages to enhance its resources for women with disabilities.
- Through TRI's advocacy efforts, at least one Dutchess County Veteran's Affairs Hospital will change its policies and procedures to have information packets include information on Independent Living Center, ACCES-VR and agency linkages as a regular part of preparing Veterans who are disabled for their transition back to the community.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- As a result of TRI identifying parking lots that do not have proper Disable handicap parking and providing information on accessible parking space guidelines, at least one local parking lot will be brought up to code.
- At least one grocery store in Dutchess County will install Braille keypads in the check-outline.
- City Cab Company of Poughkeepsie will adopt policies and practices for drivers that ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

E. Social Advocacy

- Increase the number of integrated community social activities that become accessible.
- There will be an increase in the number of accessible recreational and/or social activities in Dutchess County.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Dutchess County Political leaders will adopt policies that ensure meetings and rallies are held at accessible locations and there materials are in alternate formats when requested. TRI will ensure this is done by having elected officials sign a Pledge Letter stating their intent to be inclusive in the disability community.

- Poughkeepsie ILC will ensure that disaster preparation and disaster relief plans address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities.

27. PUTNAM

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Putnam Independent Living Services
Center Address: 1961 Route 6, 2nd Floor, Carmel, NY 10512
Contract No.: C009022
Report Period: October 1, 2011 - September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Joseph Bravo, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Shelley Klein

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- At least one school district will change its policies to engage all special education students and their parents in the CSE or transition planning process.
- At least one local school system will make a procedural change to have transition plans for student with disabilities include information on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, post secondary education, agency linkages and benefits.
- Disabilities awareness either developed or endorsed by PILS will be instituted as part of a school's curriculum in at least one school district in the center's service area.
- At least one school district will change its policies and procedures to incorporate local community agencies serving students with disabilities in their Parent Information Night/Back to School Night, as an educational component for families of children with IEPs and 504 plans.
- At least one school district will establish inclusive educational programs in-district to enable students to remain in, or come back to, their home school and receive appropriate, specially designed instruction in the least restrictive environment with their typically developing peers.

B. Employment Advocacy

- At least one community agency will contract with PILS to provide employment readiness training services.
- As a result of a PILS sponsored Resource/Transition Fair, at least one employer in the Center's service area will make documented changes in its employment policies to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one organization providing mental health services will change its policies and procedures to increase protections available to mental health consumers that ensure self-directed, person centered, recovery focused treatment.
- PILS will ensure that health care legislation that impacts persons with disabilities is enacted or blocked.
- At least one local health care provider will change its policies and procedures to ensure individuals with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of long-term home care services, including information about funding such services.
- PILS will ensure that State legislation is enacted which closes gaps in prescription drug access in Medicare Part D for people with disabilities and chronic illnesses, i.e., State legislation will be enacted to limit the Part D prescription drug co-pays for dual eligible beneficiaries to \$200 or less per year.
- Within the Community First Choice Option (A provision within the Federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act), WILC will ensure that NYS implements the following: Expand the use of home and community based services, Expand consumer directed service options, De-medicalize services, and Reorganize Medicaid services to eliminate wasteful bureaucracy.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- To increase Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in the business community.
- There will be an increase in the number of affordable integrated and accessible housing units for people with disabilities in Putnam.
- To ensure accessible, safe, and affordable transportation for persons with disabilities in Putnam County, PILS is a partner in the first public/private partnership to expand transportation options in Putnam.
- To ensure that new business/retail establishments and/or remodels of existing business/retail establishments are accessible to persons with disabilities.
- At least one organization in Putnam County that provides housing services will change its outreach and marketing policies and procedures to more effectively reach persons with disabilities in order to promote inclusion and supply information about accessible housing.

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the availability of integrated community, social and recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Staff with disabilities or consumers will serve on committees, boards or task forces that have previously not had representation from the disability community.

28. QUEENS

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Center for Independence of the Disabled of New York-Queens
Address: 137-02A Northern Boulevard, Flushing, NY 11354
Contract No.: C008931
Report Period: October 1, 20011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Susan Dooha, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Martin Eichel

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- Education Advocacy Goal 1: The New York State Department of Education will amend Individualized Education Program (IEP) forms that will be effective 2011-12, requiring diploma goals to be identified.
- Education Advocacy Goal 2: The New York State Department of Education will establish a policy with a detailed plan for local implementation of the Dignity for All Students Act in compliance with the Regents January 2011 Report.
- Education Advocacy Goal 3: The New York State Board of Regents will establish policies and procedures or regulations that increase the utilization of Independent Living Centers and services in order to provide more effective transition planning and services in New York State.
- Education Advocacy Goal 4: Defeat legislation that reduces the amount of time available to enforce due process rights against school districts by cutting the statute of limitations to 180 days for parents who unilaterally place their children in non-public schools and to one year for everyone else.
- Education Advocacy Goal 5: At least one school in New York City will participate in Paso a Paso, a transition program for youth with intellectual disabilities who are Spanish-speaking, in partnership with CIDNY-Queens.
- Education Advocacy Goal 6: The New York City Department of Education will establish a cabinet-level position for Special Education.
- Education Advocacy Goal 7: New York State Mandate Relief Team will reject the proposal to remove psychologists from the Committee on Special Education.

B. Employment Advocacy

- Employment Advocacy Goal 1: The Governor will waive the hiring freeze imposed on State Agencies.
- Employment Advocacy Goal 2: ACCES-VR will revise the indicators related to its Order of Selection Policy as a result of recommendations made by the New York State Rehabilitation Council.
- Employment Advocacy Goal 3: ACCES-VR will revise its economic need policy to streamline the determination requirements and phase in a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA).
- Employment Advocacy Goal 4: As a result of a White Paper jointly developed by the State Rehabilitation Council and ACCES-VR, ACCES-VR will adopt recommended strategies to increase the numbers of workers with disabilities that can fill middle-skill jobs in the economy.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- Health Care Advocacy Goal 1: The New York State Department of Health will adopt a policy and procedure for prequalifying immigrants' residence and income eligibility for emergency Medicaid.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 2: New York State will pass legislation to merge the individual direct pay and small group health insurance pools resulting in lower premiums for people who must purchase comprehensive coverage on their own.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 3: New York State will pass legislation providing for Medicaid reimbursement for language interpretation.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 4: The New York State Legislature will establish Navigators and a Consumer Assistance Program that meets the health care needs of people with disabilities.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 5: New York will establish biennial renewal (with passive renewal in odd years) for all public insurance enrollees.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 6: The New York City Council will restore full funding for the Managed Care Consumer Assistance Program (MCCAP).
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 7: The legislature will provide authority and enhanced reimbursement rates for patient-centered models of care that hold promise for improving care coordination and quality, including behavioral health organizations, health homes, medical homes and accountable care organizations.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 8: The legislature will establish a Health Benefit Exchange that is capable of evaluating people for all possible Medicaid eligibility categories including Supplemental Security Income (SSI)-related budgeting so that people with disabilities have equal access to the program.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 9: Current required benefits under the insurance law will be maintained in policies sold inside and outside the Exchange.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 10: To minimize adverse selection, New York will require insurers participating in the Exchange to offer standardized health plans sold in the Exchange to individuals and small groups outside the Exchange.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 11: New York State will establish a Basic Health Plan that will serve people with incomes up to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

- Health Care Advocacy Goal 12: The legislature will provide authority for the Health Benefit Exchange to serve as an active purchaser or selective contractor of health plans sold in it.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 13: New York will continue to require all benefits currently required under the public health law and social services law to newly Medicaid eligible individuals regardless of whether they are identified as “benchmark benefits” by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 14: New York’s Health Benefit Exchange will change its policies and procedures to decrease disparities in health care services and performance on the basis of race or ethnicity, primary language, gender and disability status.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 15: The New York State Dept. of Health will implement regulatory changes to expand eligibility for the Medicaid spenddown program.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 16: State legislation will be enacted to limit the Part D prescription drug co-pays for dual eligible beneficiaries to \$200 or less per year.
- Health Care Advocacy Goal 17: The New York State legislature will amend health law to require prior approval of physical therapy (PT)/occupational therapy (OT) for Medicaid beneficiaries to require the providers’ opinion will prevail.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- Commerce Advocacy Goal 1: The New York City Housing Authority will restore the “health related priority” it had for housing applicants until 2007, which aided individuals with disabilities whose current living conditions presented a direct threat to their lives.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 2: The state and local legislatures will amend the Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) law to establish income threshold parity with Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE).
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 3: New York State’s Office of Temporary Disability Assistance will implement policies and procedures for county Departments of Social Services on compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act Section 504.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 4: New York State will pass legislation to make the State Supplement to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) permanent.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 5: New York City Homeless Shelters will accept people with service animals.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 6: New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and New York City Homeless Shelters will offer accessible placement to people with disabilities.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 7: The U.S. District Court will require that the NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) improve the availability of accessible taxis in New York City.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 8: As the result of collaboration with the New York State Division on Human Rights to perform an access study of Queens’ restaurants, bars and coffee shops near accessible transportation hubs, at least one restaurant will remove a barrier to access.
- Commerce Advocacy Goal 9: An Americans with Disabilities Act and Disability Awareness training either developed or endorsed by CIDNY-Queens will be incorporated by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services as a regular part of its curriculum for training state-certified security guards.

E. Social Advocacy

NO GOALS

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Civic Advocacy Goal 1: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) and the Campaign Finance Board will provide voter material in alternative formats.
- Civic Advocacy Goal 2: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will establish a procedure for voters to request ASL interpreters at their poll site and for the NYC BOE to provide them
- Civic Advocacy Goal 3: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will adopt CIDNY-Queens's Manual for Poll Site Accessibility, distribute it to each county BOEs and require the county BOEs to complete poll site accessibility trainings by the PAVA Agencies.
- Civic Advocacy Goal 4: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will create an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance plan for all polling sites, with input from the disability community that is public and prominently displayed on their website and reviewed annually. The plan will be distributed to all polling site supervisors and deputies. The NYCBOE will monitor compliance with the ADA plan and report publicly after each election all poll sites that do not meet the plan's standards.
- Civic Advocacy Goal 5: The New York City Board of Elections (NYC BOE) will implement a policy that makes main entrances to all polling sites the accessible entrance.

29. ROCHESTER

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center:	Regional Center for Independent Living
Address:	497 State Street, Rochester, NY 14608
Contract No.:	C008945
Report Period:	October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person:	Bruce E. Darling, President/CEO
Program Contact:	Marsha Sweet, Assistant Director of Programs
Board President Authorization:	Ray Kenney

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- At least one local school system or Committee on Special Education (CSE) will make a policy change in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities to include information on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, and community based service agency linkages.
- There will be an increase in the number of people with disabilities that serve on education related non-profit community based agency or organization boards, committees, and task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

B. Employment Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as community work experience programs and job readiness training programs, for persons with disabilities.
- New York State legislature will amend the vehicle and traffic law to permit licensing and employment of truck drivers who are deaf.
- RCIL will establish a written agreement with local Veteran associations to provide work readiness and support programs for Veterans with disabilities.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- Congress will pass the Community Choice Act.
- A local medical facility will change policies and procedures to provide information packets on the youth services, youth transition and Independent Living services available through RCIL to their patients.

- New York's implementation of Managed Long term Care will not result in a reduction of personal care and consumer directed personal assistance services to consumers, or force consumers into nursing facilities.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of affordable, accessible, integrated housing options for people with disabilities.
- Public and para-transportation access for Monroe County residents with disabilities will demonstrate measurable improvement.
- At least two area businesses will improve access for potential consumers with disabilities with the provision of technical assistance equipment and/or ramps wider doors, and grab handle doorknobs etc.
- One additional community based agency will establish an accessible housing program to provide home modifications needed to allow individuals with disabilities to remain independent in their own homes, with technical support provided through a written agreement with RCIL.
- RCIL will ensure that the City of Rochester Police Department and the Monroe County Office of the Sheriff provide access to appropriate communication services and/or technology for people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.
- Monroe County Courts and/or the Rochester City Court will improve access to appropriate communication services or technology for people who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing.
- At least one television news or other program and/or internet service provider will change its policies and procedures to increase the provision of captioning services.

E. Social Advocacy

- RCIL will increase accessible recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.
- There will be an increase in the number of integrated social activities in the community for persons with disabilities and their family members.
- RCIL will establish a program supported by grant funding and/or assigned human resources to assist people with disabilities to participate in social and recreational activities/events.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Full implementation of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) will be achieved in New York State.
- At least one local government (village/town) will establish policies and procedures for the provision of sign language interpreter services at Community Council meetings.
- At least one village or town will establish policies and procedures that ensure focus groups, meetings and rallies for Mayoral candidates are held in an accessible format.
- As a result of the Center's collaborating with the NYS Disability Vote Project, political candidates and/or current political leaders will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
- Increase the availability, provision and/or quality of captioning services in public hearings.

30. ROCKLAND

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Rockland Independent Living Center
Address: 873 Route 45, suite 108, New City NY 10956
Contract No.: C008946
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: George Hoehmann, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Audrey Rosenfield

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEM ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- A disability awareness training developed by RILC will be incorporated by one local school district or independent school.
- A local high school or independent school will establish policy and procedures to conduct an annual Disability Awareness Day celebration developed by RILC to promote disability awareness to its students.
- At least one local college will change its policies and procedures to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guideline (ADAAG) regulations.
- RILC will establish a written agreement with at least one agency or community group that provides autism services to conduct on-site training to assist parents in accessing services for children on the Autism Spectrum.
- At least one school district will change its policies and procedures to incorporate into its curriculum a “College and Vocational School Fair” to provide accurate and accessible information for parents and students with learning, developmental and other disabilities as well as adults with disabilities seeking educational or vocational assistance.
- At least one school will change its policies and procedures to incorporate parent information nights as an educational component for families with children with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and Rehabilitation Act section 504 Plans

B. Employment Advocacy

- A local business will incorporate awareness training developed by RILC as part of its annual diversity training and procedures for all employees.
- The Rockland Business Association, Rotary, Lions or other business membership Clubs/organizations will change their recruitment policies and procedures to attract members with disabilities.

- One local employment agency will improve access for people with disabilities.
- One local business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- One local medical provider will improve accessibility for patients with disabilities.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- RILC will establish a written agreement with the Rockland Municipal Planning Federation to jointly conduct annual trainings for land use boards of municipalities regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the accessibility of public places and streets.
- The Rockland County Planning Department will change its project review policies and procedures to address compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) when offering recommendations and guidance to local municipalities and developers prior to project approval.
- RILC will establish a written agreement with Transport of Rockland (TOR) to conduct yearly disability awareness/sensitivity training for all drivers.
- One local media outlet will make a policy and procedural change to report on accessibility for people with disabilities when reporting on local restaurants/eateries.
- At least one municipality in Rockland County will change its policies and procedures to ensure persons using their services that are deaf or hard of hearing are fully informed about the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Visor Communication Card to assist in communication during a traffic stop between a police officer and a driver who is deaf or hard of hearing.
- A village or town within Rockland County will install audio crossing signals and/or enhanced crosswalks for persons with visual disabilities in at least one major intersection.
- At least one municipality will change its policies and procedures regarding the installation and maintenance of accessible sidewalks and crosswalks.

E. Social Advocacy

- One public fitness facility will become accessible to persons with disabilities.
- One local little league field will improve its access to persons with disabilities.
- At least one playground will improve its access by installing a therapeutic and accessible device to better serve persons with disabilities.
- A local public transportation company will provide accessible transportation to persons with disabilities enabling them to attend social activities that were previously inaccessible.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- The Rockland County Board of Elections will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of polling site workers to appropriately assist people with disabilities at the polls.
- The Rockland County Board of Elections will change its outreach and marketing policies and procedures to more effectively reach persons with disabilities in order to promote inclusion and supply information about the voting process.

- At least one area agency or transportation provider will change its policies and procedures to make its accessible vans and buses available to transport persons with disabilities to the polls on election days, and this will become an ongoing service.

31. STATEN ISLAND

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Staten Island Center for Independent Living
Address: 470 Castleton Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301
Contract No.: C008950
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Lorraine De Santis, LCSW, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Joseph Fortunato, LCSW

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: At the present time, there is no sensitivity training that is specific to individuals with autism and individuals who are dual diagnosed being offered in Island Hospitals.

Activities:

- The executive director will collaborate with at least both Island hospitals so that they will change their policies to include this training to their emergency room staff.
- The executive director will provide this sensitivity training.

Goal:

- A disabilities sensitivity training developed by SICIL will be incorporated as part of the school personnel-training curriculum in at least two Staten Island Schools.
- SICIL will establish a written arrangement whereby at least one Staten Island school will offer on-site training on sexuality and how to keep individuals with disabilities safe from crime as part of the training curriculum for its staff and parents.

GOAL 2

Issue: SICIL's website is not included in all local public school websites.

Activities:

- The executive director will advocate with at least two local high schools to have them add a link to our website.

Goal:

- In order to increase parental awareness of services for students with disabilities, at least two local public schools will add SICIL's website and mission statement to their website, under the link for "Helpful Student Links for Parents."

GOAL 3

Issue: At the present time, SICIL does not provide input to Transition Coordinators at the NYC department of Education.

Activities:

- The executive director will join the head of Transition Coordination, Paula Shorter, starting in September to provide ongoing input to NYC Department of Education Transition Coordinators regarding the Independent Living movement and how SICIL can provide services to students during transition.

Goal:

- New York City Department of Education will change its policies and procedures to routinely include SICIL staff as well as materials on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR and community based services in the development of transition plans for students with disabilities.

GOAL 4

Issue: There are very few colleges on Staten Island that provide information about SICIL'S Independent Living Philosophy.

Activities:

- The Executive Director will collaborate with Island Colleges to provide presentations to college employees who work with individuals with disabilities.

Goal:

- At least two colleges or universities will incorporate a SICIL's Independent Living Philosophy presentation into its curriculum for professional preparation programs that work with persons with disabilities.

GOAL 5

Issues: Although some public libraries have computers equipped with JAWS, many library employees do not know how to instruct someone on its use nor do they receive any sensitivity training regarding individuals with disabilities.

Activities:

- The executive director will collaborate with the director of training for the public libraries to determine their needs and provide trainings.

Goal:

- SICIL will establish a written arrangement with at least two libraries to offer on-site computer and sensitivity trainings as a regular part of employee training.

GOAL 6

Issues: At the present time, there is no act to amend the education law, in relation to instruction on the history of people with disabilities.

Activities:

- Assemblyman Michael Cusick has taken over the introduction of this bill. The executive director with the Board of Directors of the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council will advocate for the bill to be passed and signed into law.

Goal:

- New York State legislature will pass legislation to promote greater awareness and understanding of people with disabilities by amending current NYS Education Law (Chapter 265 of the Laws of 2000) to require the NYS Education Department to make available to all students, grades kindergarten through twelve, suitable curriculum materials to aid in the instruction, understanding and acceptance of students with disabilities.

B. Employment Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: Many of our consumers are unable to obtain employment because they do not know how to market themselves with a professional resume and present themselves in the best light during an interview.

Activities:

- Offer training to consumers who are looking for employment on how to write a professional resume.
- Help consumers to highlight their experience and skills.
- Assist consumers with mailing resumes to appropriate agencies.
- Hold “mock” interviews to help the consumer be prepared for the interviewing process.

Goal:

- There will be an increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs in the community, such as internship programs, work experience programs, and job readiness training programs, for persons with disabilities.

GOAL 2

Issue: There are still some small businesses that aren't totally accessible.

Activities:

- The executive director will determine what businesses need modifications.

Goal:

- At least one area small business will become accessible for employees, or potential employees, with disabilities with the provision of a ramp, wider doors, grab handle doorknobs, etc.

Goal 3

Issue: Many individuals with disabilities feel intimidated about looking for employment.

Activities:

- SICIL's counselors will meet with consumers who wish to seek employment to assess their strengths and talents with regards to finding employment
- Counselors will help consumers write resumes
- Counselors will assist consumers in looking for employment by perusing different employment web sites such as careerbuilders.com.
- Counselors will help to improve consumer's self esteem to enable them to feel able to compete in the job market.

Goal:

- SICIL will establish a written arrangement whereby the Staten Island Workforce 1 Career Center will offer an on-site self-advocacy program for persons with disabilities.

C. Health Care Advocacy**GOAL 1**

Issue: There is not always appropriate psychiatric care for Individuals with disabilities who are dual diagnosed.

Activities:

- The executive director continues to be a member of the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council's Health and Clinical Committee.
- Members of that committee will continue to advocate for better psychiatric services with hospital administrators by continuing to offer sensitivity trainings.
- Members of the committee will advocate with legislators for funding for better psychiatric services.

Goal:

- Through the Health and Clinical Services Committee advocacy efforts, OPWDD and other stakeholders will establish a specialized 24 hour mobile crisis unit on Staten Island.

GOAL 2

Issue: At this time, there is no sensitivity training on Staten Island for the fire department and other emergency first responders such as EMT's or Community Boards with regards to individuals with autism and individuals who are dual diagnosed.

Activities:

- The Executive Director will reach out to the fire department and director of EMT services and local Community Boards to encourage them of the need and to have them agree to allow the training during the coming year.

Goal:

- The New York City Fire Department and other emergency first responder organizations will change its policies to include sensitivity training for fire department personnel, EMT personnel and Community boards.

GOAL 3

Issue: There are very few services for individuals who have Traumatic Brain Injury

Activities:

- The executive director will partner with Janyce Wollney from the Brain Injury Association of New York State to collaborate on ideas for assisting these individuals gain a better quality of life
- The Center will host support groups once a month for individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury.

Goal:

- There will be an increase in the number of medical facilities, doctor's offices, clinics and hospitals that improve physical and communication access for persons who have Traumatic Brain Injury.

D. Commerce Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: There continue to be problems with access-a-ride in our community.

Activities:

- Develop a focus group to discuss issues and problems
- Conduct a meeting with administrators of access-a-ride

Goal:

- NYC Metropolitan Transit Authority, (MTA), Para transit System will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all Access-A-Ride administrators and employees to sensitivity and awareness of passengers who are disabled.

GOAL 2

Issue: There are very few restaurants on Staten Island that provide menus in alternate formats.

Activities:

- The Executive Director of SICIL will contact local restaurants to advocate for them to change their policies and provide menus in Braille.

Goal:

- At least two local catering halls and restaurants will improve access by making menus available in large print, and Braille.

GOAL 3

Issue: During last winter, severe snow storms impeded the ability for disabled individuals to travel safely, if at all.

Activities:

- The executive director will advocate with Assemblyman Michael Cusick who is Chair of the Task Force on People with Disabilities

Goal:

- Richmond County will establish a policy for regular snow removal from curb cuts, bus stops and accessible parking spaces to improve access for people with disabilities.

GOAL 4

Issues: There is presently not enough oversight in facilities operated or licensed by OPWDD.

Activities:

- The executive director with the Advocacy Committee of the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council will advocate with local legislators to have Bill # A.6665/S.3067 (which requires that three unannounced visits be made to facilities each year) be signed into law.

Goal:

- New York State legislature will pass legislation that amends the current NYS Mental Hygiene Law to increase the frequency that visitation or inspections of facilities operated or licensed by the NYS Office For People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) must be made each year.

GOAL 5

Issues: There are presently no people with developmental disabilities and mental health worker registry which would require providers of service to request criminal history information on certain prospective employees.

Activities:

- The executive director with the Advocacy Committee of the Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council will advocate with local legislators to have Bill #A.6891/S.4768 (which states that providers of service will be required to request criminal history information on certain prospective employees and will also be required to submit to OPWDD a summary report of employees termination resulting from substantiated abuse or neglect. This report will be furnished to a prospective employer along with the criminal background check information.)

Goal:

- New York State legislature will pass legislation that amends the current NYS Mental Hygiene Law to establish a people with developmental disabilities registry and a mental health worker registry.

E. Social Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: Outdoor social and recreational activities are not accessible for persons with disabilities and there are presently no efforts being made for inclusionary activities.

Activities:

- Executive Director will work on the Willowbrook Planning Committee to develop a plan for a state of the art, accessible center that will be completely accessible and will promote community inclusion
- The Committee will include stakeholders, including legislators from the community in order to encourage them to participate in the planning process and with funding for this project.
- The first step will be to invite stakeholders to assist in creating a totally accessible walking, running trail outside the perimeter of the Willowbrook Property.

Goal:

- Willowbrook Park on Staten Island will improve its architectural and communication access to people with disabilities.
- By July 2012, there will be a fully accessible walking, running trail around the perimeter of the Willowbrook Property.

GOAL 2

Issue: Individuals with disabilities are often isolated and do not have opportunities for socialization.

Activities:

- The executive director will explore free and low cost activities such as zumba and yoga classes at the center.

Goal:

- There will be an increase in accessible social activities in the community for persons with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: Local Legislators are not always aware of the need to hold public meetings in accessible places.

Activities:

- Will meet with Legislators to educate them on the need to hold meetings in accessible places
- Will encourage Legislators to hold meetings at the SICIL building

Goal:

- At least two legislators will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.

GOAL 2

Issue: There is no disaster preparation and disaster relief plans address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities at the present time.

Activities:

- The executive director will work with representatives from FEMA to provide input for disaster preparation and relief plans.

Goal:

- SICIL will ensure that disaster preparation and disaster relief plans address the needs and concerns of people with disabilities.

32. SUFFOLK

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Self Initiated Living Options
dba Suffolk Independent Living Organization (SILO)
Address: 3680 Rt. 112, Suite 4 Coram, NY 11727
Contract No.: C008947
Report Period: October 1, 20011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Glenn F. Campbell, Esq., Co-executive Director
Board President Authorization: Irene Dashiell

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- SILO will establish a written arrangement whereby at least one NYS Correctional facility will offer on-site presentations on Independent Living Centers, ACCESVR, and agency linkages as a regular part of preparing inmates who are disabled to assist their transition back to the community.
- A local elementary school will incorporate an annual disability awareness assembly into its curriculum.
- SILO will establish a student disability advocacy network/infrastructure comprised of high-school students to address special education issues as they arise.

B. Employment Advocacy

- Establish a written arrangement whereby the Suffolk County One-Stop Center will offer an on-site advocacy program for persons with disabilities.
- SILO will establish a written agreement with its One-Stop Centers to provide PASS Plan development and other employment services to their consumers who have disabilities.
- SILO will establish a contract with the US Social Security Administration to serve as an Employment Network to provide employment services under the Ticket To Work Program.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- A long-term facility will establish a formal agreement to allow SILO to conduct an on-going support group for its residents.
- A local health care facility will change their policies to include information on community independent living resources, which allow individuals to remain in the community.

D. Commerce: Advocacy

- At least one business in the Town of Brookhaven will become accessible by installing an automatic door opener.
- At least three business owners will change their policies to reflect the rights of individuals with disabilities who use service animals.
- There will be an increase in the accessibility of public right-of-ways in SILO's service area such as curb cuts and audible stoplights for people with disabilities.
- At least one Fire Department will modify its in-service training plan to include Disability Awareness & Sensitivity Training either developed, endorsed or conducted by SILO.
- At least one Title III business will modify or construct an accessible website for people with disabilities.

E. Social Advocacy

- At least one recreational facility/program will establish and post easily identifiable policies and procedures for consumers with disabilities to request and receive individual assistance ensuring equal service.
- A local theater will improve its access to alternative communication formats (i.e. programs, etc.).
- There will be an increase in accessibility of existing recreational facilities in Suffolk County.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- At least one municipality in Suffolk County will pass appropriate legislation establishing and promoting the date of July 26th as A Day of Celebration of The American with Disabilities Act.
- Disaster preparation and relief plans addressing the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted in Suffolk County.
- The Suffolk County Board of Elections will incorporate a training program on disability sensitivity and awareness for its poll watchers that is either developed, endorsed or conducted by SILO.

33. SULLIVAN

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name Of Center: Independent Living, Inc.
Address: 6 Prince Street, Monticello, NY 12701
Contract No. C008934
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Stuart Kessler, Director of Compliance & Program
Operations and Suzanne Tremper, Director of Programs
Board President Authorization: Matthew Migliaccio

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result universal access to educational opportunities and related supportive services for children ages birth to 21, and to ensure a successful transition of students with disabilities from school to adult life. Advocate for an end to educational services that segregate children with disabilities, denying them the right to equally choose, equally participate and equally benefit.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate to reduce the incidence of segregated special education services for students with psychiatric disabilities by advocating for the adoption of inclusive educational practices and demand responsive supportive services that enable these students to learn in regular classroom settings.
- Provide student self-advocacy training that will enable students to better understand their rights, options, choices concerning their education and transition to adult services.

OUTCOMES

- One or more school districts in Sullivan County will institute a disability awareness track developed by ILI as part of the school personnel-training curriculum.
- One school district will change its policies and procedures to facilitate increased participation by students with disabilities in the Committee on Special Education (CSE) process.

B. Employment Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, sheltered workshops.

ACTIVITIES

- Increase the capacity of persons with disabilities to obtain and retain competitive employment.
- Advocate for equality of employment for persons who (a) are deaf or hard of hearing; (b) are blind or visually impaired; (c) have developmental disabilities; (d) have significant psychiatric disabilities.

OUTCOMES

- At least one area business will improve access for potential employees with disabilities.
- At least one employer will make its employment application available in large print for applicants who are visually impaired.

C. Health Care Advocacy

Advocate for increasing the capacity of community-based supportive services to a level sufficient to enable persons presently confined to nursing homes and other restrictive settings, or at-risk of confinement, to return to, or remain in the community as an alternative to institutionalization – consistent with the Olmstead decision of 1999.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate to government agencies and other providers for the most integrated setting for people with disabilities when providing programs and services, including housing.
- Advocate for changes in local institutional policies and practices that will result in increased referrals to community based living options.
- Advocate with community organizations so as to produce a measurable increase in the number of such organizations referring consumers to Consumer Directed Personal Assistance services that have not previously done so.
- Advocate for improved access to health care services for individuals with disabilities who are victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence.

OUTCOMES

- At least one local physician's office will improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
- A local health care facility will adopt a practice assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
- At least one community or governmental agency providing health care services to victims of crime, abuse, and domestic violence will improve its accessibility to people with disabilities.

D. Commerce Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in universal access to public transportation, public buildings, communication systems and other amenities. Increase the capacity of people with disabilities to engage in local marketplace activities including shopping, dining out, using recreational facilities and participating in community events by increasing the number of Title III entities that are accessible in the Sullivan County area.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate with local municipalities regarding the consistent enforcement of accessible/adaptable requirements in new construction.
- Provide ADA training and technical support to local code enforcement officials and or other municipal departments.
- Advocate for increased accessible housing options for persons with disabilities.
- Advocate for compliance under the newly enacted state law and the ADA, requiring physical accessibility to local marketplace activities.

OUTCOMES

- There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the center's service area.
- A local housing organization will establish an accessible housing program that makes home modification services available to residences throughout Sullivan County, with technical support provided under contract with the independent living center.

E. Social Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in an end to segregated, dead-end day programs, and the increased inclusion of people with disabilities in service and social clubs, special interest organizations, and other integrated community activities.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate to increase the number of community clubs and service organizations that are accessible by individuals with significant disabilities.
- Advocate with local municipalities to ensure that stadiums, auditoriums, parks and other public recreational facilities are fully accessible.
- Advocate for an increase in the number of integrated social and recreational activities in the community for persons with disabilities.

OUTCOMES

- At least one community club or service organization will adopt a policy assuring that meeting places are fully accessible.
- One or more community service organizations will establish a formal agreement with ILI to provide disability awareness training for all of its members.

- A municipal recreation department will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel in the areas of disability awareness and the ADA.
- A local health club/fitness center will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
- One or more community club or service organizations will create integrated community programs for the purpose of increasing the self sufficiency, wellness and self worth of individuals with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

Advocate for systemic changes that result in universal voter access to polling places. Increase self-advocacy and leadership skills among youthful and adult citizens with disabilities.

ACTIVITIES

- Advocate for the local Board of Elections to adopt policies and processes that ensure the training of all newly hired election officials about persons with disabilities at polling places, and the issues of accessibility at the polling site and at the machines.
- Advocate and provide means to help register the underserved and non-registered voters of Sullivan County, especially persons with disabilities.
- Advocate that more people with disabilities be registered to vote.

OUTCOMES

- One or more political candidates will adopt policies that ensure that meetings and rallies are held in accessible locations.
- The Sullivan County Board of Elections will establish policies and procedures to train poll workers on the accessible voting machines.

34. SYRACUSE

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: ARISE
Address: 635 James St., Syracuse, NY 13203
Contract No.: C008923
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Nina Lutz
Board President Authorization: Tania Anderson

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- With technical assistance from ARISE, at least one local school district or school will change its policies and procedures to incorporate an annual, student-centered Disability Awareness and Sensitivity event or project for students of all abilities.
- Increase number of educational facilities that provide access improvements to facilities and/or appropriate and fair access to instruction, programming and internal policies and procedures.
- At least one (1) local school or school district will change its transition planning policies and/or procedures or establish a transition planning committee; which will include parents of students with disabilities and/or staff members from Center for Independent Living in the transition planning process.

B. Employment Advocacy

- Increase supported employment opportunities and availability for underserved communities, outside the Syracuse Metropolitan area of Onondaga, Oswego and Madison Counties.
- At least one (1) area business will change its policies regarding the rights of employee's with disabilities and procedures for obtaining reasonable accommodations.
- At least one local business will make documented changes in its employment policies and procedures to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one (1) physician or dentist office will include a sign language policy in their standard operating procedures.

- Improve access to medical facilities, including accessible parking and interior access, such as restrooms and signage.
- At least one (1) area medical office, hospital, and/or clinic that accept NYS Medicaid Insurance will establish a policy and procedures to include informational material on the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) in resources provided to patients.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of accessible parking lots (public and private) in Onondaga, Oswego and Madison Counties.
- ARISE will increase Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in the business community.
- Achieve a measurable increase in the accessibility of public right-of-ways in the Center's service area such as curb cuts constructed for people with disabilities.
- There will be an increase in the number of affordable, accessible, integrated housing options for people with disabilities.
- At least one (1) television, news, radio, newspaper and/or internet service provider will change its policies and procedures to adapt to "people first language" and/or increase the provision of captioning services.

E. Social Advocacy

- At least one (1) area recreation facility will improve access for people with disabilities.
- At least one (1) area special event will improve access for people with disabilities.
- At least one (1) theater will change its policies and procedures to increase the provision of captioning services and/or ensure proper distribution of seating for wheelchair users.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Increase participation of individuals with disabilities and/or center staff on community, regional and state boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had effective representation from the disability community.

35. TROY

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Independent Living Center of the Hudson Valley
Address: 15-17 Third Street, Troy, NY 12180
Contract No.: C008952
Report Period: October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Denise A. Figueroa
Board President Authorization: Sean Turley

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEM ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- A school district will make procedural changes to transition plans for students with disabilities to include developing information on PASS, ACCES-VR, Independent Living advocacy, access to assistive technology and linkages to other community based agencies and organizations.
- A written agreement will be established for ILCHV to conduct a disabilities awareness track as part of the school personnel training curriculum in at least one school district in the Center's service area.
- At least one school district will change its policies and procedures to incorporate parent information nights as an educational component for families.
- Congress will pass the Keeping All Students Safe Act, HR 1381. This bill will create standards to limit the use of physical restraint and seclusion on children, by establishing safety standards in schools that will be similar to those already set in place by hospitals and other community-based facilities. It also will prohibit mechanical restraints and other restraints that restrict breathing.
- State University of New York (SUNY) and City University of New York (CUNY) will establish a model that allows for the timely distribution of textbooks in accessible format.
- One local college will incorporate a course on the history of disability rights movement developed and designed by staff of ILCHV.
- ACCES-VR will change its policy to provide funding for sign language interpreters for deaf adults in General Educational Development (GED) preparation classes.

B. Employment Advocacy

- A local one-stop will implement programs and or procedures that allow for greater access to services by people with all disabilities.

- A local one-stop will incorporate disability awareness/sensitivity training either developed or endorsed by ILCHV as part of their training procedures for all new employees.
- ILC staff will establish a written memorandum of understanding with the NYS Department of Labor to conduct outreach and benefits advisement to consumers applying for DOL services.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one local hospital will establish and follow policies and procedures for the provision of interpreter services.
- The Center will increase physical and communication access within health care facilities including physicians' offices, clinics and hospitals.
- At least one local hospital will incorporate disability awareness/sensitivity training either developed or endorsed by ILCHV as part of their training procedures for all new employees.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of integrated accessible/adaptable housing units available to persons with disabilities.
- .Secure passage of Assembly Bill A966B-2011 and Senate Bill S4813. Purpose of the Bill: Provides a tax credit for the purchase of new vehicles by transportation companies which are vehicles that are accessible to persons with disabilities.
- Secure passage of Bill Number: A4406: An Act to amend the general municipal law, in relation to providing for improved access to taxicabs for persons with disabilities. Purpose of the Bill: To require that by 2014 all new taxis in New York City are fully accessible to people with disabilities.
- There will be an increase in the number of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III entities that are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities in the Center's service area.
- New York State will incorporate the housing provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act into state law.
- New York State will incorporate the provisions of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in New York State law.
- Secure passage of New York State legislation, Assembly Bill A.1121 (Bing) and Senate Bill S.83 (Squadron), to make discrimination by landlords based on a tenant's source of income illegal under the State Human Rights Law.
- NYS Legislature will establish standards for "inclusive design" in State law to require all newly constructed residential housing built with public funds to be made accessible.

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of social and recreational facilities that comply with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in the Center's service area.
- Gold's Gym will change its marketing policies and procedures to more effectively reach persons with disabilities in order to promote inclusion and supply information about its accessible programs and services.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Bring Rensselaer and Columbia County into compliance with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).
- One county Board of Elections in the center's service area will incorporate materials on access for people with disabilities either developed or endorsed by ILCHV into its poll site workers training curriculum and poll site surveying instruments.
- New York State will remove waiver language from the law requiring polling place physical accessibility.

36. UTICA

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Resource Center for Independent Living
Address: 409 Columbia Street, P.O. Box 210, Utica, NY 13503
Contract No.: C008944
Report Period: October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Burt Danovitz, Ph.D., Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Gary Scalzo

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Educational Advocacy

- At least one school district will incorporate a transition Fair /Transition Event where families and students can come to learn about community resources, employment, higher education and other services available for students with disabilities upon graduation
- At least one area school district will change policies and/or procedures to include staff from RCIL in transition planning activities.

B. Employment Advocacy

- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, community work experience and job readiness training programs for persons with disabilities.
- One or more employers will modify an established policy or practice to provide reasonable accommodations to individuals with significant disabilities.
- RCIL will establish a new employment service program for people with disabilities in the Center's service area supported by grant funding and/or self-sustaining fee-for-service agreements.
- A local One-Stop will establish a protocol within policies and procedures for including work incentives planning and assistance services in employment plans developed by Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) beneficiaries.

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one health care facility will change its policies and procedures to provide more residents access to waivers or similar supports that will enable them to leave the institution and return to the community.

- A nursing home will establish policies and procedures to include as part of its community transition process a peer group to explore issues regarding community living.
- At least one nursing home will make a policy and procedural change to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community based living services.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of affordable, integrated, and accessible housing options for people with disabilities in the Mohawk Valley.
- As a result of the Mohawk Valley Asset Building Coalition (EITC Tax Program), at least one community-based tax preparation program will improve its physical and program access for persons with disabilities.
- The local public transit company will adopt a policy assuring the proper training of all transit/driving personnel on disability sensitivity and awareness.
- Secure passage of Assembly Bill A 5112 and Senate Bill 3265 legislation in New York State that promote the most-integrated services available for individuals especially those with disabilities.

E. Social Advocacy

- As a result of working cooperatively with other agencies, there will be an increase in integrated recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.
- There will be a measurable increase in the number of integrated social activities in the community for persons with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- RCIL will continue to make sure that polling places are truly accessible to all people with disabilities and that poll workers are trained in assisting people with disabilities.
- There will be an increase in the number of consumer/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

37. WATERTOWN

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Northern Regional Center for Independent Living
Address: 210 Court Street, Suite 107, Watertown, NY 13601
Contract No.: C008953
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Brenda Company
Board President Authorization: Ronald Griffin

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- At least one school will change its policies and procedures to incorporate parent information nights as an educational component for families with children with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and Rehabilitation Act section 504 Plans.
- At least one school in Jefferson and/or Lewis Counties will establish a written agreement with NRCIL to provide Mind Merge, an inter-active program for disability awareness training in the classroom 6 times per year.
- At least one low performing school district will change its policies and procedures to allow the Center to become a member of the transition team in order to provide transition assistance for all students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), to develop coordinated measurable annual goals, and to coordinate transition services with outside agencies as per the State Performance Plan.

B. Employment Advocacy

- NRCIL will establish a written arrangement whereby the Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) will offer an on-site job readiness training program to both traditional and non-traditional students.
- As a result of NRCIL's Disability Mentoring Day events, at least one employer will change its recruitment policies and procedures to create new integrated employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.
- NRCIL will establish a contract with the US Social Security Administration to serve as an Employment Network to provide employment services under the Ticket To Work Program.
- At least one employer will make documented changes in its employment policies and procedures to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

C. Health Care Advocacy

- At least one long-term care or healthcare facility will change its policies to include information about community supports available to maintain independence in the admission literature.
- NRCIL will establish a written arrangement whereby the staff of at least one local hospital emergency room will receive disability awareness training, especially around mental health issues.

D. Commerce: Advocacy

- NRCIL will increase accessibility to at least one business, agency or public entity in Jefferson and Lewis County.
- As a result of NRCIL's advocacy and education efforts, at least one housing developer will change its policies and procedures to require that visitability features are included into all new single-family housing that is built.
- The Jefferson and/or Lewis County Legislature will pass legislation that adopts Section 509 of the NYS Property Tax Code, which entitles homeowners with documented disabilities up to 50% reduction in property taxes.

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of integrated community social activities that are accessible.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- The Lewis County Board of Elections will incorporate disability awareness training either developed or endorsed by NRCIL for its poll workers.
- There will be an increase in the number of consumers/staff that serve on community and statewide boards/committees/task forces that previously have not had representation from the disability community.

38. WHITE PLAINS

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Westchester Independent Living Center
Center Address: 200 Hamilton Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601
Contract No.: 008955
Report Period: October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Joseph Bravo, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Shelley Klein

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

- At least one school district will change its policies to engage all special education students and their parents in the Committee on Special Education (CSE) or transition planning process.
- At least one local school system will make a procedural change to have transition plans for student with disabilities include information on Independent Living Centers, ACCES-VR, post secondary education, agency linkages and benefits.
- Disabilities awareness either developed or endorsed by WILC will be instituted as part of a school's curriculum in at least one school district in the center's service area.
- Local school districts in Westchester County will change their procedural policy to ensure that all notices sent to Spanish speaking parents regarding the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE)/Committee on Special Education (CSE) process, particularly in respect to meetings, are in the parents' native language and that language interpreters will be offered to assist these parents in the CPSE/CSE process.

B. Employment Advocacy

- At least one community agency will contract with WILC to provide employment readiness training services.
- As a result of WILC serving as an Employment Network, at least one employment or job placement agency will change its policies and/or practices to increase the availability of services to persons with disabilities in Westchester County.
- As a result of a WILC sponsored Resource/Transition Fair, at least one employer in the Center's service area will make documented changes in its employment policies to comply with Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

C. Health Care Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the number of physician's offices, clinics and hospitals that improve physical and communication access for persons with disabilities.
- At least one new service provider will become a Nursing Home Transition and Diversion (NHTD) Waiver provider offering services to individuals with disabilities.
- At least one organization providing mental health services will change its policies and procedures to increase protections available to mental health consumers that ensure self-directed, person centered, recovery focused treatment.
- WILC will ensure that health care legislation that impacts persons with disabilities is enacted or blocked.
- At least one local health care provider will change its policies and procedures to ensure individuals with disabilities are fully informed about the availability of long-term home care services, including information about funding such services.
- WILC will ensure that State legislation is enacted which closes gaps in prescription drug access in Medicare Part D for people with disabilities and chronic illnesses, i.e., State legislation will be enacted to limit the Part D prescription drug co-pays for dual eligible beneficiaries to \$200 or less per year.
- The Westchester County Department of Social Services (DSS) will make a policy and procedural change to ensure persons with disabilities receiving Medicaid are fully informed about (1) reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and (2) the eligibility and recertification process.
- Within the Community First Choice Option (A provision within the Federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act), WILC will ensure that NYS implements the following: Expand the use of home and community based services, Expand consumer directed service options, De-medicalize services, and Reorganize Medicaid services to eliminate wasteful bureaucracy.

D. Commerce Advocacy

- To increase Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in the business community.
- There will be an increase in the number of affordable integrated and accessible housing units for people with disabilities in Westchester.
- To ensure that new business/retail establishments and/or remodels of existing business/retail establishments are accessible to persons with disabilities.
- At least one community agency will make a procedural change to have their agency information include information on Independent Living.
- The Westchester County Police Department will establish a policy to conduct a Deaf awareness class either developed or endorsed by WILC as part of the training curriculum for new members of the Police Department.

E. Social Advocacy

- There will be an increase in the availability of integrated community, social and recreational opportunities for persons with disabilities.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

- Staff with disabilities or consumers will serve on committees, boards or task forces that have previously not had representation from the disability community.
- To increase the accessibility of Politicians' offices in Westchester County.

39. YONKERS

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF ADULT CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION SERVICES-VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Name of Center: Westchester Disabled On the Move
Address: 984 North Broadway Suite LL-10, Yonkers, NY 10701
Contract Number: C008954
Contract Period: October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012
Contact Person: Melvyn R. Tanzman, Executive Director
Board President Authorization: Gail Cartenuto Cohn

I. COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMS ADVOCACY PLAN

A. Education Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: To facilitate the transition of students from secondary education to employment, community services and/or post secondary education.

Proposed Activities:

- Through individual and group education and training, as well as a public information campaign in the Greenburgh-North Castle UFSD, and the New Rochelle school districts, students and parents will be empowered to participate more fully in CSE meetings and in the development of an IEP that reflects the student's transition goals.
- Through the Project Search Program WDOMI staff will collaborate with school district personnel in the New Rochelle and Greenburgh-North Castle School Districts and parent representatives to develop and implement new practices that will ease referrals for community services such as ACCES-VR and OMRDD, as well as encouraging greater involvement by students and parents at CSE meetings.
- A self-advocacy curriculum designed for individuals with disabilities and focusing on decision making, goal setting, and risk management, and Leadership will be part of the curriculum for Project Search in the New Rochelle and Greenburgh North Castle school districts.
- WDOMI Staff will follow-up with graduating seniors from Project Search to ensure an appropriate transition is taking place.
- WDOMI will endeavor to provide independent living services to transitioning youth including but not limited to housing and benefits advisement

Goals:

- There will be a change in New Rochelle and Greenburgh-North Castle school district policies and procedures that will facilitate referrals to community based services including: facilitating follow-up with graduating seniors by WDOMI staff.
- The New Rochelle and Greenburgh-North Castle school districts will establish policies and procedures to conduct training sessions designed to increase the involvement of students and families in Committee on Special Education (CSE) meetings and Individualized Education Program (IEP) development..

GOAL 2

Issue: Increase employment related experiences for high school students.

Proposed Activities:

- Conduct pre-employment workshops with High School Students with disabilities in the Project Search Project.
- Participate in a workplace immersion model for high school seniors in Project Search.

Goals:

- There will be an increase in the number of school based integrated employment preparation programs, such as internship programs, work experience programs, and job readiness training programs, for high school students with disabilities.
- There will be a change in New Rochelle and Greenburgh-North Castle school district policies and procedures that will facilitate integration of work experiences with school.

B. Employment Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: Increase the knowledge of the business community regarding the availability of persons with disabilities as potential employees.

Proposed Activities:

- Educational presentations will be made to business groups including Chambers of Commerce and local employers.
- Internships and job shadowing outreach will familiarize more employers with people with disabilities as employees

Goals:

- Three to four Westchester employers that have not previously hired people with disabilities will initiate policies to hire qualified applicants with disabilities.

GOAL 2

Issue: Facilitate employment for people with disabilities through Work Incentives Planning

Proposed Activities:

- Publicize the availability of benefits advisement
- Make public presentations regarding benefits advisement
- Provide direct assistance to consumers seeking employment to facilitate a plan to maintain necessary benefits.

Goals:

- Establish formal agreements whereby more community based agencies have presentations to consumers about work incentives.
- As a result of market benefits advisement provided by the Center, the NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC) Program and/or the NYS Office of Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR) will make policy and procedural changes to facilitate a more efficient referral process for community based employment services, including Independent Living Center services, and resources.

C. Health Care Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: Advocate at State and Local levels to implement a plan to move individuals from institutional to most integrated settings.

Proposed Activities:

- Continue participation in discussions and negotiations with the State Department of Health and the Governor’s Office to ensure effective implementation of Community First Choice
- Educate discharge planners, nurses, providers and county Department of Social Services staff about alternatives to institutional placement and Consumer Directed Personal Assistance.
- Offer training groups to consumers interested in the CDPA Program
- Develop a CDPA Worker registry for use as a resource by CDPA participants

Goals:

- At least one nursing home will make a policy and procedural change to have information packets include material about the NYS Department of Health Nursing Facility Transition and Diversion (NFTD) Waiver.
- At least one institution will change its procedures and/or policies to allow more people with disabilities to transition from institutions into integrated community living.
- As a result of WDOMI’s educational efforts, there will be a documented increase in the number of consumers utilizing the second Consumer Directed Personal Assistance (CDPA) program in Westchester County operated by the partnership called Concepts of Independent Choices of Westchester and that number will be sustained to a stable foundation.
- At least one Consumer Directed Personal Assistance (CDPA) program in Westchester County will make its list of workers willing to participate in CDPA available in accessible formats and/or on its website.

GOAL 2

Issue: Assure that health and mental health services available to People with Disabilities are maintained and expanded in scope.

Proposed Activities:

- Advocate for the maintenance/expansion of Federal and State-wide Medicaid redesign that protects and expands health and mental health services available to people with disabilities.
 - Maintenance of Federal Medicaid Budget without a block grant
 - EPIC Expansion
 - Maintenance of NYS Medicaid eligibility standards
 - Assure consumer rights in a community based Long Term Care program that is moving towards Managed Long Term Care.
 - Assure the capacity of MLTC programs to provide Consumer Directed Personal Assistance services from fiscal intermediaries that are committed to CDPA and independent from traditional home care agencies
- Assist Medicaid recipients in Westchester County make the transition to mandatory Medicaid Managed Care while maintaining essential services.
- Speak at MRT Team Meetings regarding the impact of proposed changes on people with disabilities

Goals:

- Prevent any changes to the Medicaid program that restrict or limit eligibility, scope of services and choice.
- An advocacy network/infrastructure is established with organized teams of trained consumer advocates available to address Medicaid Redesign issues as they arise.

GOAL 3

Issue: Accessibility and services for patients with disabilities at health care facilities will be enhanced in Westchester County.

Proposed Activities:

- Work to resolve accessible parking issues at St Josephs, Dobbs Ferry and White Plains Hospitals.

Goals:

- Achieve a measurable improvement in the physical and programmatic accessibility of medical facilities in WDOMI's service area.

D. Commerce Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: Increase the ability of people with disabilities to engage in local economic and market place activities such as area restaurants, retail shops and transportation services.

Proposed Activities:

- Educate and train consumers about accessibility requirements.
- Continue to advocate for acceptable resolutions in active complaints.
- Identify new ADA compliance issues.
- Educate e-merchants about standards for accessible web sites

Goals:

- A minimum of two businesses will improve accessibility.
- At least one e-merchant will improve the accessibility of its website.

GOAL 2

Issue: Increase the effectiveness, accessibility and consumer friendliness of the County Para-transit, fixed route transportation system and other transportation services in Westchester County.

Proposed Activities:

- Participate and provide leadership in the County's Para-transit advisory council.
- Advocate for accessible taxis in Westchester County
- Survey fixed route buses for ADA Compliance and communicate with County regarding necessary changes

Goals:

- A minimum of one taxi company will have at least one accessible cab.

GOAL 3

Issue: Increase the availability of accessible housing units for people with disabilities.

Proposed Activities:

- Conduct education and advocacy that will focus on the Fair Housing Act and HUD 504 requirements.
- Develop a collaborative relationship with county, state, and local housing and legislative officials.
- Collaborate with other not for profits to propose new housing projects.
- Advocate for the implementation of the DRIE in local municipalities.
- Develop new housing initiatives at the local level under the Money Follows the Person Grant.

Goals:

- Housing options for people with disabilities will increase by WDOMI securing the passage of State legislation to develop a housing trust fund and/or a state housing subsidy targeted to people with disabilities.
- Westchester County Legislature will pass an accessible design bill where all housing funded by the County will meet basic access requirements.

- One or more integrated and accessible housing projects for people with disabilities will be developed in Westchester with the active participation of WDOMI.
- WDOMI will, with the cooperation of State and local housing agencies and local developers, change the practices of at least one developer to ensure full compliance with US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 504 requirements including set aside apartments of 5% for people with mobility impairments and 2% for people who are either visually impaired or hearing impaired. The developer will increase the percentage of such set-aside apartments actually occupied by eligible tenants with disabilities.
- The number of municipalities offering a Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) in Westchester County will increase.
- Public Housing Authorities in Westchester County will implement policy changes that will facilitate the availability of affordable accessible housing for people leaving institutions.
- The NYS Legislature will pass legislation mandating accessible design in State assisted 1-3 family housing.
- At least one housing program in Westchester County that provides financial assistance will change its policies and procedures to make available housing subsidies for transitioning youth.
- NYS Legislature will pass a law protecting against discrimination in housing based on Source of Income.

E. Social Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: Increase the ability of people with disabilities to engage in local recreational activities by monitoring ADA compliance at these facilities.

Proposed Activities:

- Educate and train consumers about accessibility at all recreational facilities.
- Conduct at least one survey of ADA compliance at a recreational facility.

Goals:

- There will be an increase in the number of integrated community social activities that become accessible.

F. Citizenship Advocacy

GOAL 1

Issue: Increase consumer's knowledge of issues and legislation that impact people with disabilities.

Proposed Activities:

- Publish a center newsletter twice a year.
- Build the systems advocacy network.
- Hold one or more issue forums to educate consumers and their supporters.

- Assess advocacy website regarding their accessibility to people with all disabilities

Goals:

- An advocacy network/infrastructure will be established with organized teams of trained consumer advocates to address civic issues as they arise.
- One or more websites that facilitate active citizen participation in public policy advocacy will become accessible as the result of input from WDOMI.

GOAL 2

Issue: Improve polling place accessibility and voter registration in Westchester County and New York State.

Proposed Activities:

- Work with the Board of Elections Advisory Committee to find solutions to the problem of access to polling sites.
- Advocate and monitor changes in the State Election Law that would mandate accessible polling sites and voting machines in compliance with HAVA.
- Continue active voter registration campaign.

Goals:

- New York State will implement a Help America Vote Act (HAVA) plan that will assure people with disabilities have the right to vote independently and privately.

GOAL 3

Issue: The needs of people with disabilities in a disaster will be studied and addressed by Westchester County

Proposed Activities:

- Advocate that Westchester County establish an ongoing advisory committee to provide input regarding the needs of people with disabilities in an emergency or disaster.

Goals:

- Disaster preparation and relief plans addressing the needs and concerns of people with disabilities will be adopted in Westchester County with input from WDOMI.