**SILC COUNCIL/CORPORATION SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING DRAFT MINUTES**

**January 12, 2024**

**Zoom Meeting**

**SILC Voting Members Present**: Aaron Andres, Glen Ashlock, Allen Beauchamp, Jamia Davis, Stephanie Deible, Melinda Kulasa, Theresa Metzmaker, Erica Coulston, Jan Lampman, Yvonne Fleener.

**SILC Voting Members Absent**: Dr. Frank Animikwam.

**SILC Ex-Officio Members Present**: Lisa Kisiel (BSBP), Shawan Dortch (MDE), Bill Addison (MRS), Annie Urasky (MDCR).

**SILC Staff:** Tracy Brown, Steve Locke.

**Guests Present**: Paula McElwee, Yasmina Bouraoui, Nik Booza, Adrienne Pickett, Annie Mclean, Keith Mason, Dave Klenk.

**SILC BUSINESS MEETING**

J. Davis called the meeting to order, 12:01 pm. J. Davis welcomed Council members, introductions were made. A quorum was present.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

January 12, 2024, Quarterly Business Consent Agenda was reviewed.

***Motion by J. Lampman, seconded by G. Ashlock to approve the items of the Consent Agenda as presented.*** Motion passed unanimously.

**COUNCIL EDUCATION**

* SILC Budgeting Process Presentation by Paula McElwee, Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU).

**SILC AUDIT**

* FY2023 Audit and 2022 Form 990 Approval and Submission presented by Mindy Kulasa.

***Motion by S. Deible, seconded by Y. Fleener to accept the FY2023 SILC Audit as presented and approve and authorize the 2022 Form 990 for submission.*** Motion passed unanimously.

**STAFF/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Executive Director Report ~ Steve Lock

* The Executive Director’s written report can be accessed at [www.misilc.org](http://www.misilc.org) under Council Meetings and Materials.

Strategic Planning Committee ~ Steve Locke

* We are using our strategic plan that we created a few years ago to guide our work with the next SPIL in terms of our advocacy goals and objectives that the SILC SPIL writing team is crafting right now.

Financial Report ~ Mindy Kulasa

* I have reviewed our statement of our financial position, our budget versus actual expenses and the check register and everything is in great order for us financially as we move into this calendar year.

SILC Financial Policies Workgroup

* Nothing to report.

Policies and Bylaws Committee

* Nothing to report.

**EX OFFICIO REPORTS**

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) ~ Bill Addison

* I'm Bill Addison. I’m a Division Director for the division located in Michigan Rehabilitation Services.
* A question was asked: Is there any information related to the SPIL from the DSE perspective in terms of things like funds on hand, state funds and Part B funds expended year to date, anything like that at all?
* At the next meeting Bill Addison will give an update on the breakdown of state funds and Part B funds, how much has been spent, what’s left in each category.
* The MRS slides can be accessed at [www.misilc.org](http://www.misilc.org) under Council Meetings and Materials.

Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) ~ Lisa Kisiel

* BSBP has undergone a significant case management service migration in the last several months. We launched it on November 13th. There will be an IL Part B module as there was in the previous system so we can manage our cases.
* We also submitted our VR state plan for voc rehab which is similar to the SPIL. That is out for public comment.
* In program year 2023 we served about 1200 individuals in VR in various statuses. We serve approximately 100 people in the independent Part B program which we administer our portion of that grant to serve individuals that are blind or visually impaired and have additional disabilities and we serve them utilizing our internal subject matter expert’s rehabilitation teachers and rehab therapists.
* In fiscal year 23 we expended $138,147.52. Of that $21,880.08 was dedicated to purchasing devices and training for customers. We did carry over from FY22, $182,350.17. And we exhausted all carry over from 2021 when we got that extra year to expend those funds.
* Some of the things that we purchased in addition to case services with the independent Part B grant, teacher kits in order for them to be able to conduct their work and utilize the devices that they need, the Iris system for the training center which is an interactive travel assistance or it's guided travel if you want to call them and they have people that answer their phones and you can like put yourself on and say what does the street sign say or in this case what do the hallway signs say at the training center and how do I get from here to cafeteria. We also purchased some video magnifiers for our library in Lansing and our training center as well for our customers there.
* We wrote 160 service authorizations in FY23 to utilize $21,880.08 of expenditures for customers.
* We had over 70 outreach experiences in FY23.
* One of the goals that I have in reviewing the SPIL is that I would really like to know a little bit more about how our local CILs are serving customers who are blind, who are not part of our system. I will be reaching out to as an organization to the directors to ask for some additional statistics on that.
* We have a new team member, his name is David Klenk, the rehabilitation manager for our Flint and Lansing offices.

Michigan Department of Civil Rights (MDCR) ~ Annie Urasky

* Our Division Advisory Council’s next scheduled meeting will be Friday, February 23rd. It will be an in-person meeting in Ann Arbor at the Washtenaw Community College. It will be from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Our guest speaker is Dr. Michael McKee from the University of Michigan. He is also the co-director of the Center on Disability Health and Wellness. He will be presenting on the breakdown of barriers in redesigning healthcare for deaf and hard of hearing patients. In regard to really alleviating and embracing health equity.
* One area that our office is really shifting on and focusing on this year is trying to increase awareness in relation to services for older deaf and deaf blind and hard of hearing individuals. This year, Congress is supposed to reauthorize the Older Americans Act. And some states are starting to assess their relationship with the Commission on Aging within their states and how they can partner and build partnerships. And thinking about providing accessible services for those individuals who are deaf, deaf blind and hard of hearing senior citizens. My team will be presenting to the Michigan Commission on Aging next month.
* Our department is shifting its focus to issues related to fair housing. We just hosted our first in person session in Detroit. The next three sessions will be throughout the state. We will have a virtual house session on February 7th from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. And in Flint on Saturday, March 16th from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. Grand Rapids on Sunday March 28th. And then June 12th, in Detroit, at the Icon Building.
* The next state of the state speaker for the Governor will be, that will be on January 24th. And we've already worked with the Governor's office to make sure that captioning is provided as well as interpreting.

Michigan Department of Education (MDE) ~ Shawan Dortch

* On February 4th, 2024, Michigan will submit a state performance plan for our annual performance report to the United States Department of Education office of Special Education.
* We also are working with ISDs to provide training and guidance for better high school transition planning for students with IEPs. There is an IEP boot camp available to everyone to access on the Michigan virtual University's website. As well as working with Wayne State University to improve response rates for students who have transition from high school to post school life.
* If you have specific special education questions, please contact our MDE OSE@Michigan.gov email or call #1-888-320-8384 information line. They also now have an interpreter for different languages to support getting information across the state for special education.
* If there's any information that I can assist this group with regarding special education monitoring or technical assistance, or anything you would like me to present in the future, at these meetings please reach out to me at Dortchs@michigan.gov or #517-335-0465.

Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council

* No report given.

IL Network Update ~ Yvonne Fleener

* The CIL Network has been really focused on the SPIL goals. We spent a lot of time analyzing all the data that Steve provided from the stakeholder surveys. And not only thinking about that in terms of the SPIL but how does this feedback align with the services our CILs are providing the community based on this feedback. We will have more on that soon.
* I Love You – Lead On ~ Beginning in April 2024, a collective of people with disabilities, and our allies, will cross America visiting a number of cities including many important to our history. Along the way, we will honor and celebrate people and places significant to our 60-plus-year struggle for freedom and justice, share their stories, raise awareness of current issues, and build a national coalition to address these issues. The caravan will be stopping at Disability Network Southwest Michigan during their ADA event. For more information visit: <https://thedisabilitycaravan.com/>

**SPIL MONITORING**

Advocacy and Leadership ~ Steve Locke

* SILC had set aside some money in the SPIL in our operational budget over the last three years. That money ended last fiscal year. The CILs are moving forward with a YLF in the summer of this year. They are in the process of putting that together right now.

Diversity and Inclusion ~ Steve Locke

* The first objective was three CILs piloting diversity and inclusion best practices approach to facilitate engagement of people with disabilities and existing IL practices. They developed an internal training in the first year of the SPIL and they had all of the CILs go through that training. That was the last report that I received from Luke Zelley. I believe in the second year of the SPIL on that.
* Another objective in there is the CIL participating in the Developmental Disabilities Council Community of Practice. I have continued to represent SILC in that initiative. They did have a community summit this past fall where they brought partners to the table to engage them in the work that they have been doing over the past five to six years with Georgetown University. To increase linguistic and cultural competency among providers that provide services to people with developmental disabilities. I'm not sure if that program is transitioning into a new phase. Our December meeting was cancelled due to technical difficulties. So more to come on that when we get that meeting rescheduled sometime this month.
* And the third objective is consumer satisfaction. Most of the CILs have uploaded their consumer satisfaction data to SILC's survey monkey. We compiled that data into the five SILC questions that we have. And we will be presenting that aggregate data to the Council at the March meeting.

Personal Care Attendants ~ Jan Lampman

* The legislature last summer when they finalized the fiscal year 24 budget, they included an 85 cent an hour increase across the board for direct support professionals that would include people in behavioral health system. That would include people that are working with the Mi Choice Waiver and the Aging System, which would include adult home help as well.
* The Direct Support Wage Coalition has created a set of recommendations to improve administrative efficiency on the behavioral health system which is where a number of folks receive their services. Here are some of the key recommendations regarding administrative efficiencies.
  + Recommendation one is that MDHHS would develop a uniform contractual standard for behavioral health providers or for home health providers. And that those uniform contractual standards would be utilized with the prepaid in-patient health plans, with the CMHs, with MDHHS. And whoever else you might be contracting with.
  + Another administrative recommendation is to simplify the various billing codes that you can obtain direct support from.
  + We also have a recommendation regarding the electronic visit verification that is a federal requirement. If you're a person with a disability and live in your own home and manage your own support, if you get 24-hour support, you have to do this electronic visit verification. We feel when people are living in their own homes, they should be exempt from that.
  + The last recommendation is to figure out that if I need help, doesn't matter what kind of help I need I go to one funding source and don't have to apply for three or four programs and have them fight over who is not going to provide me with the support I need which sometimes happens.

Emergency Response ~ Frank Animikwam

* No report given.

Outreach and Awareness Campaign

* 2024 Outreach and Awareness Campaign presentation by Adrienne Pickett, IDEA 39.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**INFORMATION SHARING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* Steve would just like to congratulate Jamia, Mindy, and Aaron on your re-appointment to the Council. We are excited to have you come back. And for Yvonne's appointment to the CIL Director Representative on the Council. Congratulations and welcome aboard. Yasmina Bouraoui, the new Director of the Disability Developmental Disabilities Council, is starting the application process and should be appointed here relatively soon and we are excited to have her fill that ex officio seat for the DD Council.

Public Comment

* No public comment was given.

***Motion by J. Davis, seconded by G. Ashlock to adjourn the meeting.***

**ADJOURNMENT**

*SILC Business Meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.*