**SILC FY 2019 Budget Proposal**

**SILC Resources:**

SILC continues to have adequate resources to complete all it’s required compliance and contractual responsibilities. SILC is entering the 3rd year of a 3-year contract with Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS). SILC receives 35% of it’s operational funding from a grant issued by the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP).

**Budget Trending:**

Over the last three years, SILC staff have made all possible efforts to limit administrative costs. This included utilization of technology, smaller office space, ending of all leased equipment, requiring bids on contractual services. All of these actions have allowed for more of SILCs resources to be dedicated to Council activities and State Plan Implementation. SILC administrative staff have suggested changes to the responsibilities to the Executive Director to lower the amount of required staff and thereby reducing the operating costs of the council.

**FY 2019 Budget Overview:**

SILC is requesting a much lower budget for FY 2019. This is based up several factors.

* Funding to complete the Federal and State Requirements for SILC is adequate with the lower budget amount.
* Utilization of other resources to lower costs. Example, use of state locations for conferences and meetings.
* Analysis of spending trends
* SILC potentially having one less staff person with the re-writing of Executive Director job description.
* The Misilc Corporation has adequate resources if any unforeseen events occur during FY 2019.
* The council will determine funding priorities with the new Executive Director and work with the DSUs for FY 2020.

**Decreases:**

* All budget lines with the exception of Wages/Fringes and Statewide Database are showing a substantial decrease. This includes over $35,000 from the SPIL Support Line.
* SILC has finalized the process of holding its meetings at state locations which has allowed a $11,000 savings from the FY 2017 budget line.
* The Training line has been reduced by $7,000. Trending information from previous budget years has shown this line was over funded. SILC will be able to reach out to local and other resources such as ILRU which do not have a resource requirement upon them.

**Increases:**

* The Wages line is still active for three SILC Employees. This has been left that way due to the work plan requirements currently show SILC with three employees. It is expected with the Executive Director change at SILC, this amount will be amended and will come in as a substantial savings which will not be submitted for cost reimbursement.
* Fringes are up slightly due to the increases in health insurance cots.
* Slight increase in the Statewide Database system to facilitate expected increases in service support requirements.

With the changes in SILC leadership and the fact that a new Executive Director is not expected to be hired until the 2nd quarter of FY 2019, these are realistic expectations of SILC spending amounts. The council will have enough resources to complete it’s mandated responsibilities and development of the FY 2020-2022 State Plan for Independent Living.