**Inclusive & Accessible Communities**

Objective 1, 2019 Progress:

* Objective for the next SPIL: Centers for Independent Living have nondiscriminatory measures put in place in accordance with section 504 and with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act and all events are held in fully accessible venues.
* Another Objective we need to put into the SPIL is that every single Center for Independent Living has free and open public meetings. That they are not closed. That people with disabilities are not discriminated against. Need to be made prominent upon the websites and in the social media that where those meetings are held and that goes to inclusion.
* The overall goal of the SPIL right here is to implement Americans with Disabilities Act and civil rights and the ADA is a civil rights law. We can put in the SPIL as part of our advocacy effort that we sue or join with suits to bring communities into compliance. Michigan Protection Advocacy Services (MPAS) is a federally mandated program to do things like file lawsuits. Could we create an objective to work with MPAS and provide data to proceed to the next level to file an ADA claim? That would be a nice partnership.
* Barrier identification and elimination in communities. We need to write into the next SPIL major education of both our CILs and the consumers and what the disability stuff is all about. Its nondiscrimination based upon people with disability and cross disability, it is an integration mandate which is constantly being violated in the state and it is a barrier removal mandate and the barriers are not only physical barriers, but they are communication barriers. We don't know what is sitting out there now, maybe we should know where these places are at so maybe there is a way of mapping it out a little bit and seeing that certain types of inaccessible barriers are sitting in certain regions of the state.
* We need to get some measurable ways and when we reach people how are they changed? all the hours we spent. What is the impact of those hours? What do they do in the community?

Objective 2, 2019 Progress:

* Find the input from the Common Disability Agenda we completed a couple of years ago.
* Common Disability Agenda development suggestion is to have full town hall meetings all around the state, at every Center for Independent Living. Ensure the MiSILC website is a fully accessible website. We need to have a fully integrated capability on social media that is fully accessible to all people with disabilities in order to give real input.
* Another suggestion is to have accessible consumer feedback, a place where you can put your comments in on the MiSILC website.

Objective 3, 2019 Progress:

* Find out if all CILs have one basic ADA coordinator with some type of special emphasis on documents and website.

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Mark: Inclusive and Accessible Communities, Michigan IL programs will strive to create inclusive and accessible communities so people with disabilities can participate in all aspects of society. That is a mouthful right there.

Yvonne: Yeah.

Mark: The first objective, we have two of them, the objective and the first one is the Michigan CILs and SILC engage in activities that increase awareness and access on a variety of disability related topics that will lead to more inclusive and accessible communities, topics may include but not be limited to a general disability acumen, barriers IE transportation, the ADA civil rights, public policy, et cetera. That is number one. Number two a common disability agenda which is across organizational policy agenda that advance for people with disabilities. Three which is on page four, is develop through a strategic thinking process and assertive improvement and access in our communities and implement the same, stop. So that's a mouthful. I'm going to.

Aaron: Where is the date at to show how we are doing on those topics?

Mark: Well, that was that appendix number one I opened up talking about the appendix and didn't have the data, progress, and data, it just doesn't have progress on the first one.

Aaron: So, it doesn't tell us how we are doing in regard to those goals therefore it doesn't help us to move the objective forward because we don't know where we are at, correct?

Mark: Correct, it makes it a little difficult to look to see where we are at now because that one objective, when you look at it there is three so not necessarily means that we don't have all of the information, we just don't have that particular appendix built in for us to cover. So, when I get to that part, we could just not do anything about that particular piece, but we can talk about the other two objectives.

Okay so I'm almost done with the first objective.

Joe: Excuse me, Mark, Joe, we know as a matter of fact that Flint, Michigan, went through a major crisis with the water. We know as a matter of fact that the venues for even picking up water were not accessible to people. People and wheelchair users were riding down the middle of Franklin Street to pick up water because the infrastructure was so messed up and I'm trying not to swear. We had a major crisis going on and people that were denied services and we had no, and I repeat no notification for blind people, no accommodations for deaf people, and we have the school for the deaf here which was one of the hot spots, we have major violations of the ADA going on in our community. And that is still in effect today. It's not an exaggeration. It's still in effect to this day. The infrastructure is messed up and it's not compliant for people on regular days let alone on emergency days.

Aaron: What can we do to put it in the SPIL? because we can't do anything what happened in the past, but we can fix the SPIL to at least monitor these things.

Joe: Yeah, okay, all right and I will answer that question, we can do what Philadelphia has done, what their center has done, and they launched a lawsuit, a lawsuit to bring their sidewalks and others into compliance. That is what Liberty Resources has done, that is what other efforts have done that we do not, we do not.

Aaron: How does that affect the SPIL, how does doing whatever improve the SPIL which is our mandate to do is to improve the SPIL?

Joe: Okay, you got the ADA in there, but the ADA is being violated daily, so civil rights are being violated daily. We can put in the SPIL as part of our advocacy effort that we actually sue or join with suits to bring communities into compliance.

Aaron: I don't think suing people is the answer to solving Independent issues. It may be an action we can take, but that's not the overall goal of the SPIL.

Joe: The overall goal of the SPIL right here is to implement Americans with Disabilities Act and civil rights and the ADA is a civil rights law.

Yvonne: Michigan Protection Advocacy is a federally mandated program to do things like file lawsuits. So could one of our objectives be that there is some sort of and I know that SPIL I used to work for PNA and I know you guys work closely together anyway but some goal about us getting data because I know at protection advocacy their resources are limited too so they are not out in the community, they don't have the data so part of the CIL's job could be that we are working with PNA and saying what do you need, what kind of information do you need in order to take this to the next level and file an ADA claim? That will be a nice partnership.

Joe: It would be a nice one if they did their job. This is Joe.

Yvonne: PNA?

Joe: Yes.

Yvonne: I don't disagree with that even though I worked there I agree.

Mark: Gathering of the data.

Yvonne: To put it together.

Mark: Contact Protection and Advocacy Services what type of data do they need to put together these types of lawsuits and have a way of extracting that data from the information we have right now.

Yvonne: Exactly that could be really helpful to them and maybe motivate them to do something about that.

Mark: Gathering, that sounds like a good one and then be able to measure it because you would have the actual data right in hand and yeah that would go a long way. Right now, you are right when we read the first objective it is really vague as because I don't know if that would fall under the common scheme of things or would it fall under ‑‑ we got the ADA in that writing and then we got an annual.

Aaron: Mark you are cutting in and out and I don't know if you are away from the mic.

Mark: I was looking at my paper and trying to talk at the same time.

Aaron: Okay.

Mark: In the objective trying to see which place it would fall to keep it in the goals.

Yvonne: Right.

Mark: It's a very important goal when we start writing this again have a measurable outcome would be very helpful so when I look at the measurable outcomes for the first goal it says bi-annual report of statewide activities that promote achievement of this goal. And it says the report would include the following, community educated presentations conducted, number of people who receive ‑‑ and barrier identification and it may fall right in there and public policy with legislation.

Joe: Mark this is Joe again.

Mark: Report on barrier identification eliminations in the community being measurable I guess measure that out.

Joe: Mark this is Joe again, okay, that is a very important thing the barrier identification is a real problem that has gone on. I have and engaged over 25 years with accessibility surveys including with my own center for Independent. And the barriers are still there. They have been identified. But they are still there, and they are also were very weak on effective communication and upon nondiscrimination elements. I think that we need to write into the next SPIL major education of both our CILs and the consumers and what the disability stuff is all about. It is a three‑legged stool its nondiscrimination based upon people with disability and cross disability, it is an integration mandate which is constantly being violated in the state and it is a barrier removal mandate and the barriers are not only physical barriers, but they are communication barriers. We've got websites that are totally messed up for blind people. We have lack of accommodations for people who are deaf. Over and over and over again. We don't even have you know an ASL person on this SILC. So, we have to put these measures in, and the Americans with Disabilities Act is now 29 plus years old and it's not been fully fulfilled in this state. We also have a very severe problem that goes on with our state Government where they think that state laws like the architectural barrier removal board preempts the Federal law. It does not. That's been going on for a long time in Michigan.

Mark: You are absolutely correct. I will find the time and I appreciate the comment, I was trying to tie in the barrier identification and eliminations in the community into a progress and if we get ready to look at progress on this first objective and that requires us to have appendix A but when I hear you talking and we are going to talk about appendix A little bit when I move over to objective or the next piece, maybe not appendix but talk about location path of travel where it says to in 2017 to 18 we don't know what is sitting out there now, maybe that location we should know where these places are at so maybe there is a way of mapping it out a little bit and seeing that certain types of inaccessible barriers are sitting in certain regions of the state. Does that make sense?

Joe: Yes, it does, sir. This is Joe and let me highlight one example. In 2002, I actually got paid a stipend to work with the Disability Network to go on what was called career alliance and do a survey of their agency which is basically the employment agency here in Flint. Last year I went to a meeting here publicly, you know, with no raised character and braille signage that was totally identified in 2002, nothing, even the room we met in wasn't labeled. There were major other barriers physical barriers to using a rest room to using other facilities in there and that didn't even get into, you know, the lack of compliance on their websites and their information technology. Sir, there is a real problem when that goes on and I've demonstrated that over and over again. The barriers were identified. They just weren't eliminated.

Mark: So when you do your identification it sounds like some type of corrective action and how does that go forward so I don't know if we want to read through all of these but one of the ones that stands out with accessible and communities maybe we talk about identifying barriers and eliminate them in the community and looking for some type of outcomes because when I look at this for them and go through them and read them kind of what is going on here in 2017, and we will talk a little bit about it says for number A for A, 11788 hours was spent on community presentations. And so, we don't know what they are, but we know they had done them. The next one is 10216 people reached. Okay, then it goes to the next one barrier module see appendix and that talks about the different barriers that are there and then the next one says IL public policy team met on July 20 to give up to speed on the efforts around the network, understanding the current employment related initiatives in Michigan. The team discussed some of the next steps as well as the need for in person annual meetings to plan action upcoming year.

So, in 2017 we really didn't look at no barriers per se and we didn't have any action plan for that. In 2018 we went back through our hours, 12492 hours for community presentations we don't know what type of community presentations, that would be nice to know. 16,000, 17,000 people reached and maybe lots of people were reached and then barrier module go back to our appendix. Of course, this time we will talk about public policy activities participated the first one says participated in five IL public policy meetings with CILs. We worked with impasse and the DD Council to get a bill to eliminate sub minimum wage in Michigan and introduce to the State Representative Liberati and we participated in Disability Network Michigan on legislative day and it goes on and lists things that we did. But nothing went towards barriers, so this year 2019, we are way up in hours, 29357 hours was spent in community presentation and I'm here to tell you we should get a focus on what type of presentation that is and again we miss what we have had 31310 people reach, gosh we need to find out who they are reaching and then the barrier module we don't have any input there. Public policy activities and participated in one IL public policy meeting with the CILs and attended impasse legislation day at the capitol and joined with the DD Council community on process initiative.

So, this particular one I don't see where we are addressing some things that the barriers in the communities. We never spoke to that. So, I think some measurable activities should go towards that.

It looks like we got the activity going on when we look at how many hours are put out there in presentations and we are reaching people, 35,000 people we are seeing but are we talking about the barriers? So, I would like somebody else to chime in there on that.

Joe: This is Joe again, there is no content to this. That as you amply point out what is the content to what people are addressing? What are they talking about, are these numbers that are just made up out of their back pocket or what? You know.

Mark: These numbers speak to the rest of the database for the CILs and I think this is effort and work because when you look at this and focus on it, you got to almost 30,000 hours spent in community presentations, so some type of we should have an agenda or as to what we are presenting. And so.

Joe: Exactly.

Mark: What are they leaving after we touch on it, what are they leaving within their hands that speaks to the barriers and you know we got this appendix that talks about a barrier, so I think we really need to spend some time on the specifics on what we want to do especially moving forward with the SPIL. Do we have anybody else that wants to chime in, please?

Yvonne: I think you are headed in the right direction and it makes sense.

Aaron: I think we covered what we need to do and all we need to do now is write it in the new SPIL and figure out a way to monitor the data.

Mark: Yes, I think the CILs are doing good with how many hours and presentations, but it really needs to be whittled down to what are you presenting and did it ‑‑ is it identifying the barriers and what are we doing to eliminate them so yeah.

Aaron: How are they improving as a result of this education or services they are being provided?

Mark: I like that, how are things changed, what is the impact?

Mark: Reaching all these people, what has changed?

Joe: This is Joe, we need to take a look at and also that component about the employment first provocative which is being totally violated in this state including by my center for Independent which is actually putting people into sheltered work.

Which is a violation of the WIOA and is, you know, a total violation of the intent of what we have in this sub minimum wage. The sub minimum wage is not just sub minimum wage. It's competitive integrated employment.

Mark: Right. So then.

Joe: Period.

Mark: I think that is under actually in this particular goal, here we go, it was brought up as an objective, but initially it's not in here. It talks about WIOA I don't know how that one sub-minimum wage thing, was that ‑‑ for those who were here when we wrote this, and it got written was the sub minimum wage piece a part of the SPIL writing team? Do you remember?

Joe: It's hard to figure out, Mark, because the SPIL writing team was not open to the public, it was done behind closed doors.

Aaron: I want to say it was on the SPIL writing team, but I can't say for sure.

Mark: Okay, so because when I read this, I don't see anything talking about work. It we are talking about barriers here. Talking about barriers and I was just trying to find out that piece that you brought up, Joe, I don't see it.

Joe: You just read it about the sub minimum wage and see that is part of the problem with our current SPIL is everything gets mixed together. You know, it's basically thrown up against a wall and by the way Aaron and no offense to you at all, but you were not on the ‑‑ you came on board on the SILC after this SPIL was written and that's just a fact.

Mark: Right I couldn't understand the progress in 2018 being identified as of work with the impasse and DD Council to get a bill to eliminate the use of sub minimum wages in Michigan introduced by representative Liberati participated in with the Disability Network Michigan at legislative day. That is kind of like it's a report but that wasn't what we were ‑‑ that was not part of the things we would measure so what do they call that an out liar it's in here, but it doesn't stick. Anybody follow me on that?

Joe: I kind of follow you on that but the Liberati bill had some issues and it never got put in the Senate or the Senate anyway and it never went anyplace.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: Liberati had good intents and I have talked to him, I've talked to him at his office.

Mark: Okay, anyway what I take from this we need to get some measurable ways and when we reach people how are they changed, all the hours we spent, what is the impact of them hours, what do they do in the community and then by the CILs we get everything from the state, it's all put in one big report but maybe a stronger concentration on the west side of the state on issues than on the east side of the state or maybe something going on in the UP that is really major and it's taking up 30% of the work for all the CILs and we don't know how that distributes that out to every CIL and every CIL is still engaged, so I think some type of a measurable thing we need ‑‑ that needs to be in writing that.

Can we move, if it's okay can we move over to the second objective?

Aaron: Fine with me. How much time do we have on the phone line?

Mark: What was that again?

Aaron: I was asking how much time we have on this phone line.

Mark: We are here until 2:00 so we have one more hour.

Aaron: Okay.

Mark: Do we need to take a break, does somebody need to take a break?

Aaron: No, I was just curious.

Mark: All right so for the second one, the second objective was to develop, develop a common disability agenda which is across organizational policy agenda that advances independence for people with disabilities. And the second objective is develop, implement a common disability agenda, no later than July 2017. And then so the measurable indicators and activities to advance that goal is develop or, well, I think that I don't know what the indicators are.

Aaron: I know we had the disability agenda and I don't know where the data is that we collected to know how effective we were doing with the common disability agenda.

Mark: Okay, Tracy, do you know if we have a report with the common disability agenda?

Joe: This is Joe. Look, we spent more than $70,000 on this thing and Terri Robbins was let go and we never did a thing with this stuff. And I went to one of these. There were seven people there. Half of them were nondisabled. Hacks. Here in Flint. There is just a rubber stamp. I'm sorry but it was a sad, sick joke and a waste of money.

Aaron: How would you like us to improve on our past failures? I don't disagree with you that it was a failure to respond. I'm just asking what could we have done differently to help facilitate more involvement with the disabled community and you know other things like that because we did reach out to all the different CILs and had them post different stuff and we did try and get the word out.

Joe: Okay, Joe again, this is my answer, one, we need to have full town hall meetings all around the state, every single center for Independent with writing the next SPIL, period. End of story. That's where the real CDA is. We need to have a fully accessible website. We need to have a fully integrated capability on social media that is fully accessible to all people with disabilities in order to give real input. Those are two things right off the top of my head, Aaron.

Aaron: I don't disagree with you. But all that takes time. It doesn't just happen overnight.

Joe: We got six months for a new SPIL and we got to do it. That's what we get paid for. That's what people are supposed to be doing and that's what ‑‑ that's my answer to your question.

Mark: And I think that is a great answer, Joe. I'm looking as far as our progress, on that particular one we really haven't taken any action. So actually, two things kind of missing here, I think it's important that we get a common disability agenda and it sounds like the town hall's meeting would be a great way of collecting that data. So, and that would be a really good place for information. So I will write here as a suggestion and I belief that Steve is working on this, but on one of the ideas would be to have a town hall the town hall meetings at the CILs and someone to coordinate that and then definitely have someone, we do need some type of template as to what type of information we want to be teased out so we can use it in the next writing, so are you still there? Yvonne are you still here.

Yes, I am here and agree with everything.

Mark: And the town hall and aligns with what they are trying to do with the common disability agenda report and wherever it's at but we have about six months how do we put something together at CILs with some type of super vision coming from the Council, you know, to say, hey, we are putting this on, we are trying to get this information, and bringing that information back, aggregate a state so we can work it for the next three years with the next writing.

Yvonne: Great idea to have local town hall meetings and agree with you having some facilitated guidance either on site facilitation or at least some format of an agenda or questions to ask would be really important otherwise it could just end up being not useful information. This is Yvonne. I mean it would be useful, but it may not be themes to it if we don't put some guidance around it, but yeah, I don't know who does that like would that be up to each CIL? Once we create the format?

Mark: Yeah, I think a real key would be having are a format to give to them.

Yes.

Mark: They will create it in a way that works for them and may not work.

Aaron: How do we get buy in from the CILs to make sure they do it? Because it's one thing to give them the ‑‑ give them the surface and information and make sure they get it out to the individuals to collect the data.

Mark: Yes.

Joe: Aaron, this is Joe and I totally agree with that and that's the problem with the CDA to begin with. Now, the CDA was put together, common disability agenda by an employee and the first places that they held their CDAs were at sheltered workshops in the UP. Ridiculous. But I'm just going back on the past, okay, sorry, but that is the way it is. We do have data someplace, you know, from these common disability agendas, but nobody is accounting for that data, you know. We have some input from it, and we should be utilizing what we already have, that we paid good money for with Terri Robbins and other people and doing it as a benchmark but the other problem that I see and that is a real big problem is getting the CILs to have buy in. My center for Independent is flagrantly out of compliance with things including on the meeting I brought up, the common disability agenda, they had one person from their board at that meeting. They had one person from the staff at their meeting. I attended it in person. They had no intention, none, sir, at all of having consumer input. They want to do what they want to do. We are the SILC. We are the ones that set those measurements. Not the centers for Independent. When they are out of compliance and not all of them are bad. But some are very bad, some are very corrupt in this state as we have seen with the blue water center for Independent, we have seen with several others.

Mark: Yeah, so I expect you are hitting it on the head this is an initiative that the SILC wants to take on to get the data some type of way of when we go out to the town hall meetings that certain representation would be there. Number one some type of SILC or Council member would be there, some type of, you know, we can lay all these things out that is what I mean by put in a template together saying these are the things that need or the people we need to collect the data the proper way. And then of course we can't just let it be limited to that meeting, we should look at you know some type of a way a person can call in and look at ways that a person can e‑mail we can look at a way the person can write a letter.

Yvonne: Getting hands on the past data and even if it is just base line. I suspect things have not changed a lot since that data was given.

Mark: I wrote that down.

Yvonne: That is a great way to get data and you know the sheltered workshop I get it we don't like them and don't want them to exist but I know there is an audience there that times it's hard to get their input if you don't go to where they currently are so in order to hear from people in those workshops that I hate it here and I don't want to be here you got to sometimes go to those places in order to get it. I don't think that it's saying you recognize or value the location. It's that you value the people who are there.

Mark: Right.

Yvonne: So, it's a way to reach people that we normally wouldn't.

Joe: I will give you push back on this only historical. The fact is that these places were picked as the places for doing it. They were captive, they were captive audiences.

Yvonne: I see what you're saying, yeah.

Joe: And it wasn't dealing with consumers, it was dealing with the CROs themselves.

Yvonne: No, I agree with you on that.

Joe: Thank you, thank you, I appreciate it. You know I'm the historical memory here.

Yvonne: That is good.

Mark: That is needed because we have words and don't know the history behind a lot of the words so by explaining that, that is good and to get a better product. I think the first real person to find that data and get it and get our hands on it so it can kind of lead us and ask the right questions when we go out there.

Okay, anybody want.

Yvonne: I like that.

Mark: That is a good one.

Joe: Mark, can I add one other thing? Back in the past, you know, way back, you know, I mean ten years ago, we used to have our state plan up on an accessible website where people could comment every step along the way, you know. They could add their input and I'm talking about average consumers, I'm talking about every person and we haven't had that since about 2008, 2009.

Aaron: Do you know what happened to it?

Joe: No, well Valerie got knocked out, but you know there were some issues with her but whatever. Then you know as I stated before our website is not fully accessible to all people.

Mark: Consumer feedback a place where you can put your comments in on the website that we have now. I wrote that down.

Joe: Okay, thank you.

Joe: In accessible form.

Mark: Accessible.

Joe: Fully accessible.

Mark: Okay, so going to number three, third objective here is to develop through a strategic thinking process and assertive multiyear plan to significantly improve access in our community and implement the same.

Okay, let's see so we have the actual measurable indicator and is the proposal of strategic thinking by December 31, 2016 a final plan completed by March 31, 2017 the plan will include more detailed objectives such as the need of level of education piece of CIL staff, proactive consumer engagement, opportunities, the movement of the ADA and Michigan compliance to universal design and access to the physical realm agreed upon tactics such as the common accessibility review format and the Michigan access Michigan app and the implications timed through 2019. Holy moly.

Okay.

Joe: Nothing done.

Mark: We got a lot going on here so for the progress. In 2017, looking to identify consumer experience and regulation with the CIL with the piece and the marketing CIL piece and the marketing, I'm sorry and the first group forum focus on increasing CIL expertise and the September box, in October and the plan and submitted the plan and for the group, the group will meet again in December to complete the plan and regulations consumer as assurances.

This looks like it's just notes from April 21 the SILC sponsored I think a strategic thinking event as a specific specified under the SPIL with numbers of the SILC Council and CIL directors and staff. Anybody remember the strategic thinking event?

Joe: No, never happened.

Mark: What?

Joe: It never happened.

Mark: So, several things we discussed, and address a major initial initiative and creating inclusive and accessible communities. That is taking us back a little bit.

So, building the expertise with the CILs and expertise with the CILs and enforcing and utilizing construction codes and ADA guidelines including the consumer/community experience. That is being developed on how to build resources to support and develop statewide expertise of CILs and the intent would be to have at least one certified ADA coordinator at each CIL. So that is the first piece I pulled out of certified ADA coordinator.

That sounds like something that needs to happen.

All right, this year thus far what have we done? Action has not been taken with this departure of two staff, Steve and Tracy, the Council and the partners will need to discuss how to move this forward.

All right.

Joe: Okay you know I'm going to say something on this.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: Joe Harcz, okay, we have done nothing on this, nothing, and I repeat nothing except for violate it. We've got a center for Independent in Muskegon and in which a person was trained by Nebraska and a nondisabled person who has violated the ADA over and over again and basically, they are pimping out pimping out ADA certification. Mine has done the same thing. My center for Independent, my polling place is not fully accessible in compliance with ADA. They moved it. They did a survey, nothing has changed with it, nothing. And it makes me intensely angry when this type of disability discrimination continues to this day especially in my own community and especially where I know where things are. We are continually if you take a look at this, we are continually referring to Michigan State architectural barrier code. That is even on physical barrier. And in which my communities and other communities give elevator exemptions on constructed buildings where we have major violations on curb ramps, curb ramps where they are not met because we are referring to state law over Federal civil rights laws.

Mark: Okay, so looking at this particular one then, I appreciate your comments on that, there are two things I see that are supposed to happen out of this, one of them I think is totally within the control of the CIL and shouldn't be hard for us to do to ask the CILs who is their certified ADA coordinator. Because that was one of the things that was supposed to be identified and so I don't think that is too hard to get.

And then the second one was whatever came out of the ‑‑ once the strategic thinking is done that addressed this issue because if there is a note, we need to get it.

Yvonne: Yeah.

Mark: Two things I pull out of this, a lot of it is planning, but since last year that in April we had an actual strategic planning event and Tracy can you see if that happened? Okay and let's find out what happened so I'm a director and it seems like I should remember it but maybe I'm getting older so that would be key and then the director is telling us do they have a certified ADA coordinator.

Joe: This is Joe again. There more to the Americans with Disabilities Act than simply physical barrier removal.

Mark: Oh, yes.

Joe: And what I'm finding is the so-called people that are so called certified only looking at physical barrier removal, they are not looking at nondiscrimination elements or other elements. I'm seeing centers for Independent that still require a valid driver's license for a job where it's not an essential function of the job. That is an outrage. The Americans with Disabilities Act is now more than 29 years old.

Mark: I do know, Joe, that we have accessible documents groups within our CILs that are meeting and I know that I have wanted one in my agency for a document, you are absolutely correct that barriers are not just physical barriers, there is you know a document and other barriers that need to be addressed. I was just going to start with the hanging fruit as far as the ADA certified coordinator and then get information on I think you made a suggestion on other areas in which we should ask and inquire CIL to look at addressing.

Joe: Yes, I agree, Mark. This is Joe again. Just for the CART. But when we have nondisabled people with no experience at all being put in these positions, that is a problem to me. When we are not even referring to people with disabilities in an affirmative way. We also have to look at the facts and these are facts, sir, of the nondiscrimination elements of the Americans with disabilities act. We have got a center, you know, in Wayne that got cited by the equal opportunity employment commission, you know, for violating the rights of a deaf person. That's a documented fact. We've got Centers for Independent Living that violate the Americans with Disabilities Act on the ongoing basis in a documented fashion including mine, the Disability Network of Flint Michigan. That holds its ADA events and not fully compliant venues that retaliates against people. We have retaliation that has gone on against me and has gone on against Eleanor Cantor and has gone on with others with public funds. In a documented way, sir. This is not just a matter of having somebody certified and given, I don't know, some little sticker to say that they are ADA or that they have an ADA coordinator.

Mark: And I follow you on that piece, Joe. I do think what we just talked, that you just mentioned is the pieces up here at the top, the first objective we talked about was removal ‑‑ identifying barriers and eliminating them and then also I think where we wrote here looking at the people that we are reaching we got to figure out a way to collect that data and then address it in some type of form or fashion and checking in on these things because you are talking about inclusion and accessible community and CILs which need to be in there. This particular one we are talking which is kind of the same thing kind of like they are talking about strategic planning is one and they came up and they are talking about construction and homes and different things like that making sure they are accessible. We might need to look at this one and tease it out a little bit more, combine it and then get somebody out there to a way of addressing it. One of the things we talked about earlier was having impact and given information to impasse and we gather it and we get it to impasse so they can do what they need to do to check on discrimination. So, we’ve got to figure out a way to make our document that we are writing have some type of power because right now it's just saying a lot of things.

Joe: Absolutely, I agree.

Mark: It's saying a lot of things but not putting in processes in place to work with it does that make sense? I'm not minimizing what you're saying.

Joe: I totally agree with you, Mark. This is Joe again and just for the CART and look that is the problem with the current SPIL. And that's been the problem in the past. I'm going to mention three things on physical access, right now, January 26th, 1992 each and every entity of state and local Government was required to do a transition plan that was on preexisting. You know, physical barriers.

And they were supposed to identify the barriers and schedule for the barrier removal by no later than July 26th, 1995. That would deny program access. Now, I'm just a real simple guy but when I got these problems that are still there to this day in 2019, I think there is a problem.

Mark: Yeah.

Joe: Which is one of the things that people were demonstrating against on September 17th of 2015. The bloody state capitol is not fully accessible.

Mark: That is true.

Joe: And even though they have had the surveys done including by CIL and including by other places.

Mark: That's true.

Joe: The barriers are still there.

Mark: Yes, and that would be, and I don't want to get down that road too much but focus in on one thing and getting one thing done at least you can say you got the capitol fully accessible, so you're right. When things are not written out and there is no real focus everybody becomes a priority and you don't catch anything. And I think you have brought that to our attention numerous times, and I do appreciate that, Joe.

So, I think I'm at the end. What I wrote down for this one is to get the minutes or whatever on that strategic thinking plan and then I think we should find out do all of the CILs have one basic ADA coordinator with some type of special emphasis on documents and website. And that seems to be one of the ones that is coming up, quite a bit. Anybody have anything to had on that?

Joe: Mark, Joe again, I hate to dominate everything but what in the heck has been done on that strategic ‑‑ I don't even understand what that means.

Mark: The top or the bottom of it?

Joe: Pardon.

Mark: If we had it and we address it but the performance that went on in 2018, for that side of it.

Joe: Was that the strategic plan that we buried all kinds of money into without vetting it and it was garbage or what was that?

Mark: I don't know, I'm trying to get to the bottom of it now.

Tracy: We had on one May 10th.

Mark: The date is wrong on here.

Tracy: We put it together and if that is.

Mark: That would be a key piece of information to know the Council might have said they will move forward on and we just waited.

Tracy: We just did that earlier.

Mark: On this one? No, on this particular objective.

Tracy: I'm not sure.

Mark: I tell you what.

Joe: I'm not hearing very well Tracy. Was that the TBD Solutions that we spent almost 16,000 on that was a piece of garbage or what?

Tracy: Yeah that was for the strategic plan that we decided not to move forward on, that is what you are talking about with that TBD. I can't find anything on April 21st. That is a Saturday. I don't think we would have held any event on Saturday.

Mark: No, I wouldn't have been there.

Tracy: I can look around.

Mark: Maybe the date is a typo, I tell you what though.

Yvonne: That was an operational plan for the SILC office right that wasn't part of the SPIL plan.

Mark: No, you are right the one you voted on the recent Council, yeah.

Yvonne: That was just an operational thing.

Mark: Right. We are trying to decipher this out. We are going to do some research but this are constructive, not good bones but maybe a few little things like knowing if a site has a certified ADA coordinator that is a good thing to know and you almost can look on the website and find that out and if they don't have one why not you know and then making sure they all are CILs and have policies and procedures and accessible document, that would go a long way too. So that is the low hanging fruit. The strategic thinking and I will see what I can find out about that.

**Education Objective 1 and 2**

Actions:

* There are goals that have “no data.”
* A glossary that says where the numbers of the programs are coming from would be helpful.
* Objective 2: Youth Leadership Forum – event was not held in 2017 or 2018. Mark Pierce will be discussing this topic at the next CIL Directors Meeting in May 2019.

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Mark Pierce: So, for education we have (indiscernible). Work closely with the education system to make sure students and families have the optimal education experience, and for objective, the objective is the Michigan SILC through involvement ‑‑ will engage with students and their families at an early stage in the education process to help develop independent living skills including leadership development, youth leadership council to health transition and to adulthood. That is the objective.

Then the measurable indicators, object number one, and I could probably keep going, there are four objectives. The first objective here is for the number of students ages 14‑26SILC works with to develop ILPs. If you go to 2017 moving down the column, we had 1264 student ages 14‑26 develop ILP.

IEP or ILP?

ILP. 2018 the response for A. Evaluation ad hoc group to address the services, deliver ‑‑ document method and CILs are interim students INR services for developing CSRs with ILPs, however, due to the inconsistency the ad hoc group will explore promising practices and develop recommendations for unified data entry, a protocol which will lead to the abilities for data for this indicator.

Joe: There has been no action taken on that correct.

Mark Pierce: I'm going to 2019 progress. So, in 2019, we had increase from 1264 students to 2314 students between ages of 14‑26 developing ILPs for number eight which is where we are now, which is an increase in the number of students between ages 14‑26.

Joe, regarding the 2018 outcome statement there, I think what was happening is students were being entered into net‑CIL in different transactions, some will be tracking through referrals and some opening up ILPs and so user's group discussing how this should be put into net‑CIL and whether or not an ILP should be occupied up and treated as a consumer and I believe that is the route they are deciding to take. I know this is going to be discussed at the next net‑CIL meeting and is on the agenda. They should have goals established and be trackable. It's about getting all the CILs on the same page.

Mark Pierce: Also, at our last director's meeting, we have come up with that the student can sign their own goals. That was the problem. You had a parent and you had a student, and a lot of the students wouldn't open up as CSRs because they didn't have the authority to sign their own goals, so now we are able to let the student assign her own goals. That is where we are at now and would be a lot easier to monitor.

Joe: Something was just said that is very important and very problematic here. There is a distinction between establishing an ILPs as a student and the pre‑ETS for example. One is establishing services and one is independent living plan. What if a student doesn't want to have pre‑ETS? It's merging two different things.

Mark Pierce: That was the beautiful part. The beauty of CILs is that the ILPs, the independent living plan can be discussed. That is our value at the table. It's not always about the job when you are talking about soft skills and the person integrating with the community that ILP is very important.

Core services aside from I&R all of the other core services can only be counted as core service if it's connected to an independent living plan. If the services being counted here as core services that are not coming from independent living plan, then the data is not correct.

Those would not be counted as information and referrals and these students that are counted actually have ILPs in net‑CIL and have become a consumer.

Joe: Where do we have the measures in here because I can't find them on the successful outcomes of these ILPs in this category?

We are going to get to that, Joe. That is down under F in this section. Indicator F set where student achieve their goals in ILP.

Okay.

Mark Pierce: We will cover that. We have just done A. Let's move to B. Students 14‑26, work with to develop ILP. In 2017 there was no data, and of course in 2018, there was no data, and in 2019, the reason for this is no data, net‑CIL is up able to differentiate students from nonstudents.

Yeah, it's a technical kind of flaw in net‑CIL where you are not able to designate whether someone that falls within that age range is currently enrolled in the school system, actively enrolled, so it was a data point and objective that was created without necessarily a way to track that, and so, you know, we just got to state it the way that it is, and in the next SPIL make sure we are writing measureable objectives that are traceable back to a data source that is verifiable.

Joe: I'm sorry we pay all kinds of money and everybody has net‑CIL and we pay all kinds of things for the software gurus, why couldn't we put that data point in there? Over three years, why hasn't that been done? I'm not an information technology guru, but you know, we spent tens of thousands of dollars on this stuff. I do know a little bit about databases, isn't that just putting in a field?

Mark: What I'm going to do because this is my first pass through the monitoring report, I am highlighting all of these no data outcomes and going back to the appropriate group to fair it out how we can put that out in accurate data or some data. You are right there. I think there is an education sub module in net‑CIL that we need to take a peak it because there may be somewhere in that sub module that we can differentiate and then we can pull that invest out, so we know students from nonstudents in these categories. All these no data things we are going to go over today, know that they are highlighted on my report for follow up.

C, 1495 students who received federally defined pre‑ETS services. In 2019, that was 4597 students who received the services, career services, and 19 to date, this is going through March, correct?

That would be through May 5.

Mark Pierce: May 5 of this month we had 3794 students who received the pre‑ETS services and usually ease numbers don't totally calculate out.

Based on where we are at, the current year's numbers are looking to exceed last year's numbers based on where we are at in the fiscal year.

Mark Pierce: Any questions on C? March, we got seven months on.

Joe: Yes. There is no definition of what this is, but that's basically not a title VII program but a title I program. There are no qualifications in here. What were the types of services and what were the outcomes? When we have federally defined pre‑ETS services that's an arbitrary thing and we know from the RSA monitoring report they cited huge problems with vetting and curricula etc. related to these programs. One of the facts was that it was not meeting the federally defined pre‑ETS standards.

Mark Pierce: So that is a glossary that says where the numbers of the programs are coming from would be helpful. I think if we look at that, there is a way of seeing when you say pre‑ETS services what are the list of services that fall under that, that calculate the number. That would be like an appendix.

Sure, I know those services were listed out when the CIL network worked with MRS to develop pre‑ETS services and you are right these are title I services and they have to be because they are being paid for with title I dollars because pre‑ETS are mandated for CIL this was a partnership formed to fund that ‑‑ right along with institutional transitions so the CIL networks had to find a way to fund these activities and that was the way they came up with it by providing soft skills training within the wheel house so that title I money could be used so you are right this needs to be called out more specifically on what it does represent and the types of services are being provided. You are correct in terms of MRS's monitoring report. They are going to be working with the CIL network for the pre‑ETS incomes that are provided by the CIL to the consumers.

Joe: Under the fifth core service it's community transition. It says nothing about pre‑ETS.

It's broken out into three categories nursing home transition, nursing home diversions, and youth transitions.

Eleanor: May I make a quick comment here, when you guys decided to accept MRS' money for this program, you took MRS' money and MRS has certain requirements and that is in section 511, so really the CIL using the MRS money need to be following the same requirements and I'm looking up the regs and I will crit it for you but when you see Joe' CIL engaging with things with MRS dollars it is clearly illegal, so we have to rethink this whole approach because it's not right.

Joe: The youth transition services are more complicated than that other the fifth quarter service requirement. An employment or transition to higher Ed requirement.

I think that is really a discussion with the CIL director as opposed to the SPIL monitoring committee I understand what you are saying.

Can I jump in?

Sure.

While I think all this input is valid and while I think it is good to talk about this, we are never going to get through the report if we don't have order in the meeting and have a way to move forward without everybody making comments every five minutes.

Mark Pierce: Moving forward. Objective C and D have the same numbers as far as going through (indiscernible) to the query. The comments that have been made to have a definition or glossary of how these numbers are pulled, I am thinking should be in agreement and letting the council know that. As far as getting in 2019, I am quite sure it would be pretty easy to get it in 2020 all of the it was rating for each CIL, the pre‑ETS services, that is in the process. There are 14 different ones out there. I don't know how to exactly make one big one because there is a ton of services, but we should put that out there to come up with a unified fee schedule. With that being said, that can take us really quickly to E because C and D are the same ones. Number D is the number of students who is received IL community transition services which Steve mentioned that they are interchangeable.

Again, that comes back to the designation of student versus nonstudent and will explore the education sub module to see if we can start tracking it.

Mark Pierce: Then we go to E number of students and youth who are engaged in leadership. 2017‑2019 no data. Not tracking youth leadership development.

Steve: That's not to say that it can't. These need to be intentional programs around youth leadership development they can be entered into net‑CIL as an individual project and can be tracked that way if the network is going to be intentional about youth leadership activities, and if it's not in a CIL's work plan, probably not going to be put in there, so these no data elements I will be circles back to these entities about where they are at and where they envision for the future and ways to track.

Joe: I just have a question on where we are. Is this under the Michigan youth leadership?

Steve: It could be part of it, but youth leadership is further down in the SPIL and Mark and I were talking about getting that off the ground and presenting that to ‑‑ at the retreat.

Joe: I thought this was under this category.

Steve: It is under number two. The number two objective that we haven't gotten to because we are on objective one and there is like A‑G data points so, once we get through G. then leadership forum comes right up.

Mark Pierce: Okay. So, we are going to get to E. No data. F. Percentage of students to set and achieve goals. 2017 five percent of the goals are set and met and 87% remain if progress, so they have moved into 2018. 2018, 76% of the goals were set and met, 17% remain in progress, so that 17% went over in '19 and in '19, 16% of the goals were set and met and 2647 employment goals, 423 goals met year to date.

Steve: I am hoping the council and the public find it useful because percentages to me really don't say anything. Mark and I were saying is it 16% of 1,000 just to give you a scope of what is happening out there.

Joe: In this section, it's supposed to be under education, and then we go into employment goals set and certain things met, shouldn't that be under employment?

Steve: I had the same question, Joe.

I found it strange myself that we were talking about education and optimizing educational experiences and then somehow, we morphed into employment data. I don't know if in their mind they were linking because they were in the schools that had to do with education, but they were working on preemployment stuff, it's a bit of a stretch, but, yeah, I would have probably myself put this under employment objectives. Yeah. Jo they are apples and oranges.

Mark Pierce: Right. It really leans into the next SPIL that we put things in the right place because it's not making much sense. Good observation, Joe. Let's go to G. indicators number or percentage of students who have positive movement of the self-sufficiently matrix. 2017G had no data. 2018G, no data, and 2019G no data, inconsistent with use of the quarterlies and is difficult to generate.

Steve: Again this no data one I will be looking into and will probably be working with Roger from southwest Michigan because these are the barrier statements that were put into net‑CIL and as folks use those sub modules for employment and education, as different notes were put in through time and they have from one year to the next if status has changed or improved in any of those areas, there is a query that can be written to demonstrate the movement on those self‑sufficiency matrixes, but so far a successful query has yet to be written to extract that move and that change, but we are still going to look into that.

Isn't Rodney a technical analyst?

Steve: He is a computer programmer and very well‑versed in SQL and access and writing queries, and he found it very difficult to get this query written because of the complexity of how it is set up in net‑CIL right now, but I am going to continue to work with Roger, who is also a computer programmer and SQL expert, and he is an employee of disability network southwest Michigan and he is assisting the CIL network in their pilot of having internal resources to help the CILs with net‑CIL changes and enhanced features, so I will be getting with him about this data here to see if we can't populate it for the next three years.

It needs to be said that Rodney is not an expert. He couldn't even edit the website.

Mark Pierce: Okay. Thanks, Steve. Now we are going to move to, so the first part no data entry and Steve is taking responsibility to handle that.

We will move to the second part, and this is the one that Joe was talking about number two. Will take a leading role in returning the Michigan youth leadership form. Second objective, number of students who attended the MYLF, just for the sake of reading through all this, the MYLF never stood up, that was correct. When we get to data for what we were talking about in 2017 designed for 2018, network members to commit to a local event and then leading up to a week‑long forum and then we had a yearlong mentoring to follow it, and in 2018 it never was held and the resources for planning and coordinating are barriers to achieving this goal, so something happened in 2018 ‑‑ in 2019, it was not held and resources for employment and coordinating are the barriers to achieving this goal, and of course A, B, and C, is basically no data. This is one and I hear Joe is trying to come in and comment, and I'm thinking looking at this, let's see what we want to do with this. I'm going to bring it up to the directors that I recruit next week. Nothing has happened on it, so that's just the bottom line. What did you have to say?

Joe: That is what I was going to say, and this was carried forward from the previous SPIL, so we have six years where basically no action was taken, none, it wasn't done.

Mark Pierce: I think that's sad because we have all these youth, we are keeping track of and no leadership form, I think that's a little bit sad. What do we recommend doing? I want to go back to the CIL directors and hopefully there is still a couple around that remember the leadership form. Steve just sent me a link on one and it's not like that it's a model that's so unique but finding the holes and doing it.

Steve: ‑‑ who is works at Dow chemical and they have reserved money to put towards this effort, I think it was like 20,000 dollars or $30,000 and it just takes one to light the fire to get this going. If the CIL directors want to move forward with this, which I can't imagine it's not, Tom provost would be at the head of the table. Getting this rolled out and getting it to happen.

Mark Pierce: As the director here in Lansing, I am willing to provide the logistics piece to get it in this ‑‑ location. Any comments on that?

I think as SILC we have been trying to move it forward, but there has been instances where we have fallen short and have not met our obligations but with the applicant's help and with the experience of past behaviors cleaning up queries and everything else, we hopefully can move forward in a positive direction instead of focusing on the negative.

Eleanor: I am so tired of hearing not to focus on the negative. I am sorry, but I'm not going to be tone policed Aaron.

I didn't tone police you at all.

Joe: It is not focusing on the negative to point out facts. Facts are this has been in the SPIL for six years now and no action has been taken. That's a fact.

What would you like us to do Joe? What would you like us to do? We are trying to adjust the situation, and it seems like we can't maybe you happy.

Eleanor: Sound like you can't deal with consumer input, Aaron, and that is a problem.

Joe: The facts. Here is what I would like us to do. I would like us to implement the existing SPIL.

Mark Pierce: That's good and right now we are monitoring, and we are going to go back and let the council know this is unset, and we need to get this going.

Steve: This is the first step since jumped in February 4. We need your and Eleanor's assistance. You guys matter and your voices matter, and we are going to do this together.

Mark Pierce: Oh my gosh, we have two more left. My clock is fast, but it's 12:42. We will just try to make it through number three, and that is Michigan IL network will engage in systems advocacy activities to reform funding and improve special education services in Michigan. Number three is report to systems advocate system advocate activities and B is research the current special education funding models within Michigan and other states and provide a report to the IL program by September of 2017. Then of course C is the monitor and implement the Michigan special education task force and engage in advocacy when necessary. In 2017, 512 hours devoted to education system's advocacy for A. For B no progress was made which is the CIL special funding, and C, there has been limited activities on monitoring the Michigan special education task, recommendations given to the SPIL committee to develop a timeline of completion. This played out in 2017. 2018 we had more hours, 555 hours of time devoted to education system and advocacy, and of course in B no progress was made. C Michigan is engaged in conversations with the governor's administration regarding special ed. task force and Lieutenant Governor Calley has addressed however no actions has been taken to modify the funding model. 2018 sitting at 384 hours devoted to the educational system and advocacy, B there was no progress made, and C this objective needs to be reengaged with the new governor's administration. I agree on that, and Steve 2018, original 13, 644 hours. When I went back into the query, it pulled all five federal community types and totaled all those hours. What we wanted was to specifically focus on system's advocacy hours, so that's been corrected for 2018, which is much more in alignment with the two bookend years of '17 and '19.

Joe: I have a question, what does these hours mean? What do they do? I mean they are just hours on this stuff. Hours doing what?

Steve: What we would need to do, Joe, is go to each of the CILs and see how they have set their communities up and see what their programs look like around system's advocacy and it will be in their systems notes to get a handle on what advocacy looks like and what they are doing in terms of that.

Mark Pierce: I think that goes back to glossary definitions, yes, Steve, you are on point with that.

Joe: I have to add in something for the record, Michigan has the absolute worst record special education. We are on the U.S. Department of Education's watch list for total failures on outcomes for students with disabilities. The only state in the country.

Mark Pierce: We have concerns. That is a valid fact. That is not rumor. We have ten minutes before we have to close this out. In the agenda, we are at public comment. For the sake of opening the floor for public comment, I will do that. We will continue this. The things that we discussed definitions and glossary, that is going to be addressed, the no data is going to be addressed, and that leadership form we are going to take form on that. That is something I believe we have control other. That is not a hard one, we just need to do it. At this time, I will open the floor for public comment.

**Education Objective 3 and 4**

Actions:

* We need measurable goals, we can't just make a statement and just have an objective. We need to have some outcomes that we can measure.
* Steve and Mark will be taking the SPIL Monitoring Report to the Director's meeting on the 21st and going over all “no data available.” The goal is to collaborate with the CILs to find a way to get the information into NetCIL, so it is trackable including number of IEPs attended.
* Objective 3, C ~ Monitor the implementation of Michigan’s Special Education Task Force and engage in advocacy when necessary. There has been limited activity and the recommendation is to create a statewide measure tool/survey that all CILs can measure with.
* Objective 4 ~ Develop and implement a Family Education Program to help families understand the IEP process, transition services, and promote student-led IEPs. This objective should be re-written as number of students who receive self-advocacy training for their IEP.

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Okay, the next thing we have on the agenda is we have to turn to the dashboard, our 2017‑2019, we are supposed to be reviewing education, objectives three and four. According to my paper I'm looking at that came from the last ‑‑ to make this out, I'm on page six. If you have the chart in front of you.

Joe: I don't so if we can read that.

Mark: I will read it, so for objective number three it says that Michigan IL network will engage in system advocacy activities to reform funding and improve special education services in Michigan. Objective three, A, is report of systems advocacy activities in 2017 we had 512 hours devoted to education system advocacy and in 2018 objective three we had 555.25 hours devoted to education system advocacy and in 2019, correct me if I'm wrong here Steve, you went up to the end of May is that correct?

Steve: Yes, through June 2nd.

Mark: June 2nd we have 456.5 hours devoted to education system advocacy, so it looks like we are definitely on track. We have four more months.

Joe: Okay could I just ask one question as I always do?

Uh‑huh.

Joe: What is the content of that? What is the systems advocacy?

Steve: Joe that is my question too. As I've been going through the monitoring report we are out putting outcomes and when you count meetings attended or the number of hours spent on something it doesn't tell you what the meat of it is and so I've been a little bit frustrated as I've been going through this particularly with the no data portions of it which we are going to talk about, but this is going to be so critical in the writing of the next SPIL over the next year that we get measurable outcomes put in here and that we get everybody on board to start tracking those so that we have more of a narrative report that gets to the meat of what's actually happening instead of just these output data numbers that really don't tell you anything, so I hear what you're saying.

Mark: So, Steve you said in the meetings that would be very important, right now we are just saying hours.

Steve: Yes.

Aaron: I can add something. I agree with the fact that if we have no ‑‑ we have no measurable goal, it's hard to say whether we completed a goal or not so in the next SPIL I will ‑‑ it's my goal with the fact not only do we need to have a goal but we need to have a goal that we can measure and if we don't have ‑‑ if there is no way to measure the particular topic we come up with, that can't be a goal within the SPIL because if we can't measure it there is no point to have it in the SPIL.

Mark: Okay, so on the report back to the Council on our next meeting when we report back on our monitoring of the plan, we are going to tell them that we need measurable goals, so we just can't just make a statement and just have an objective. We have to have some goals that we can measure.

Joe: Exactly Steve is on point. The outcomes need to be measured.

Mark: Outcomes I'm sorry.

Joe: Yes.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: Saying the same thing.

Mark: So that will go in the report and what we do will be reported back to the Council so great so let's go to objective three and go to B. And B says that the SILC will research current funding, special education funding and models within Michigan and other states to provide a report of IL programming by September 30, 2017 and we move over another column in 2017 the answer to B, there was no progress. We move to 2018, the answer to B was no progress. No progress made. And then in 2019 and we still have that same answer. So, it's obvious that this research for special funding for special education funding models in Michigan, we have not done that.

Joe: That is exactly my point.

Mark: So, we have four months, what do we plan to do? I'm going to report that back and what does that research entail? So, let's go through that piece.

I know some of you have been on here longer than me and before this was put, this particular objective was put here a measurable outcome, what was the thoughts behind that? As far as research?

Eleanor: This is Eleanor I think what happened is that we at one point had a whole lot of parents sitting on the SILC saying these random things that got written into the SPIL and they don't show up to these meetings and work on the SPIL, so all of us just have to sit here and guess what they were talking about.

Joe: This is Joe, and I also think it's very duplicative, you know, you know, for the SILC to be doing because these are criteria or these are things that are supposed to be done by the SILC called Special Ed which I'll reiterate in this state is the worst in the country.

Steve: Yep.

Joe: That is in my opinion if we have this type of thing, in future SPILs, that it goes to advocacy, what are we doing to ensure that the educational system is on the up and up, that people are developing IEPs, that the IEPs are followed, et cetera et cetera. If we are going to put it in at all.

Steve: Yep.

Aaron: This is Aaron. I believe when it was put in to the SPIL it was an effort to educate the people within the school system to do those type of things, not necessarily to seek out research itself, so I think the question is or the goal is poorly written in the SPIL and if we are to change it we ought to have some type of way to get our ‑‑ get research out as Joe discussed.

Joe: I agree and this goes back to last week that, you know, in this SPIL section we could not ‑‑ things get merged together, Pre‑ETS and other things and but we could not differentiate within the net CIL system the difference between youth with disabilities and students with disabilities because some youth with disabilities, I mean it's just, you know, to qualify for IL services even if they get a diploma. Do you know what I'm saying? We can't ferret it out and I'm shutting up so we can go on here.

Steve: That information is valuable because I was talking with Mark earlier and we are taking the SPIL monitoring report to the director's meeting on the 21st and going over all of this no data available. It's unacceptable and collaborate with the CILs to find a way to get it into net CIL so this stuff is trackable including a number of IEPs attended, again it's an output but, you know, I've got great hope for the next SPIL.

Mark: I would like to say, and I appreciate the comments and I think one comment that was made that our particular Special Ed system is the worst in the nation, I think there is some ‑‑ we need to highlight that and let the Council know. You know, I really believe we should do that because that is quantitative data saying across the United States this is where we sit and so that was a voice heard that needs to be put into that report.

Joe: Right, just to clarify that, you can put it in the report, it is ‑‑ that even the Betsy DeVos Department of Education has put the State of Michigan under needs intervention category with Special Ed. We are the only state in the country that is in that category and that goes to one of the biggest problems, you know, with so called Special Ed in Michigan is that the outcomes are not there.

Mark: Right, I think what you just said that falls under our research piece that is across the United States that we can use to say this is where ‑‑ it's measurable. We are not about 50 we are number 50 so that's not good.

Okay, let's go to C. If nobody has anything else to add.

C says the monitoring implementation of Michigan Special Ed task force and engage in advocacy when necessary. So, in 2017 for C there has been limited activity on monitoring the Michigan's Special Ed task force, recommendation is given to the SPIL committee to develop a timeline for completion, that is 2017.

In 2018, C, the SPIL network Michigan has engaged with the Governor administration specifically regarding the Special Ed task force Lieutenant Governor Calley has addressed with the finance and funding models with the legislatures however no action has been taken that has resulted in legislation to modify the funding model. That happened in 2018.

In 2019 it says this objective needs to be reengaged with the new Governor's administration.

Okay, so we got a new Governor.

Joe: We got a new Governor, we have a new department, we have a new head of the Department of Education, you know. I'm sorry. Fill this out in the next SPIL.

Mark: Take it out?

Joe: This is, you know, we are dealing with a whole bunch of stuff that just never gets done.

Steve: Yep.

Joe: And, you know, we are dealing with a new Governor is also, you know, this is a model to deal with, you know, the Department of Ed and everything else. Throw it out. I mean this is something that, you know, the SILC can be in advocacy but, you know, it's ridiculous. We haven't done anything on this.

Mark: You are right so for three years anybody else have any comments on this?

Hello anybody there?

Mark: Hello.

Joe: We can hear you.

Mark: I said did anyone have comments on this and what we want to report back to the Council concerning this, sounds like we are back to square one engaging with the Governor again. With Michigan Special Ed task force, or do we want to go a different route?

Can you hear me.

Yes, we can hear you.

Yes.

Can you hear me?

Yes.

Okay, all right, so let me say this and it says DN/M has engaged in conversations with the Governor.

Mark: Yes.

This is something I don't understand because the ‑‑ [this is Darma]

This is referring to the association and I do not understand in what capacity they are engaging with the Governor on whose behalf and under what authority.

Mark: Good point.

Darma: I just don't understand, you know, if this is something that needs to be done, it needs to be done as a team, these conversations should or this just.

Mark: Right, so I follow you on that piece and then at the end of the statement it says point blank, however, no action has been taken that results in legislation modified or funding model.

Joe: Right and going back, I'm sorry, to this again but going back on this, what is the job of the SILC? Why is this going to just to Michigan?

Mark: In 2019, and I read what I see here, what do we want to do? I heard two things. One was take it out. And then the other one was what is the job of the SILC? Do we want to engage in this particular objective and, Steve, if we do nothing, that's not good because we said we are going to work with this particular outcome before? I mean, what would that look like?

Steve: Yep.

Mark: I mean because according to this it says we are going to monitor, implementation of Michigan Special Ed task force and engage in advocacy when necessary. Do we believe it's time to engage with them, is this an advocacy time?

Eleanor: No, we don't know anything about the subject and don't have research and don't have a person.

Mark: Perfect, thank you. So, I think we all are in agreement maybe we should let this one go.

Eleanor: Not the whole thing goes, at this point there is nothing we can really work on here. We have to focus our energy on writing a new SPIL.

Mark: Thank you for bringing that up. Okay.

Joe: The other thing is when we implement a SPIL, this is Joe, you know, if we want to designate DN/M to do something then there needs to be a SPIL amendment.

Mark: Yep, should be saying they were tasked with objective three, section C, you're right. You're right. Go on I'm sorry.

Darma: I think what Andre was saying is that if you're talking about funding and you want to change funding then you have to specifically say this is the funding level, we are at in 2017, this is what we have determined is what is needed. This is what we are going to do to move towards the direction of the need versus what we have and then who is going to do that? So, it's the details that are hard to use a plan that doesn't actually give you enough information to work.

Steve: Right.

Aaron: Correct.

Mark: So, we put in the key to all of this is to research to find out what is needed and are we in a position to do all that research, that type of work.

Darma: Well you have 15 centers, each of them has professional staff, they have a community full of students and teachers and families and we should be gathering real information, timely information. If you go back and use the census, it's ten years out of date and what we really need to, I think react to are the personal experiences our communities are having. So, I'm going to guess that the education in Grand Haven Michigan is pretty different than the education in Wayne County so you know we can't ‑‑ you can't really just make a blanket statement because funding in Grand Haven might be pretty darn good.

Mark: You are right, I would attest to that, you are right, yeah.

Darma: More focused.

Mark: Okay, so are we talking about maybe providing some instrument to send back to our 15 CILs to fill in and get ‑‑ that would be our first‑level input of getting feedback would be for us to send something back to the CILs?

Darma: I think you are right. We need a statewide measure so that we can compare where the need is greatest.

Mark: Okay.

Darma: We need a tool that everybody uses.

Mark: I'm going to write that down, recommendation is a statewide measure tool that all CILs can measure with. And is it possible we can use that tool with other agencies, is it pretty simple? How do y'all feel about that?

Darma: There could be shared elements, so whether you're talking about MRS or the University or whatever system, there could be three questions that everybody gets.

Mark: Uh‑huh.

Darma: And three questions specific to education or something.

Mark: Right, got it.

Joe: This is Joe again, this goes back to, you know, all the data on these other groups and what is the role of the SILC on these things. Look, this goes back to why we are under a need, you know, the findings of the U.S. Department of Education because one of the bottom lines is are people with disabilities are not graduating at the rates of other states, the outcomes are not there and, you know, I think this is a role beyond the capacities of the SILC personally.

Steve: Not only that, Joe, this is Steve, they are graduating students with disabilities who still cannot read and write.

Joe: Exactly that is the other point the outcome.

Steve: Yep.

Joe: Exactly, they are pushing them out of the schools, you know, and they are turning this around, we know that is a problem. I do really think that this is beyond the role and the capacity of the SILC personally.

Steve: Uh‑huh.

Joe: This is a big item.

Steve: Yeah.

Joe: It's a huge one, you know. Individual CILs may be doing advocacy but what are they doing? You know, which do you see what I'm saying, I'm talking about the next SPIL.

Eleanor: I would like to make one comment that one of the biggest problems we have is that on the SILC has never tried to engage in advocacy and whenever you have any advocacy problem the first thing you have to do is define the problem and then define the solution you want to work towards and then define the steps it will take to get you there. And we have never even attempted to try to engage in problem solving on any problem, so we got to start at square one and learn how to do that.

Mark: Okay, so it sounds like we are missing a few issues here and methodology of getting it done.

Eleanor: Yes.

Mark: I wrote that down. The last one you said define the problem and define the solution, what is the last one? Eleanor.

Eleanor: Define the steps that it will take.

Mark: Steps, right, and for the sake of moving forward, basically this can go on and went from this plan to the next SPIL, do our research, and we got to definitely start within with our CILs getting them a tool, some type of survey to find out exactly what are some of the deficits and areas that each of the CILs geographically are dealing with so we do have a little more work with this one as far as coming up, with ideas, moving forward for the next SPIL if we want to keep this, if we want to keep this.

Okay, can we ‑‑ can we move on?

Joe: Yes, sir.

Mark: So, number four, is develop and implement a family education plan to help families understand the IEPs process transition services and promote student‑led IEPs. Wow, I like that. So, let's see what we get. So, objective for number four is number of families educated which is A. B is IEPs attended by CIL staff and C is percentage of CIL schools, CILs interacting with and services by annually a number of single school visits and the number of schools in service area. And Steve I think you need to chime in on this because I think you had something about not being able to draw that data before we get into this can you talk about that one.

Steve: What I'm feeling about this one is I know in at our Midland CIL we had started a parent education program on IEPs and also on alternatives to guardianship to educate parents on what is available for their kids, what the requirements for the school districts are under Federal and state law so that they can make informed decisions and their kids can make informed decisions. I don't know this launched at the CILs, at all of them. So, what we need to really have happen is when the writing of the next SPIL we need to have 100% buy in that when these goals are written that they are going to be implemented at the CIL level. It is ‑‑ we can track that in net CIL through making some additions and modifications in the different sub module drop downs, the data can be tracked. I just don't know that these goals have actually been implemented on the ground and so we end up with there is currently no data entry protocol established to capture this information. This SPIL needs to be a living, breathing document and like I said I've got great hope for the next SPIL and being part of the net CIL users group, being able to be that voice at the table that says this is what the CIL directors signed off on, this is what we need to do in order to capture this data that we have all agreed to provide these services and this is how we're going to capture that data and report it back out in the SPIL.

Joe: I think that is right, I think that is an important category, this is Joe again, and this is an important goal in my opinion for the centers, details of wagging the dog and SILC has put this together, that is our job, to implement, develop and monitor the SPIL. We aren't monitoring. On the first category off the top of my ‑‑ on the top of my head though, it again goes to content and again goes to measuring outcomes. I like the second two. I like them a lot. And especially how many students with disabilities are engaged with their own IEP.

Steve: Uh‑huh.

Mark: Yeah. So, Steve, you said that at Midland you had a way of taking the net CIL that we have now and being able to layout a process in which all CILs could help us achieve, get these numbers so like the number of families educated, the number of IEPs attended by CIL staff and you're saying that we have the protocol wrote up that maybe we should share with our sister CILs and moving forward so much is going on with Pre‑ETS and all that we should start getting them thinking that way. And I'm from Midland. I think in the next year that's one of the things we need to bring to the meeting for the directors and also have that protocol so that we can have everybody trying to draw this number and if you told me that is different than saying okay, CILs, this is how you will track it, which is a little bit different.

Darma: This is Darma, one of the things you might want to consider incorporating is a kind of a feedback satisfaction element, so yes, the CIL staff could show up at the meeting, yes you could do the training of students, but how did ‑‑ how did they feel afterwards? Did the student feel like their voices were heard in the process? Did the CIL staff have to advocate for the student to have control versus the family having control? I mean, what is really happening there?

Steve: Yeah.

Darma: So that again is an outcome, not just counting how many people sat in a classroom.

Mark: Yeah, that is true. And another piece is that now and with the students are able to do a CSR with them, that is a huge piece.

Joe: That is an important piece, you bet you.

Mark: Before we had to give the parent consent to work with the student and it came down to a lot of services and ACL gave us guidance on that and saying point blank, we can make a CSR for each one of the students.

Joe: That goes to the regular transition as well. Whether they are a student or not, you know, community, it's transitional services.

Mark: Joe, some of the things we are dealing with getting in the schools the way we are with CIL what the school system had a few barriers in it too and, yeah, and so it's not just us working with the student as they got a certain system in which they are very familiar with and doing things and so when we got a little bit of more oomph behind us concerning what we are able to do as far as going in and being involved with an IEP and the student actually can speak for themselves in that IEP and things, that is the working piece for us so, yes.

Joe: I wanted to go back on, you know, the Pre‑ETS is kind of blended in with this.

Mark: Yes, it is.

Joe: What are the qualifications of the, you know, the staff and one of the things in RSA monitoring was the curriculum isn't vetted, you know, in many of our CILs and, you know, the content is not. And I know for a fact, you know, in going back to what you just said, you know, my ISD is violating IDEA on transition. They are shoving people in sheltered workshops and my center for Independent is aiding and abetting over there.

Eleanor: Is that being counted as a youth transition service? I mean.

Mark: Without the data to lead to this particular conversation we need to define exactly how we are identifying families, students, IEPs that needs to be in the database so we are just missing data I guess that is all I'm saying Eleanor for that because if you look at the whole report, the only one we are answering questions for still has no data if I can go back that way to families, 2017 the model families educated on IEPs are currently not a part of the data setting, set in the statewide database system. This also includes percentage of schools which interact with the service area. SILC staff are working with the database to supporting to develop the best means of measurements of the SPIL and so that stuff we said in 2017 and then 2018 there was no current data protocol established by these CILs to capture the information and of course no data, no data and then there is still no way of doing it. So, what we are speaking to right now is what are we going to do to get that data to be collected by the CILs and moving forward with the writing of the ‑‑ our next plan, how are we going to work this out? I hear right now that everybody likes the objectives that we have already. Education of family, number of IEPs attended by CIL staff and the percentage of schools that interact with the services are by annually so now we just got to capture the data. Is that where we are at with that, Steve, that is how I see it?

Steve: Yes, and we need to also understand whether or not every CIL is engaged in these activities. I know the Midland CIL is. It's amazing the number of parents that don't participate in their child's IEP process and then our stages program up there our staff would attend the IEPs with the student and then teach the student during that IEP how to self-advocate because that is the key to it is to teach the skills to somebody to learn how to self-advocate for themselves and to know what the rights are.

Eleanor: That is what that should say instead of what it says.

Steve: Exactly.

Eleanor: I don't want to get off topic here but I think that the CILs I think we should write this into the next SPIL the CILs need training on consumer service records because what is happening right now like if you look at my CILs 704 report, 70% of consumers are waiving their right to an Independent plan which means that all of that data is either being inappropriately counted or it's not being collected at all, so I think they need to understand the most basic question of what a center does which revolves around Independent plans.

Mark: Eleanor that is going on as we speak, that the way things are panning out they have to make that decision, waiving of the Independent plan, that is a flag, 70%, that is a high number. And it's all about how the staff members engaging with the community and the parents and the students and everybody, so you're right. I did put that down. I think that falls into this piece, Steve, of coming up, with that protocol so all CILs are doing the same and input in the information aside so we have something to modify.

Steve: Sure, I would even like to see that goal rewritten as number of students who receive self-advocacy training for their IEP.

Eleanor: Thank you.

Mark: Number of students who receive.

Steve: Self advocacy training.

Mark: Self advocacy training.

Steve: In relation to IEP and self-advocacy training in general.

Mark: Relation with their IEP, okay.

Darma: I just wanted to say that in the 90s protection and advocacy went out to every county, community and CIL and trained family members and anybody interested in, you know, the laws around special education and they focused on the law and also give you a great big notebook that helps you use the law in an IEP and I do not know at what point our PNA abandoned that kind of education but I'd sure like to see that just get rolled out again as something every few years you come back to a community and train more people in the technicalities of that. You can't advocate if you don't know that your wants and needs are justified and protected.

Mark: Yeah, that's true. I think on all the CILs should be giving out the impasse folder, I mean the tri folder and I think given an opportunity to write and get them to come back with training would be awesome.

Darma: I passed out millions of brochures and I'm sure none ‑‑ very small percentage of them actually resulted in anybody's changed behavior so, yeah so pass that stuff out.

Mark: Okay, wow, is there anything else we can discuss about objective number four?

No.

**Employment**

Actions:

* Objective 1, 2019 progress: moving forward, we need the numbers updated if we are going to monitor employment in competitive, integrated settings in the SPIL. We need to categorize some basic questions, where they are being employed? and who is the sponsor of that employment?
* Objective 2, 2019 progress: very little data has been received regarding IL Network participating in systems advocacy activities relating to employment, including the ODEP Employment First grant, etc. This objective either needs to be reviewed/modified in the next SPIL or removed.
* Objective 3, SILC, in partnership with Michigan CILs, will work towards the implementation of public policy that compensates people with disabilities at an equal wage to those without disabilities. The SILC Council needs to have a conversation with The CIL Network and find out why sub minimum wage advocacy isn’t happening at the CIL level.
* Objective 4, Michigan’s IL Network will promote the passage of federal legislation that authorizes and appropriates resources for the CareerAccess Pilot Project. The recommendation is to remove this objective from the next SPIL.
* Objective 5, Michigan’s IL Network will educate the business community on the value of hiring people with disabilities. The recommendation is to remove this objective from the next SPIL.

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Michigan IL programs will with appropriate energy to facilitate increased employment in competitive and a greater set. The objective is the Michigan CIL network will continue to partner with vocational rehab MRS, BSBP and other employment services to assist people with significant disabilities finding employment and competitive integrative settings, objective number one. Number of CIL consumers who buy in employment and competitive in a greater setting that is A. And B is number of consumers who have developed independent I mean employment goals in their ILP. C is the number of referrals from MRS and BSBP for employment services. D is percentage of CIL consumers who achieve their employment goals and E is the number of consumers who have positive movement on the self-sufficiency matrix.

So, 2017, 21 CIL consumers with unemployment and competitive in a greater setting for A. B, 3175 consumers who have developed employment goal in the ILP. C has no data. D is 25% of CIL consumers who achieve their employment goals. And E had no data.

For 2018, the one objective 127 CIL consumers who file employment and competitive integrated settings. 3532 have developed employment goal in the ILP. No data in C once more. D, 71% of consumers IL consumers will achieve their employment goal.

No data for E

And then as we stand right now, this is as of to date or the by law as to date but it's more of the first two quarters, 22 consumers obtained employment and 22 maintained employment and competitive integrative setting for D, over 2000 develop employment goals in their IL plan. C no data. Working on net IL CIL usage group and Steve is doing that. D, 463 goals were met and E no data so that is where we are at with that.

Joe: We are no data.

Mark: That is the one we are working on that one definitely.

Joe: I'm going to tell you something. This is Joe. And I'm going to ‑‑ this is ridiculous. It's always been ridiculous, and it will continue to be ridiculous because they don't care. They are screwing people with disabilities over and over and over and over again. They either don't collect the data they cook the data. The data is meaningless. The data is telling people that we put people in segregated workplaces and that's cool. That is cool. That's the way they conflate the data, sir.

Mark: So, the consumers that are paid employment, this report will be enhanced once the next quarters are put in play and we do think we have to light the fire under the whole piece of the net CIL and getting the data out there. I do know that Pre‑ETS and with the services that we are doing competitive employment is crucial and we are not partnering with people that may do that.

Joe: No kidding, we don't have partners because that is not a part of the project. They are putting people in the segregated employment. Right now. They are doing that with my center for Independent. They are spending Federal money to put people into segregated employment in to Peckham, that is what is being done. It's a documented fact, sir.

Mark: All right so with this I guess about when I look at the actual goal and the goal is to make sure they are not in segregated workshop or employment situations, maybe it should say where the people or what type of graph where people are actually going and showing ‑‑ identifying the areas where it's prominent that funds are used for that. They should not be used for that.

Joe: Sir.

Mark: All the information is coming from the CILs and from referrals that were given from MRS and BSBP and they are telling us right here, you know, they report all the objectives, how we are laying it out. And there are 22 consumers that got a job, 22 paid in a competitive integrated setting so the question would be is all of the people that are we are conserving at our CILs being recorded when they get to where they are going to work? I think that we need a more ‑‑ I know it's more than 22 people. I mean, there has got to be more people than that so this needs to be updated.

Joe: You know, that was the question brought up by me more than two years ago, two years ago, sir. I wanted to know who was being employed and where they are employed, period. It's a simple question. It's not a hard question. It is a very simple question, and nobody answered it, nobody, ever, ever, ever, ever answered it.

Mark: So.

Joe: What kind of crap is this crap? I'm really, really ticked off about that stuff. See what in the hell, or who in the heck, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm very, very, very ticked off. I ask those questions more than two years ago. Nobody answered those questions within VR or within IL. Nobody. Nobody answered those questions within the SILC. Nobody answered a simple question what kind of jobs were these people placed in and where were they placed? What the hell? People got two and a half million dollars of VO funding and they can't even answer these questions? They can't.

Mark: So, Joe, moving forward, we can get these numbers updated and if we are going to monitor this in the SPIL moving forward, we need to categorize some basic questions need specifically need to be put into where they are being employed and who was the sponsor of that employment.

Joe: And how are they being employed, how, how? Are these people being put into a sheltered workshop, are they? What the hell, man. This is crazy crap.

Mark: So, any other comments on this one?

Eleanor: I would like to make a comment.

Mark: Thank you Eleanor.

Eleanor: We know that some CILs at least are funneling people into sheltered work. The question in relation to the SPIL is, is the way that this objective is phrased and the way the data is being collected going to tell us whether people are being referred to sheltered work because my understanding of the way that it's phrased is that it's asking for the number of people who have been put into competitive integrated employment so the question is, is that going to tell us who has been put into employment that is not competitive and integrated? That is what we need to know. But at the end of the day we already do know that they are, so we got to find some way to take action on this issue.

Mark: So, Eleanor, if we know that people are is that important to us to know that and if we do know it what position are, we going to take on that? Because this is put out here just that way, competitive integrated employment setting and so according to the numbers, you're right, it's aggregated enough to have the numbers that are going in that direction to speak on their behalf, so I follow you on that piece. I think that in the next SPIL do we not keep this one in there and rephrase it and that would be part of a writing team to rephrase that because.

Eleanor: Yes.

Mark: It's just speaking to the ones that get put in competitive integrated setting so let's say 10% have been competitive integrated setting and in sheltered workshops but it doesn't tell us that.

Eleanor: Right.

Mark: Okay, good to know.

Joe: Why do we even have this in our SPIL? If we are not going to monitor what is going on?

Mark: Joe, I think the issue is we monitor the part that we talked about and Eleanor can chime in any time she is saying it needs to be worded differently so we can get two sets of numbers out of this.

Eleanor: I feel it's specifically phrased this way that so whatever the number is it's going to make the CILs look good and cover up the fact that some of them are referring people to sheltered workshops.

Mark: Thank you, so.

Joe: That is my point exactly. Look, look, we have put people into sheltered work, that is a fact. It's an outright fact. We have violated the law of the land. We as a sector or the statewide Independent Council have put people into slave labor. Slave labor, sir. We have done that. And it's an outrage. It's an outrage that I cannot abide.

Mark: Okay, so we are going to get the numbers updated and then moving forward in the rewriting of this in our next SPIL we need to work that out, so it can be pieced out of that particular objective or that goal if we elect to have it next time.

Okay, objective number two, Michigan IL network, Michigan IL network will participate in system advocacy activities related to employment including ODA, employment first grant, and assist community rehab organizations and vocational rehab, rehabilitations to achieve the goals of employment first, the executive order and the unified state workforce development plan.

The measurables are the number of people who transitioned from a facility‑based setting to a competitive integrated setting, employment setting, percentage declined and facility-based employment and percentage of the increase, decrease in people who obtain employment through the ‑‑ our agencies from previous years.

So, in 2017 no data, no data and BSBP had 161 successful closures. Waiting for MRS data.

So, then in.

Joe: Disclosures are bullshit.

Mark: That was 2017. 2018, A and B is no data and C is BSBP had 92 successful closures. 42 said decrease from 2017, VR is no longer able to serve homemakers and our preexisting homemaker cases were closed, homemakers. We have a period. The continuous adjustment of WIOA regulations on policy changes have challenged VR nationally as BSBP acclimates to the expectation of changes in the WIOA has placed on VR system is expected these numbers will begin to increase.

So now in 2019 we end up with a data request from the DD Council on ANB and BSBP had 18 successful closures year to date. There is nothing in this one.

Joe: There is no data because they don't want any data. I am sick of these people. I am disgusted with the Bureau of services for blind persons. I am a blind person who has had his civil rights violated by these organizations over and over and over and over again. I'm sick of these people. They need to be defunded. They need to have their money taken away. I'm stating it right now. They need to have the money taken away. They are not in compliance with the law of the land. They never have been. They never have been.

Mark: Okay, Joe. So, there are some things that are standing out real strong right here. The only agency that has even been compliant or saying anything in the report is BSBP. MRS has not said anything and so.

Joe: MRS is a bunch of crap too. They always have been. They are worse than BSBP. That is a statement.

Eleanor: I think that this objective was written into the SPIL as a way for Sara Grivetti placed in a position of power in the employment first committee which is totally behind closed doors. We don't even know who sits on the committee. And it was a way to use the money that was coming in for employment first and make sure that it was going to sheltered workshops, to Sara in ways that would benefit her, to a whole bunch of sort of secretive and semi nefarious purposes so I think we need to revisit this when we rewrite the next SPIL.

Mark: Okay, any other comments on this one? Thank you, Eleanor.

Joe: Get it out of the SPIL.

Mark: There are a few things we were asking for. I think, and I agree with you on that, moving forward in the future with this particular objective, Eleanor, the whole no data thing, I do believe that we should follow‑up on that and they should at a minimum tell us ‑‑ answer the questions that we gave them. I mean because they are not really hard questions.

Eleanor: There is not going to be any data, Mark.

Mark: I know.

Eleanor: A farce to begin with.

Joe: The whole thing is a fraud. It's a fraud to begin, to ask even a question when it's never been answered. It's never been answered. In all of the centers for Independent have never, never, never, I will repeat never had to answer the basic question of what their data is. They are not allowed to. They are not even ‑‑ they are not even questioned. What in the world is ‑‑ I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm very angry right now, but what the heck, man, what in the world is this kind of weird questioning going on when it's not even ‑‑ I mean, it's not even answered. It's never answered. No data is collected.

Mark: Right.

Joe: None.

Mark: That is no answer, no data.

Joe: No data, so what is the purpose of our entire organization? What is the purpose?

Mark: Okay, Joe. We need to move to number three. So, the next one is the CIL in partnership with Michigan CILs to work toward implementation of public policy that comprehends people with ‑‑ encompass people with disabilities and that equal wages goes without discussion. I'm going to read that one again. The SILC will partner with Michigan CILs work toward implementation of public policy that compensates people with disabilities at an equal wage to those without disability. That one doesn't sound right.

Joe: Yeah, here is the whole point.

Mark: Let's try so then the actual objective here is a by annual report regarding implementation of legislative policy would prevent the payment of less than the minimum wage to people with disabilities. Okay, and so in 2017 there was no progress. In 2018 the legislature has been introduced by representative Liberati to eliminate the wage in Michigan, CILs discussed this issue with their legislatures during the disability network legislative day and in 2018, did I do that wrong? No, I read 2018 I'm sorry there was nothing done in 2017.

So, at this point CROs are being in a voluntary phase without paying sub minimum wage of implementation of employment first initiative by the DD Council. I think this kind of falls in that same category of the reject the two, do you all agree with me on that?

Joe: This is disgusting.

Mark: Do you have any insight on this one, Eleanor?

Eleanor: Yeah, this is a good objective. What happened is that the solution was developed behind closed doors so the first thing that we heard about it was that this Michigan Congress person had already introduced a bill that nobody read before we were told that this is the solution and it's not in my opinion a very good bill because it's not very clear about out lawing sub minimum wages. However, if we were to assume that it was a decent bill, nothing ever happened with it. The SILC posted about it on their website and that was the absolute end of it. And I don't think they did advocate for it on their legislative day because everything that I saw about the legislative day was about changing the universal symbol of accessibility as though that's going to have any impact on any of us at all. So, I think you know they tried to do something here and then they found out it was hard, and they just abandoned it.

Mark: Okay, yeah.

Mark: Representative Liberati put out I have not heard anything on it until recently and according to the.

Joe: My God, look, this was an outrage. It was an outrage from the beginning to the end. And it was an outrage from the SILC perspective. Mr. Liberati is a good man. He is somebody who actually really wanted to have access for people with disability. His daughter is a person with a substantial disability. But, but, but, sirs, you and other people have engaged in laws or engaged in ‑‑ excuse me, excuse me, engaged in patterns of practices of firing against people with disabilities in your rights as economic partners in our current affair. I, I have ‑‑ excuse me ‑‑ I know of people with disability and I engage with people with disability in my community, my community. And have people with disabilities who are competitive in integrated employment. They are my brothers and sisters. My brothers and sisters and they are people who engage with me, engage with me in the public and I, I give them money, sir, because they are worthwhile. They are worthwhile because they engage with my community.

Eleanor: I think what we need to do, again, is have a conversation with the CILs and what's happened in the past is that Sara Grivetti has always been there renting the CILs and the SILC and Disability Network and employment first and so when we ‑‑ when the SILCs pursued this issue they couldn't get the CILs to do advocacy so that is part of the conversation that we need to have, why are the CILs not engaged in advocacy, how can we solve this problem? .

Mark: That would be so in relationship with this one, we look at it, you're saying that we should ‑‑ that this should be a question addressed to the CILs by the Council when you talk about advocacy at the CIL level?

Eleanor: Yes, and I think we got to find a way to have that conversation about why advocacy isn't happening at the CIL level.

Mark: Sub minimum wage, correct?

Eleanor: On literally every single topic but especially sub minimum wage.

Mark: I'm just getting clarification on that.

Joe: Not just sub minimum wage but also segregated employment, segregated employment, sir.

Mark: Okay, all right, any other comments on this one?

Joe: Why is my center for Independent openly, openly advertising for segregated employment? That's the Disability Network of Michigan.

Mark: Against segregated employment.

Joe: No, for it.

Mark: For.

Joe: They are engaging in employment practices of segregated employment. It's a documented fact, sir.

Eleanor: Mark, if you check out the Disability Network Flint, they are advertising for segregated employment I mean it's outrageous. It needs to be addressed.

Mark: Okay, all right, okay we got about 20 minutes I think, about 20 minutes and exactly the 20 minutes we have two objectives we can go at and then we can go and close this out. I appreciate everybody staying focused here.

So, the next one we have is number four, Michigan Independent network with the most passage of a Federal legislation that authorizes appropriate resources for career assets pilot project. Objective for measurable is successful passage of policy and funding that allows Michigan to engage in a career access pilot project. And number four in 2017, during the fourth quarter 2017 activities and career access project started to move forward. Again, there had to be more movement, little movement on the initiative after the Presidential election and further collaboration in the community of mental health ‑‑ everything okay there? The SILC continues to work with the institute on disability on Michigan receive a pilot state destination for career access. In 2018 no further action. No further movement has occurred on this goal. In 19 no movement. What do you want to do with this one?

Eleanor: Take it out of the SPIL this is another one of Sara's money-making schemes career access is not going anywhere and the State of Michigan has not taken any initiative to do advocacy on the subject, so I think Sara was just waiting around for this to happen hoping to cash in and it's not happening so it's just kind of irrelevant.

Mark: Yes.

Joe: Yep, I agree.

Mark: Yes.

Joe: Take it out of the SPIL.

Mark: All right let's go to number five. Michigan IL network will educate the business community on the value of hiring people with disabilities as an objective.

Joe: Absolutely most stupid thing I ever heard. This is Joe Harcz and we are not redundant with our VR partners. This is stupid. It's ridiculous. It's outrageous. It's insane. It's nuts.

Mark: Yes.

Joe: End it. Get it out of there.

Mark: So objective five the measurables was number of employees ‑‑ employers educated and B would be the exploration of the best practices and models of standardized training and evaluation model. So, in 2017, 4880 hours of community education related to employment of people with disabilities and 2798 individuals were educated, no specific data on it, number of employers or no progress. 2018, 54,285 hours of community education related to employment of people with disabilities, no numbers of individuals educated, specific data, no numbers on employees, no progress.

2019, 2091 of community education related to employment of people with disabilities. 1583 individuals were educated and no specific data on number of employers.

Joe: How many for nothing and tricks for free, that's what it's all about. It's all about freaking money to give these outrageous, outrageous centers for Independent money for nothing.

Mark: Okay, any other comments on this one?

Eleanor: This data doesn't make any sense. I don't know what they are doing to count this data. I just think this totally needs to be removed from the SPIL, it doesn't make any sense.

Joe: Get it out of there. Get it out of there.

Joe: They don't need to have the money for nothing. It's an outrage.

Mark: All right, so we have finished off the employment piece of the SPIL

**Emergency Preparedness**

Actions:

* Very little has been done with this goal.
* Suggestions: Work on comprehensive training for all our CILs in this state with people who are experts. We need accessible transportation and accessible communication systems. People need to be educated. Bring in an expert to present on Emergency Preparedness at a SILC Council Business Meeting to educate Council members.

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emergency preparedness, Michigan IL program will continue to help people with individuals and disabilities and be prepared for emergency situations and me being a military guy I love this so how prepared will we be? So, the objective, according to mine says utilize the SILC think tank to help develop a process and recommendations for emergency situations, okay? And then in 2017 the progress we made we the focus group on these areas and preferred communications met in Lansing. That is all it says. Announcing on CIL activities and gaps are being surveyed, no progress. So, nothing happened then in 2018, they said, okay, the focus group and needs barriers and preferred communication met in Lansing. That was put over there. And they said the liaison marker will be with the CILs and emergency preparedness activities they are engaged in and then the next one is no progress.

So, the one that speaks to me I have not got my survey done so.

Aaron: We have no progress on both of those or one of those or I'm sorry I miss understood and did not understand what the progress was.

Mark: Well, that is the thing. When I'm reading this I'm understanding that somebody met and had a meeting in Lansing and then that was A, then B is that I have a survey out so I can understand that piece and we don't have any progress on the indicator of developing and enhancing of measurable indicators when necessary, so there has been no progress on C.

This one is a tough one, it's very short. When I did talk to the directors about it in the director's meeting most of them said they had each community has their way of dealing with the emergency preparedness and all of them were saying they were in the middle of talking to municipalities or shelters and things about people with disabilities. But there is a formal curriculum out there about this issue when emergencies happen. And how to address people with disabilities. Speaking for my center so I'm not going to sit here and speak for other CILs. We have coordinated with our local Salvation Army and different other groups to be prepared for this, but I don't think it's much to count on this one.

Joe: Joe Harcz you know I'm going to say something about this.

Mark: Emergency preparedness.

Joe: Yes, okay, you know where do I live? I live in.

Mark: You live in Flint and what is going on with the water, that is right.

Joe: The water that is wonderful. According to Sara Grivetti, you know, when we had the SPIL meeting here out in Monday township which wasn't on the Flint water. I'm going to tell you something that I told to ACL and ILA and other people, if you aren't ‑‑ if you are not accessible every day you are not accessible on emergency day.

Mark: I agree with that.

Joe: Period, end of story. Now we have people in wheelchairs quadriplegics and others rolling down the middle of the road to pick up water. We had no blind people notified in anything in alternative formats, none. We had deaf people who were in the middle, one of the worst hot spots for lead poisoning, you know, who were not communicated with, with interpreters. We had all kinds of hearings going on and we've had this emergency preparedness for two SPILs. This was in the prior SPIL. Nothing is there. There is no reverse call up. There is nothing. Nothing has been done. Nothing has been done. And people, people have been bled raw and I am very, very, very angry at this. This whole thing and the lack of the SILC doing a dang thing on it, you know, Terri Robbins when she was on, she just went you know there in Lansing and just deferred to the Red Cross. We have no shelters that have capacity for drug maintenance or anything else. We have no written policies, you know, for anything related to service dogs and service animals. We have nothing in this, and we went through an emergency ladies and gentlemen. It was a major disaster where thousands of people were turned into people with disabilities because of what's going on with the Flint water crisis and I tell you another thing, we got PFAS going on that are affecting people. We've got other things that are going on on a daily basis and it is not the responsibility of every person with disabilities to put their own emergency plan together. That is an important thing. But it's not their responsibility. It's a major infrastructure and a major problem that is going on in this state. And everything does not revolve around Lansing either.

Mark: I appreciate that.

Joe: I'm angry because I have brothers and sisters and people in our community that have been abused and have been totally taken to task on this thing.

Mark: Yeah because I agree with you. I empathize with you on that because I understand the Flint water crisis thing still goes on today so it's went from being just an emergency to an ongoing routine and what is the plan, so this emergency preparedness is a heck of a lift and I kind of feel as though we see it every day, we just seen the hurricane is creating that emergency and what people with disabilities going to do, do they have places to go and procedure to follow? So, it is a huge piece, I don't know. I don't have the answers to it. I don't. I don't know. I know that the state has a booklet out that talks about it. We can start looking at what's available and I know that most of the CILs are going to say we have local concerns and that locally that's how they handle any type of crisis. Our big one here was the ice storm of 2014 and it was just horrible for people with disabilities to let the left hand know what the right hand was doing but what do we do? Does anybody have a suggestion? Because this is not even a skeleton.

Joe: I have a few, I have a few.

Mark: Yes.

Aaron: I'm sure you do, Joe.

Joe: I have a few suggestions. We need to bring in ‑‑ we need to bring in for comprehensive training all our CILs in this state with people who are expertise and I know a few Marcy Walts and Harmon‑Frody and they are cross disability and they are inner sectional as well. We also have to go back to what I stated before, if we do not have accessible transportation, if we do not have accessible communication system, if we do not have them on regular days we are not going to have them on emergency day and we have to ‑‑ we have to fit those things in with ‑‑ and I mean the barriers need to be removed. People need to be educated as well. That's one thing that a center for Independent can be doing, not sitting, you know, behind closed doors and saying, oh, well we got a whole bunch, we are sitting there in grand Blanc like my center for Independent we don't have the problem. Ridiculous. It's a problem for all of us. We have major disabilities going on because of that Flint water contamination, we got all kinds of ‑‑ we got all kinds of problems going on with the PFAS you know in this state and it is an environmental and its environmental discrimination as well because people with disabilities are among the poorest and uneducated people around. We need to be educating our people.

Mark: Here for the second time, Joe, the first one you said was network wide training of CILs on some time of way of laying this out, what was the second one? You said you had three.

Joe: I don't know. I confused myself.

Mark: Keep your own point and I enjoy this but at the same time I know.

Joe: Thank you for keeping me honest. We really have to look at the infrastructure over all, period.

Mark: You know, Joe, I understand when emergency strikes there is enough chaos with just things working normal but when you go in an ice storm or a flood or things of that nature it's almost impossible. Most people have to have close personal supports and then some kind of way that has got to be woven into the fabric of the municipality or the city or the county, so it's a big lift, that is why I don't take this one lightly.

Joe: It is a very big lift and I think one of the things that we can look at are the various lawsuits and settlements, you know, including Oakland, California and others that have taken place where they put measures in place. They put them in place and that is part of the general education that has gone on, that should be going on, that the center for Independent and the SILC and others should be doing. You know, what formats are being used? What type of reverse 911 is being used? What type of ‑‑ how about shelters, how are they being identified let alone how are they being accessible, how do they have generators and freezers and that type of thing, I don't know, for medicines and that type of thing. What is the transportation nexus for people with disabilities? Those are all those things that go into account.

Mark: I do want to get some other people to chime in too. This one is kind of open and I appreciate it and I wrote down the three that you have, look outside, look at things across the state and then for CIL, anybody else have any suggestions for this particular goal?

Yvonne: Yes, it sounds great.

Aaron: Sound great and I don't have anything to add.

Mark: I don't have a board to see who is out there, but I don't want people to feel like they didn't have any input you know any type of a suggestion or comments are definitely appreciated.

Joe: There are experts out there you know Mark and I think that we should be bringing them in, and I think that we should be bringing them in to our regular quarterly meetings and that type of thing to go over them.

Mark: Okay if we looked at you know maybe someone could make a presentation at the Council meeting about emergency preparedness for the Council to kind of educate the Council and this whole emergency thing you don't think about the stuff until it really happens and when it happens then you say oh, my gosh, I don't know, I can't get my meds because I can't get to the pharmacist to get them and I only got another day left.

Aaron: Getting in contact with local churches and getting the connection made and other nonprofit agencies that would focus on neighborhood awareness and preparedness. Neighborhood watches, that sort of thing.

Mark: That is a good one collaboration.

All right, what time is it.

Joe: Joe Harcz again the ultimate responsibility is on the public entity. They are the ones supposed to be responsible whether it be a city, whether it be a county, I don't know.

Aaron: I agree with you Joe. However, the county itself is not going to be able to lift every disabled person in the county out of a bad situation without assistance from other partners and other partners to help in the evacuation efforts, I guess.

Joe: Joe again I don't disagree with you Aaron. You know, the more collaboration the better, but where this goal is and again this has been around for six years, nothing has been really done except for a deferral, you know, to Red Cross saying well we don't know what we are going to do, I don't know, in emergencies and we had ‑‑ and we continue to have environmental emergencies going on an ongoing basis all the time.

**Long-Term Services and Supports**

Action:

* Objective 2, 2019 Progress: There is no content to what the measurement is. What was the tool used? What was the content to those hours? Because of the NFT re-design definitions of services and outreach needs to be added to this objective if there are plans to monitor this objective in the next SPIL.
* There needs to be a measurement for consumer satisfaction as to how people are placed.

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Michigan CILs will provide communities transition core services by engaging in contract to do outreach to nursing facilities and transition people out of institutionalized care. Number two Michigan IL network will engage in system advocacy activities at both the state and the Federal levels to promote policies that place community-based living as the preferred option. The measurable indicators, we have two of them. The first one is objective one Michigan CILs engage with the organization and Medicaid; Michigan choice's waiver agents will transition at least 1200 people out of Michigan facilities in the homes. The second objective is by annual reports of system change activities as related to community‑based living. 2017 projects. The first 2017 objective one, we done ‑‑ we done 1350 will transition out of nursing homes into community‑based living. Objective two, 3309 hours of system advocacy related to promoting community‑based living. 3840 people will get educated. In 2018 for progress we are going to look at objective one, we had 1359 will transition out of nursing homes to community-based living and 54 people have been reverted from entering at home. Objective two, 20469 hours of system advocacy relating to promoting community‑based living blank individuals were educated, do not have numbers there. The state level redesign efforts were scheduled to launch October 1, 2018 effective that date with will be a 1915‑I spa service to all providers and would need to follow new guidelines from the state and billing, service and billing. Due to the fact it's more broadly available and unified marketing approach it is anticipated that more people will have access to the program and transition into the community.

So, looks like we got for progress 2019 we got some numbers in here. Objective one, 539 people will transition out of nursing homes am I right?

Tracy: 1060.

Tracy: That is the one.

Mark: Looking for 01 trying to compare sorry, 1060 people will transition out of the nursing home into community‑based living. 755 by waiver and 305 by CILs. And 39 people have been diverted from entering into nursing homes. Objective number two, the state level redesign launch on October 1, 2018 is now in effect of 1915 I spa amendment services and all providers are following Medicaid guidance, guidelines for services and billings under unified marketing approach. CILs provided 965 hours of promoting community‑based living and education and educated 321 people year to date through outreach.

Joe: Excuse me Mark this is Joe, you know, one of the biggest problems that we have with this SPIL is there is no content to what that measurement is, none. You know, we got 350 how many hours?

Mark: We had 965 hours.

Joe: And what was the content to those hours? What was the measurement? What was the tool used? To have that? You know, I mean, it's just a bunch of ‑‑ it's just putting numbers out there of ‑‑ without any verification of what it's all about.

Yvonne: That must be in the original SPIL plan because it looks like all those things are required how you measure it.

Joe: The problem Yvonne, the problem Yvonne is that was never done. That was never done you know and that is the problem with our SPIL you know they are supposed to be doing that, but they don't, you know. So.

You're saying how they measure might be inconsistent how each SPIL is doing it might be different?

Joe: Not only that but it's not written properly into the SPIL.

Yvonne: I see.

Joe: There are outcomes based on this whole, you know, thing. It's just a number of hours. Who knows what the hours are? What do they mean? You know, it's just a bunch of gobbledygook actually.

Mark: On objective two I do know from transitioning from the old program in to the one we have today the outreach piece is not really funded per se or measured, all we basically have done is said in this one we said we educated, and we have 21. On one of the big concerns is how these numbers will be put into the net CIL and you write some type of definition what it is exactly that they do. You know services like the center unified marketing approach, what does that mean? Is that just a flyer that we take out or whatever, so I think that has kind of been consistent each time we look through the plan, Joe, and I will note that also.

Aaron: I don't think anybody disagrees with Joe's point but all we can do from this point forward is make sure the same mistakes aren't put into the ‑‑ aren't put into the next SPIL when we create it, so it's good to go over and good to notice some things that are not working so we can fix them for the next SPIL but we can't really do anything about the current SPIL that we are in.

Joe: This is Joe, part of our mandate is to monitor the current SPIL.

Aaron: Yes.

Joe: That is what I'm doing.

Aaron: Yes. I'm just saying that you're right in the fact that we have numbers with no real data points to draw the information from so going forward we need to match the data points to something actual that we can work on and control. Otherwise what is the point in collecting the data if we don't have any way to change or implement change into the SPIL when we see that there are problems. But to identify the problem is good, we just can't solve the problem right now because of the way the SPIL was created is all I'm saying.

Yvonne: Yeah sorry to interrupt I agree with that Aaron too. I think at some point the past is the past and all we can do is let's spend our energy fixing it and moving forward. I think it's good to have the history and to understand it as we apply it to the future, but I don't want to get stuck in the past because then we can't fix it and move forward so I think it's great to have that background knowledge that you bring, Joe. It certainly is knowledge I don't have but I hope we can also use it to just say, yep, that wasn't great, how can we fix it.

Joe: Excuse me this is Joe again. The past is not going anywhere, the past is right here in front of us. The past is present. We have to learn from our past mistakes and that goes into the next writing and the next SPIL which it is really messed up, you know. We have to learn from these things.

Yvonne: There is a fine line between fixing it and learning from it and I think we, you know, when we learn from it then we use it to move forward. When we try to fix the past, that's just a waste of time at this point because it's over.

Joe: Excuse me but I totally disagree with you.

Yvonne: We will agree to disagree Joe.

Joe: We can do this over and over again but we got major corruption that has been going on within this SILC we have major blunders that have been going on with the DSE and they are continuing and we have to, we have to address these problems because we are coming within nine months, within six months actually of our next state plan for Independent with multiple millions of dollars at stake.

Yvonne: Which it has to be considered in planning the next state plan, but I don't want to spend an entire meeting talking about the past. I don't think that is productive.

Mark: So this is Mark as far as the transition from the old program into the new one that we have today the numbers that are noted pretty clearly this last year in 2018 we had 1359 transitions out of nursing facilities where this year the orientation of a brand new way of billing and different outcomes and things we are only 299 transitions off from that time then the CIL director goes very well. We still got another quarter to report here on transitions, so as a matter of fact the state has kind of given a hat to hand it over to the CILs of being able to implement a program that we have been working on as far as redesign and maintaining the outcomes because it was a program that was transition based to a program that is more about service. And we still maintain good outcomes in our transition of facilities. So, diversion that is we diverted 54 this year we diverted 39 and we have to more numbers, but we still are they are quantitative numbers and moving from a nursing facility into community-based homes.

And any other comments on this one? I got the notes as having more defined measurements of long‑term services and support and what the goals are, and I think it would be to write them down if we decide to keep this as a goal in the next SPIL to kind of line out some type of template how we are going to measure things out. From the CILs.

Yvonne: Yep.

Mark: Okay, if there is no more.

Joe: There should be, this is Joe, there should be a measurement for consumer satisfaction for how people are placed.

Yvonne: Makes sense.

Joe: There must be a measurement for consumer satisfaction as to how people are placed. This is so vague, you know, this is the most important thing of what we are doing here, okay, and it is so vague that nobody knows what's going on. You know, how are people ‑‑ are people happy with their living?

Mark: I think that is a great point.

Yvonne, I agree that makes sense.

Mark: Just having something in there saying what the satisfaction surveys say and we can say yeah we are moving people and every single person we are moving they could be dissatisfied where they are at and so you are absolutely correct on that and I will put that down as a flat out note if we keep this goal we should make sure there is a consumer satisfaction survey in there.

Okay, so if there is nothing else on that one, we will go to page 12.

Which is what? I will go to page two okay good I got page two squared away.

Aaron: Page two or 12? Are we on page two or are we on page 12?

Mark: Two I'm sorry go to page two.

Aaron: Okay.

Tracy: Accessible community.

Mark: And before we get into that one of the ‑‑ when we start going through the objectives and the progress, one of the things that refers back to the appendix A the barrier modules, for some reason I don't see the updated numbers there.

Tracy: Yes.

Mark: I just want to let you know when I look through it, I didn't see the query that is being redesigned to reflect what we need.

Yvonne: If we refer to this to update the numbers into the table or are, we not using the table for a reason?

Mark: Well that is what we are trying to figure out how do we ‑‑ the table that is referenced here when you go through them and I get ready to answer it the numbers are supposed to be in here.

Yvonne: Yeah.

Mark: And I'm told it's not here and Steve is not going to tell me what happened, and I immediately went to the numbers because it is referred to as far as our progress in 2019 but they weren't there.

Yvonne: Yes.

Mark: I don't know how we can put them in there, we couldn't.

Yvonne: Isn't it just a spreadsheet?

Mark: That is what it is.

Yvonne: Needs to get updated.

Mark: Out of the net CIL database and they know from the CILs and do you know what, what you brought up I brought this up before myself, I kind of feel like if we had a person sitting here when we have our meeting and we ask them and it would be really nice to have a technician that could pull that answer.

Yvonne: Yeah.

Mark: Do you know what I'm saying?

Yvonne: Yes.

Mark: Depending on a print out and if we can go to net CIL and pull out that, okay, so what the answer is to that query, it would just be outstanding so that is one of the things I'm going to write here.

Yvonne: Is this a document we will reference in the writing process or is this just wrapping up what has happened and are we starting fresh or are we going to continue the same goals for the most part and so we I guess I don't know how much energy it's worth investing in updating it if we are going to change it or do you think we are going to kind of keep going from this?

Mark: That is a good point, so if you know inclusion and accessible community is not going to be the goal next time then it would be a waste of time. But if we are going to do it reelect to have this go again then, yes, we should do a lot better with the way we monitor it.

Joe: This is Joe.

Yvonne: Yes.

Joe: Who is blind and an expert on the Americans with disability act we got centers for Independent and the SILC itself, that is not fully accessible in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act and that has in a demonstrable fashion violated the Americans with Disabilities Act. It's a documented fact.

Mark: What the SILC?

Joe: Pardon? The SILC's website is still messed up, sir.

Yvonne: That would be a good goal to make sure all of the sites, the physical locations obviously but then all the Internet or whatever you want to call it I guess virtual locations are accessible too, could that be like part of a state plan, Joe? Or no?

Joe: It's already requirement under the Americans with Disabilities Act to the SILC but it's not been fixed and we have had and we are coming up, on the fourth anniversary of the disability Holocaust so to speak of where people with disabilities including every blind person and every person, you know, other people were denied access to our own 25th anniversary of the Americans with disabilities. Including me and I was arrested for entering my own event and persecuted for that. Now that's a real problem. We are not ‑‑ we are not accessible to our own people and we act in discriminatory fashions and that was Ms. Grivetti who was the chair at the time who pioneered that and Lieutenant Governor Calley that did that.

Yvonne: You talked about websites not being accessible now you are talking about a specific event do you have a goal?

Joe: That is also an act of discrimination. Look.

Yvonne: Yes, that happened, and I agree with you and that's terrible but let's make it into do you have some structure to that of how you want to implement that so that it doesn't happen in the future as part of our SPIL?

Joe: Yes. That every, every center for Independent is fully accessible to all people with disabilities and that they act in a nondiscriminatory fashion. They are not doing that.

Yvonne: There is a way for us to define that Joe with some real objectives, so don't you?

Joe: The real objective is I and several other people have gone on my center for Independent back in 2013 for holding inaccessible ADA events. It's documented with pictures and arrows and everything else and yet they put out to ACL, ILA that everything is fully accessible. It's frankly it's a lie.

Yvonne: Let's monitor it and let's make it part of our plan.

Joe: Yeah, that every single center for Independent has nondiscriminatory measures put in place in accordance with section 504 and with title 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act and all events are held and fully accessible venues.

Yvonne: Did somebody catch that language?

Mark: Yeah, I got the main points of it.

Yvonne: Cool.

Mark: CILs.

Joe: The other thing we need to put into our SPIL is that every single, every single center for Independent has free and open public meetings. That they are not closed. That people with disabilities are not discriminated against as we are here. And I think they are made prominent upon the websites and in the social media that where those meetings are held and that goes to inclusion.

Mark: It goes to it.

**Effective/Efficient IL Program Objective 1 through 3.**

Actions:

* Objective 1 ~ Michigan’s CILs will meet the standards and indicators as required by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act. Questions: What is the content of the Peer Review Process? Where has it been developed and why don't the SILC members and public have access to the information? Was this development consumer directed, consumer led, and will consumers be involved in the reviews? What's going on with the Disability Network Academy (DNA) learning, training program for staff?
* Objective 2 ~ SILC will meet the standards and indicators as required by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act. Steve is going to talk more in depth about the internal controls that the SILC has and the things that have been put into effect at the June 14, 2019 SILC Council Quarterly Business Meeting. An RFP will be going out shortly to update the SILC website to make it 508 compliant.
* Objective 3 ~ Michigan’s IL Program will explore engaging in a marketing campaign to increase public awareness about the CILs. The SILC doesn't have any role in marketing individual corporations, what it should say that we want to promote and educate the public about the purpose of Centers for Independent Living and about the principles of community‑based, consumer driven, peer delivered services.
* One suggestion: SILC develops a position and a statement and some materials they could use in communications that very clearly communicated what Independent Living is and what CILs are and what SILCs is, half of the benefit would be educating the centers themselves.

CART Transcript 6/7/19

All right effective and efficient Independent program, wow, so we got an hour. This one here is four pages, wow but we are going to move forward. Does everybody have that?

Joe: I don't.

Mark: I'll be reading it Joe.

Joe: Yeah, I know good.

Mark: Everybody has it in front of them, so this particular one objective is efficient and Independent program. Michigan IL network will continue to build a consumer driven highly effective IL program that meets all of the Federal standards and indicators as required by the workforce innovation and opportunity act. Yes, okay, so the first one is Michigan CILs will meet with the standards and indicators as required by WIOA. Objective number one, all CILs will undergo a DSE or peer led review to assess compliance with the WIOA standards and indicators and at least one time during a three‑year period of the SPIL plan.

Darma: Can I comment on that? This is Dharma. I have no idea why the DSE is listed. They already audit and review you for exactly those things, so you know that is not a community‑led, is the CIL effective and efficient for the people in my community. You have to have consumers and, you know, maybe some other invited allies to do that. That's my opinion.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: Our biggest problem in this state is the DSE. It's been running the show and it is not compliant.

Mark: Okay, so some of you reference this SPIL and what made us put this one is an objective, does anybody know?

Steve: This is Steve. I think I have an inkling of where this came from. I think it was in conversations with the DSE and the CIL network regarding the DSE's regulatory requirement to do compliance reviews of CILs. The idea was to have create a peer team of CIL staff in conjunction with the DSE to go in to the CIL and do a standard review based on the Federal regulations of their compliance with the standards and indicators in the Federal regulations. The idea was to help the DSE do more desktop reviews as opposed to onsite reviews is my understanding of what was underneath of all of this and where that is right now hasn't really gone that far. I know that Kirsty C Loft has spearheaded it and working with the DSE but I think a couple of peer‑led reviews have been completed but it's kind of been a stalled state right now.

Eleanor: I would like to comment on this and maybe offer an alternate theory. This got written in the SPIL because of Joe, Dharma and I throwing an EPIC fit about Michigan CILs not complying with the standards and indicators, okay, and this plan got developed, I think, as a way to I think people got together and tried to figure out a way to make it look like they are all in compliance when they are not in compliance and that's why it hasn't been followed through on because nobody cares and Rodney Craig has been hired by the DSE to oversee these compliance issues and that is shocking. It's a betrayal. It's so clearly an effort to cover up noncompliance. I don't know what else to say about this.

Joe: This is Joe, excuse me, I want to dovetail on that, you know there is an elephant in the room, okay, we've had some desk reviews and we've had some peer reviews and nobody knows about and we've got CILs that are to this day not only out of compliance but, you know, full of corruption and it's right plain on the face, you know. We got the blue water center for Independent, you know, and that whole corruption scandal with Rich Hartwig and find out through FOIA and this goes to internal controls and what not, that part of the peer review team that went down to Oakland and Macomb, you know, was Rich Hartwig, I guess they didn't do too good on the internal control section, you know, and this is very clear. And nobody has gone in to address the questions, you know, that Eleanor and others have asked on the Muskegon CIL or that I've asked on the Disability Network here in Flint, it's a bloody mess. And obviously this process, whatever we got in place, ain't working.

Mark: Okay, so.

Darma: This is Darma, can I add one more thing?

Mark: Yes.

Darma: So, this says consumer driven, highly effective programs that meet all the Federal standards and I can't think of anything more important for you to be focusing on than this goal, this objective. I believe so fully in the system that was envisioned or that is community based, consumer driven, and cross disability and I mean if we could ‑‑ if we could move closer to that model, I think we would have an effective, efficient CIL. But the point is consumer driven. Is the center for Independent supposed to be community based? Is it supposed to be accountable to the community that it serves? That is a question that I don't know the answer to.

Mark: Okay.

Darma: If you are like a school board accountable to the people in your community that fund you, then you have to have some community assessment, evaluations, whatever, you're collecting data about how well our school is doing and right now we are not doing that.

Mark: Okay.

Darma: The relationship between the people served, the entity serving is ‑‑ it's not one of equals, that is my point.

Joe: This is Joe again. Dovetailing on what Dharma just said too I think we really have to go and look at board content, you know.

Darma: Yes.

Joe: And why do we have centers for Independent that close their board meetings to consumers? That's insane.

Mark: Right, so.

Darma: Not only the taxpayers.

Mark: So I think we are all leaning back and it says here what you read Dharma also consumer driven highly effective IL programs that meet all of the Federal standards and indicators then of course in 2014, WIOA came into effect and we had that goal and of course we got a DSE, there is a lot in this one. I would like to try, and I appreciate the conversation and I think everybody is spot on. There is some disconnects on how this is laid out. I would like to say that these peer reviews and things are going on, but it's up to us to filter through this and come back with a recommendation of moving forward for our next Council meeting, so if we could go to objective number one, and I'll read that and I think you will hear what is in it, it says the development of a peer led review process is undergoing. This happened in 2017. The draft was presented to the SPIL network Michigan directors within the next 90 days. The peer review process will allow CILs to provide support and identify weaknesses. It is intended to limit the risk of audit findings and ensure Michigan's CILs remain compliant and require standards and indicators are providing consumer‑led IL services, it is based upon the newly released guides utilized by ACL or administration on community living.

So, in 2017 we took out the time to talk about objective one and everything that you guys kind of discussed there was in here. It was kind of new. In 2018 the SILC and Disability Network Michigan were consulting with MDHHS on a peer‑led review process with the DSE. So that is A.

And then for 2019 the tool that will be used to conduct the peer review is under review by the CIL network and the DSE. So, I think a comment on the last part, the tool is still in the process. So, with this all being said, I've heard kind of two things going on. Accountability and things being consumer led. That is for the first objective. So, what do we want to respond for A?

Darma: So, let me ask with the goal that you have being effective and efficient and compliant, the DSE is you're putting that, the DSE, the system above the CILs and above the public they are serving, and I mean you are literally doing the work for the DSE. I don't understand that. What does the DSE have to do with effective and efficient?

Eleanor: Disability and network of Michigan got together and tried to figure out a way to make themselves look compliant. I think that we need to really dig into this whole line item when we rewrite the SPIL. I agree this is the most important thing we could be doing, it's not written properly, the plan was not developed with consumer input. I want to see this redone in the next SPIL.

Joe: This is Joe. Yes, I do. And I agree this is the most important thing, but, you know, where is the role of the SILC in this? Everything is being advocated to these other parties and here is a simple thing, you know, and it's a very frustrating thing for me so I'll try not to be really angry but, look, guys, what is it ‑‑ everything seems to be develop or we are working on it, we are kicking the can down the road, year in and year out on all these things it's being developed and what ‑‑ and where all the SILC members being notified of what this peer review process is, things are formulated but then they just or I'm sorry I got to take a step back it's always we are working on it and we are expending a huge amount of money which I think overlaps with this, you know, including that disability academy stuff where the SILC spent $40,000 on that and the SILC isn't, you know, getting any of this input. You know, to do its monitoring let alone consumers.

Mark: That is a good point with the network academy and the staff members the way we understand it it's a training tool for all staff will be learning the same things and best practices and being in compliance and yeah what you are kind of saying there is that what that network maybe there should be some training pieces also for SILC members, is that what I'm hearing?

Joe: In part but also but I'll make a big point here, you know, that whole thing isn't accessible to blind people.

Mark: What, the training website?

Joe: Yeah, in the older protocols and who developed that, okay, I'll let Eleanor take that.

Mark: I did not follow what you said what was not acceptable.

Eleanor: We have not seen the training platform at all. As far as we are concerned, we don't even know that it exists, okay.

Mark: Okay.

Eleanor: Here is the main point $40,000 got given to Disability Network Flint to develop a training platform about compliance when Disability Network Flint is wildly out of compliance. I mean that is absurd and we don't know what the training says, we don't know what it's about, it was not developed by people who are competent on these issues. What's going on here?

Joe: I'm going to add to that too. That was a $40,000 expenditure that was never fully approved prior to the expenditure by the SILC's body.

Mark: Okay, I would like to dig more, but what part we are going to do with ‑‑ what are we going to say back on objective one? And, you know, and that particular thing that you just said I think we should be brought into the public comment piece because it's not part of this particular line item that we are talking about.

Joe: Well, okay, let's overlap and let's go to what is the content of that peer review process, where has it been developed and why don't the SILC members have that and the public?

Darma: Was this development consumer directed consumer led and will consumers be involved in the reviews? You have left out the most critical piece of creating consumer‑driven, effective services.

Eleanor: The tool and the network academy platform.

Darma: Yeah.

Mark: Okay, CNA is that right? Huh?

Joe: Because they do overlap and it goes to accountability, I mean what is this tool? I have to absolutely 100% agree with Dharma in that, you know, when we get CIL directors coming in, that's fine, okay, part of peer review but where are the consumers at the table? At the center? And it does also go to consumer satisfaction measures.

Darma: Yes.

Joe: It overlaps, and it relates, you know.

Mark: Okay, so I think I got four things the peer review process, where is that at and it should be some type of report as to where all this is going because that is what is missing here. We got all the entities and we have no report coming back that the Council can see. And then the consumer involvement or input in this process because this is supposedly consumer driven and where is their input, is it coming in through surveys or whatever and then last but not least the IL programming, what's going on with the D and A learning, training program for staff so those are the four things that I have.

Joe: I agree.

Mark: Okay, all right. Four, good.

All right, let's move to the next section two and it says let's establish SILC will meet the standards and indicators as required by WIOA. Objective two, SILC will develop internal control mechanisms to ensure compliance with the new SILC standards and indicators, okay? And so then in 2017, we said that the proposed standards and indicators recently released by CIL it's the option of the SILC staff that MISILC is currently ‑‑ is currently compliant with the proposed standards. SILC staff are currently working on the SILC snapshot to present to members which shows the current status of the SILC and its administration.

Joe: Okay I'm sorry go ahead I'm sorry.

Mark: So, in 2018 SILC is currently in compliant with standards and then in 2019 the comment is SILC adopted ACL compliant standards and indicators, staff are reviewing current implementation practices to assure full compliance and the staff and things of that nature so, Steve, can you chime in a little bit on this one?

Steve: Certainly. You know, the example is the accountant that SILC shared with the blue water CIL. You can develop policies and procedures all you want but if they sit on a shelf and collect dust and they are not implemented they are not worth the paper they are written on and so we are conducting a full review of these standards and indicators and how we have adopted them internally, but also how we are applying them. An example is the checks and balances in our accounting system. There really weren't any really going on from what I could see with what happened with the embezzlement with Rich and looking at how they are implemented because really, it's a staff responsibility, it's not a Council responsibility because these really apply to day‑to‑day operations for the full implementation to safeguard the public trust and public dollars. So, we are in the midst of that process right now.

Joe: This is Joe. I really have to comment on this because those standards and indicators, you know, Rodney put out just a bunch of gobbledygook that was not in compliance. We have known and this goes to these problems that we weren't following Michigan open meetings act laws over and over and over again which led to these problems. Just saying that you do, you don't. We know that we weren't meeting the accessibility standards that were part of that and assuring that our facilities and all our meetings were not. The SILC office was not accessible. We know that there has been not ‑‑ no distance, no distance between the DSE and the SILC. The DSE has been running the SILC. We know that I've read that conflict of interest policy that they put out in that report. You know, on the standards and assurances. And that was the biggest circle of logic I ever saw and doesn't meet any conflict of interest policy. We know that, again, we know that these things are not met. We still have a website that is not fully compliant. We still have, you know, I thank God that we finally got a new office. We know though that those are part of those standards and indicators. And I'm telling you when Rodney and staff said it's so self-serving to say we are in compliance. We are just compliant. It's a total fraud.

Mark: Okay, so thanks for the comment. What ‑‑ looking at right now, and when you say you are in compliance what do we want to be reported out to the ‑‑ at our next Council meeting? Steve, you said that you got some internal and got with the accountant and went through the bank statements and I know you have done it at a little of it at the last meeting back in February, I believe, but is there a report or something that we can have at our next meeting that addresses, I don't know, internal control procedures?

Steve: Yes. That will be in the director's report.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: We have some unaccountability on that thing, this is Joe. And you know it's not true that Rodney was not involved when some of the documented fraud went in and according to my releases, you know, Rodney or the accountant that who was not an accountant by the way, he had his license yanked, according to our budgets there was supposed to be $12000 per year but right from the beginning he is being paid $15,000 and $18,000 then $21,000, there is no accountability on that.

Mark: Okay, so I guess the reports that have been sent out, Steve, if ‑‑ at our next meeting, if we get ‑‑ take out some time to discuss some internal controls and actions that have been taken.

Steve: Yes.

Mark: And I think that would ‑‑ there is nothing we can do about what has happened, but we can say moving forward this is what we have, you know, these are our procedures, this is what is in the bank account, this is how we are going to spend it and it's all been signed for and so forth. That would be my recommendation for this particular objective.

Steve: Yes and including separation of duties.

Mark: Okay.

Steve: I'm sorry what was that?

Eleanor: I would like to make a suggestion first this is not just about accounting. This is about the SILC for the past six years making concerted, intentional effort to violate their own policies and the law and my suggestion is that you be really honest with the new Council about that so that they understand what has gone on before and why we are trying to accomplish something different moving into the future.

Joe: This is Joe and it goes beyond accounting as Eleanor just said. I will send out what those WIOA standards and assurances were, they go to access, they go to things beyond accountability. You know, they go to accessible meetings, they go to open meetings act which also includes the FOIA and what not, they go to you know making and ensuring there is the proper resource plan and goes into non‑meddling by the DSE, you know. They go into all kinds of things. You know, so they go beyond that internal control thing so I'm going to send out what those are and as I said they also include a conflict of interest policy. And we've had conflicts for years, man. Real big conflicts.

Darma: I wonder, this is Dharma, could those policies, could the SILC policies be put on your website so that people can read them and also maybe make suggestions about how to make a tighter policy or practice.

Steve: Absolutely, Dharma.

Darma: Okay, good.

Joe: I still got to ask when we are going to fix our website which is an ADA issue.

Steve: It is. We are going to do that too.

Mark: Okay so this is a fourth record but with the website where are we with that? Are we coming okay with that? Steve, what do we need?

Steve: It is at the top of my list to get the RFP written to get that thing done.

Mark: You are doing an RFP, okay, all right and that is what the compliance of we are talking about right now.

Steve: Yes, it needs to be simplified, it needs to be 508 compliant, it needs to be easily read with a screen reader. My understanding is that one of the Council members involved with the current design was a graphic artist and it was more approached from that perspective rather than accessibility perspective and accessibility is number one when it comes to that website and that is the framework which we are going to work when this thing gets redesigned. It's going to be simple, streamlined, it's going to be logical, it's going to make sense, it's going to be easy to navigate and easy to find meeting dates, meeting materials, SILC policies and procedures all of that stuff should be out there because all of these things belong to the people.

Joe: I have to say something about that too. That, you know, in some of my FOIA responses we spent 10s of thousands of dollars on that piece of crap and this goes to conflicts of interest. This goes to friends of friends, you know, oh, let's bring north coast in, let's bring in, you know, Dana group let's do this, well part of that was to you know to have a website, but the stuff on it is a mess. It's, you know, they don't even have current members up there, you know. It's just so incredible. And this does go, again, to this standard and indicator standards and assurances which is it's a documented fact that we are not in full compliance with the accessibility. Those are requirements of the SILC. All of its operations must be accessible to people with disabilities including meetings, so I'm going to send out those things and I'm going to go find the old thing about how we are in compliance which I think Rodney wrote, you know, which was a bunch of circular stuff.

Mark: So the internal control mechanisms going off the standards and basically sitting out there in the WIOA saying what we have to do and we are going to move forward at our next meeting with the Council, Steve is going to talk more in depth about the internal controls that the SILC has and the things that have been put into effect and I don't know if anything needs to be voted on yet, Steve, or not, but I'm probably sure you will present what needs to be done at that time with number two this piece.

Steve: Yes.

Darma: I want to still one thing in here, this is Darma, I would request that when you make your RFPs, or you begin to enter into some contract negotiations you indicate that the SILC is an affirmative hiring agency.

Steve: Yes.

Darma: People with significant disabilities should apply and will be considered.

Steve: Yes.

Mark: Thanks for that piece. That's great. So now we are not just talking we are actually doing, walking.

Darma: We can do it. We can actually change the world with policy. We can.

Mark: Okay, you are right, our piece should have that particular language on it.

Joe: I would like to request this too because part of the standards and indicators are conflict of interest policy. What is our current conflict of interest policy?

Mark: I haven't read ours, we need to read ours.

Joe: That is what I'm talking about.

Mark: I know.

Joe: I understand but I'm talking about the SILC.

Mark: We are talking about basic operational ADA compliant things. Any nonprofit would have in place for what they do so and it's not really hard, it's just making sure we have the policies and procedures out there and put that down.

Joe: Public body, it's not a nonprofit.

Mark: Sorry a public body that is out there just basic internal control, so the two things I got from this one is that the SILC policies put on the website. The RFP that is out there speak to a former not former higher agency and that Steve at the next Council meeting will bring in where you're at, what the internal controls are for the SILC, does that sum it up?

Eleanor: Yep.

Joe: Not really, man. You know, I mean we are ignoring the other standards and indicators. You know we have to clearly articulate, you know, and I know it's been, and this goes back to, you know, the modification of the Bylaws. We need to clearly articulate we are following the open meetings act every step of the way which is not done, you know, and send things out and also the FOIA, you know, which includes the public body, then we have to clearly articulate our accessibility standard and what they are, how you make accommodations, where are they for a public meetings? And we also have to go into, again, the role of the DSE and developing a resource plan and not tampering with the SILC. They don't run us. I'm sorry I yelled.

Mark: Okay you are allowed to have a little bit of emotional. Okay, so.

Joe: I apologize for that part.

Mark: So, I guess we will talk about Steve coming in with internal control and alignment with the standards and indicators are laid out in the WIOA. All right so we are running short, we might have to stop with our public comment but looks like I got about this is a short one let's go to number three.

Joe: Could I interrupt before that? I'm happy to waive my public comment as we keep going through this. Personally, okay.

Mark: Okay.

I got to keep it open though so if you waive your five minutes that gives us ten minutes.

Joe: That is right what I'm willing to do going step by step and happy to do it.

Eleanor: I only need a minute and a half.

Mark: Eleanor a minute and a half and Darma?

Darma: I don't need any time.

Mark: Okay, cool.

Darma: I know where to find you.

Mark: What is that you said?

Darma: I know where to find you.

Mark: Oh, my gosh, please come visit me, I think you will love the place.

Okay, you are welcome to come any time Darma.

Number three Michigan IL programs will explore engaging in marketing campaigns to increase public awareness about the CILs. Objective number three is, A, is CIL I mean the SILC and partnership with CILs will explore marketing concepts to promote CILs.

B is SILC in partnership with CILs will develop and marketing proposal including estimated cost by September 30 of 2017. So, in 2017, there is no progress, there is no progress.

In 2018, there was though progress, there is no progress.

And 2019, no progress, no progress.

So.

Darma: This is Darma can I say something? I think that that's a peculiar goal to say that you want to market the CILs.

In fact, they aren't corporations. The SILC doesn't have any role in marketing individual corporations, what you might really be needing is to say that we want to market the or not market but to promote and educate the public about the purpose of centers for Independent and about the principles of community‑based consumer driven peer delivered services. You know, it's not the entity that you need to get out there in front of the public, you need to get out these ideas that people who get services are partners with the people who deliver services and not, you know, dependent people taking advantage of systems. I mean, there is a lot of public animosity right now for anybody who somehow is involved in the social safety net. And we are losing these rights that we fought so hard for people to write their own work plans. This is stuff that needs to ‑‑ the public doesn't know anything about and if they knew it, they would ‑‑ maybe they would feel differently about people who use tax‑funded programs. There is an idea we need to market but it's not, you know, go visit your CIL.

Joe: Go ahead Eleanor.

Eleanor: That is correct that that would have been an appropriate way to phrase this goal, okay.

But we know that that's not what happened here. What happened here is that this got written into the SPIL because there was a conspiracy between the staff, some Council members and some CIL directors to miss appropriate CIL dollars for a retaliation campaign so this goal as written absolutely needs to be removed from the SPIL. I expect there to be no progress on this. Even though we know that there was progress on this. We know that Rodney was contacting these media companies, was working with Tamara Collier so this whole thing is a lie. It's misguided from the beginning and it needs to be completely rethought if pursued at all.

Joe: It's also a lie, this is Joe, that there wasn't any SILC funds expended on this. Every year we give D and M Michigan $5,000 and that goes over and in part to produce their annual report which is goofier than I can't even state but we also expended money from FOIA requests that I've got, you know, and we don't even know where it went to with the Dana group, and to Grasi, you know, the different names and Nor coast and with another outfit so we expended the money but where is the product? You know, where is this? Money has been spent and I'm talking about tens of thousands of dollars and, you know, this seems to be just a money laundering operation to me.

Mark: So, Darma, appreciate the comment and the purpose of this so Eleanor I appreciate you saying that you supported that probably because it just got worded the wrong way. It's just not a marketing campaign to increase of public awareness about CILs and the actual goal here was to deal with consumer driven, highly effective IL programming that meets all of the Federal standards and indicators, so we have two things we want to talk about here. Do we want to keep this going, I guess I have to kind of go to Steve on this one, and might even do this? I mean do you have thoughts on that?

Steve: That's a good question. You know, there is some general buckets of expenditure line items in the SILC budget that I don't know what it's tied out to, if there are specific work plan objectives, I've yesterday to see a document but when we develop the next budget we need to be accountable for every penny and what it is that we are going to expend it on in the next year. So, I can't say whether there is or not. I really liked Darma's idea that she put out there. I personally don't know what the intent of this was and so further discussion certainly needs to be had with the CILs on this and what Darma said completely resonated with me in terms of promoting those services and getting the public to be more aware of centers for Independent in our state. So, yeah, I mean it definitely warrants further discussion.

Mark: Okay.

Eleanor: When you look at the SPIL you see what the intent is and listed under the compliance goal, so they were trying to put out this media campaign to counter act what consumers and advocates were saying about them. I mean that was the goal and that is inappropriate for the SILC.

Steve: If that is true that is completely inappropriate for that to even be in the SPIL.

Joe: Going back to the budget, you know, we get all these line items that are in there that are listed under communications.

Steve: Yeah.

Joe: Under here they don't correlate to what actually gets expended for and again I go back to these other things. There is also, you know, we are ‑‑ the SILC should be doing some of this stuff itself, period. And look we can tell people on our own what is accessible. What an IL program is. What are the principles of IL?

Steve: Yeah.

Joe: Period. And it's just, you know, I know everybody hasn't seen all the FOIA I have, Eleanor and Dharma have, but, you know, it's a miss match of stuff and unaccountable funds and they have been expended on these campaigns.

Steve: So, one thing you are going to start seeing, Joe, at future Council meetings and during our finance committee meetings is our check register. That's been a vital piece of information that's been missing from previous meetings so that the public can see every check that is stroked out of SILC's account and who it goes to with an explanation of what the money was used for.

Mark: Outstanding.

Darma: Steve, can I ask you're not currently using a fund accounting and I wondered like when I look at the SPIL plan sometimes plans are made with a column that designates the funding source.

Steve: Uh‑huh.

Darma: If they don't have a number it will say well, we are going to take this out of this funder but, you know, contribution. So that helps people see you know how everything is connected.

Steve: Yeah.

Darma: If you follow the money you will find out what people are actually doing.

Steve: Yeah.

Darma: I think maybe that would be a good thing. I have not ever really seen a complete budget for ‑‑ do you make it out for the three‑year SPIL or how does that work?

Steve: There is a resource plan within the SPIL but all it is just about four-line items with lump sums amounts of money and the source that it comes from and then the SILC budget is developed and there are to revenue sources and then down below are expense categories. Well, it's the expense categories that are too generic. For instance, one is called SPIL support. Well what does that mean? There is one that is communications. I think that there needs to be sub accounts to each of those that are more specific and then you can tie the checks that are cutback to those sub accounts so that we know exactly what this stuff is going to.

Darma: Right.

Joe: There is also I'm sorry.

Darma: Go ahead.

Joe: There is professional services, there is nobody is knowing what that is, you know. There also has been in budgets legal expenses, you know, and you know what is the state agency going out and spending money on legal? You know, when it's supposed to be, you know, dealing with the Attorney General, you know.

Steve: Yeah, there should not be any mystery around what SILC is spending money on. I mean that should not be an issue going forward when you're completely transparent with what you're doing, and you provide sufficient information and reports to the public on where that's going to.

Darma: Yes.

Joe: Absolutely.

Darma: That is the best way not to get caught with your pants down.

Steve: To be good with public dollars and trusts.

Joe: We have two resource plans or contracts one with BSBP and one which is partial and one with MRS and that gets very confusing but none of those have been met. You know, and they have been violated and it does go down to, you know, it gets back to the Hartwig situation too because there is items in the P and L that still has not been explained to me, you know, even for March, you know, that there was an NCRS, BSBP contract and there was an MRS contract, you know, to be the SILC to be the fiduciary which is illegal to begin with and then you know the two other resources, you know, the general contracts between them. I was just looking with the BSBP one, you know, this goes the to document retention, in that contract alone, you know, requires that documents be retained, you know, for up to seven years. It also denotes the open meetings act in there. You know. That was violated and we still haven't got, you know, it also includes a narrative that was required as part of that contract and I'm sure MRS has one, but they have not sent me an accessible one, that there are quarterly narratives. During the last fiscal year, I've been cutting teeth to find out what Rodney sent in, you know, I only got three quarters after all kinds they were gibberish and no four-quarter report, it was a breach of contract, it's plain on its face.

Mark: You are on point here and I keep hearing when I heard Dharma talk about and Steve what is going to be allocated towards some of these goals and definitely when we are talking about the next SPIL plans that we know where the money is at, know where the human resources are at and definitely understand what impact we are making. So, for this particular goal it's supposed to be consumer driven, we are talking about the marketing thing, I like the idea that Dharma had on the purpose of CILs because I think we do ‑‑ if that is what we will do we should have public awareness of what CILs do. As far as revenue and funds, I don't know what to say on this one. I kind of would have to say we have to let this table to get a little bit more clarity on this. It's not ‑‑ there is no progress. We have not done anything. So, I would almost say get rid of it or and our next report say we didn't do it or what we did was we looked at something that talked about the purposes of CIL. That is the place I'm at. That's all I have. The purposes of CILs. Anybody have anything else right now?

Darma: Mark, just to say that CILs are envisioned as an unique alternative to a professional expert delivered service, it's about peers, peers helping peers, peers helping you to be self-help, anyway there is something so unique and so different that distinguishes centers from every other entity especially entities that get Government money and that should be celebrated. We should all say wow, I didn't know this. This is great. So anyway.

Eleanor: We can't say it until it's true, you know. This can't be a lie.

Mark: Making a prophecy we do need to do better. So, with that being said I appreciate that Eleanor, you can't say it until it's true however there are some things that all the CILs do the right way and this is from client CPs there is a lot of pieces tied in. We could start looking at our statement on how we are going to ‑‑ what we expect to see of all CILs. I think.

Eleanor: Yes.

Mark: Does that make sense? The data I know it's all about compliance and getting people to do the right thing but we got to put this out there, this is what they do, this is the purpose and then believe it or not if it's consumer driven and CILs have that purpose, the consumers will take over if we let people know when they go to a CIL you can expect for your voice to be heard you can expect for the staff and the people at the CIL to focus on you and the things that you want to accomplish in your community. If we let everybody know that, then I really believe that when people come to our agency, they will have that expectation.

Darma: Exactly on point because what you are doing is community building.

You are building the disability community to be its own force for change and that's exactly the ‑‑ that is my big dream.

Mark: So we need to put that and anything we do we need to tie it that way when we talk about CILs and then it almost comes to a point with the culture understands that hey when I walk into a CIL and the door they don't have openers and things are not accessible I can almost say wait a minute, I'm not understanding the CILs they strive to be accessible and I will have a voice and I have an expectation when I walk in the door, you know, this is what you say you are.

Joe: Exactly on that latter point but the fundamental ISD when we had a meeting, you know, really what is independent living all about in one sentence? One sentence. And one sentence we are the experts on our lives. I see too much both from the SILC and from centers for Independent with their programs and it makes more of my hair fall out. Whenever I hear things go to subject matter experts. When I hear that term, that is totally the opposite of Independent.

Eleanor: I would like to add the idea that we just described, okay, half of the benefit would be end ‑‑ educating the centers themselves and for the first time in recent history that would be the first time that the SILC ever took a position or had a voice on that subject at all. That would be huge.

Say that again.

Mark: I'm trying to take notes. That last part.

Eleanor: I'm saying the SILC developed a position and a statement and some materials they could use in communications that very clearly communicated what Independent is and what CILs are and what SILCs are, half of the benefit would be educating the centers themselves and that absolutely needs to happen.

Mark: Okay I understand, education of the CILs, okay.

All right and folks we are about out of time, we have five minutes left and I have to save some time so we have three minutes to wrap up and then we need our public comment so if y'all want to start so you can start.

**Efficient IL Program Objective 4 through 7**

Actions:

* Objective 4, 2019 progress: should include a footnote with more comprehensive detail regarding the MiSILC/ACL Meeting for technical assistance during the 2019 SILC Congress. Steve provided a verbal report during the SILC Council meeting in March.
* Objective 5, 2019 progress: The committee would like to get more information/update about the Disability Network Academy. Is there a way to get access to the content? We would like to have complete accountability of where/how the $40,000 was spent? Mark Pierce will reach out and invite a presenter to our August 2, 2019 SPIL Committee Meeting.
* Objective 6, 2019 progress: goals have not been met in the last three years. The committee and the entire SILC Council needs to have regular communication with BSBP. Mark Pierce will contact Lisa Kisiel and have her prepare a report on Part B IL Services for the next SILC Council Quarterly Business Meeting.
* Objective 7, 2019 progress: The quality assurance protocol remains in continuous development. We need to find out where that is at. Mark Pierce will contract Steve Locke for an update on this report.

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objective is a Michigan CIL will seek technical assistance through the DSE, so the CIL association, the ACL and ILRU to assure compliance with standards and indicators. The objective four is to by annual report of technical assistance needed of the CILs. We just had someone join.

Aaron: Sorry, I don't know what happened. It dropped me.

Mark: So, you are just calling back, okay.

Aaron: Yep.

Mark: So, all this time you weren't even there, I was reading to myself but it's okay and so the objective four for measurable indicators and activities is a by annual report of technical assistance needed of the SILC ‑‑ CILs and a percentage of needs met. Then when we go to 2017 the SILC and Disability Network and Macomb provided the requested data, requested technical assistance to just be network Wayne County and their executive director search which ends up getting a new director named Lori Hill. In 2018 the SILC provided technical assistance to CIL network net CIL database system. All needs were met. I don't know what the needs were, but I guess they were met.

Disability Network Michigan provided technical assistance to CIL to prepare for the nifty redesign that happened in 2018 and SILC had a consultant where ILRU on various topics regarding SILC operations.

2019, objective, SILC staffed two members and the CIL network CO met with ACL at the SILC Congress for technical assistance and SILC operations and composition. SILC consulted with ILRU on various topics regarding the SILC operation.

I believe that Steve gave the report on that back in March or April about them going to the SILC conference. So that is according to that particular objective, which is to make sure compliance of standards and indicators that is what we have done. Anybody have any other comments on that up to now?

Aaron: I have one. It sounds good, but we don't ‑‑ we don't really have any action ‑‑ it all sounds very good and I'm sure we have talked with ACL, but what as a result what has come out of that conversation?

Mark: So that is a good question, Aaron. So maybe something a little bit more comprehensive can be attached like it's a footnote on this so like Steve's report from the SILC Congress, when they went for that convention or whatever and did you go?

Tracy: I did not.

Aaron: I went with Steve and Robin and Sara.

Mark: Didn't you guys do a report when you got back, right?

Aaron: We met with ‑‑ we met with ACL and talked basically about the issues of restructuring and how we were out of compliance and we were trying to get back in to compliance but as far as I know there wasn't ‑‑ obviously we are better at getting back into compliance but there was not really any in my mind substantial information that was taken as far as actually, yes, we were out of compliance but there obviously was not ‑‑ if this is part of the objective, then were these steps taken from that meeting, it's supposed to be the action steps from this objective? I'm just confused about this whole thing.

Mark: Well, the way, according to the objective and the way it reads out it says that assure compliance with the standards and indicators and apparently you guys did go to ACL and y'all have some things that we weren't in compliance or whatever. I always say let's pull the reports and get that what's needed to be done put in here.

Aaron: Right.

Mark: Follow me?

Aaron: Yes.

Mark: Steve had done an action report and I think Robin done one also.

Aaron: Yes.

Mark: And they read it to the Council back in March, yeah, and so maybe we should pull ‑‑ put that footnote in here and then look at that report and see what we need to do.

Aaron: Right.

Mark: Okay, so Tracy, if you could get the reports that were submitted and then we will let Steve know to get Steve's report and he is probably already working on it now.

Aaron: Right.

Mark: Let's find out what we are supposed to do. Very good. Anything else we need to do with that one?

Okay, all right, now we go to objective five Michigan IL network will develop a culture for excellence to help strengthen IL programming in Michigan. Objective five, formation of a culture of excellence for the CIL network effort. As far as what happened in 2017, I guess there was, I'm reading it here, in collaboration with Disability Network Disability Network Michigan, the SILC and Disability Network continues to develop Disability Network academy provides streamlined training and technical support to CILs across Michigan. So that is ‑‑ that happened in 2017. Do we have someone else join?

Aaron: I got dropped again and I called back in.

Mark: Okay.

Aaron: I don't know why I keep getting dropped but I called back in and everything is okay.

Mark: Okay, for 2018 progress, Disability Network Michigan stopped participating and continuing our quality improvement with the CQI academy and methods of implementing monitoring programs and using a TQI approach, Disability Network Michigan has developed evaluation steering committee to evaluate how we are reporting measurable outcomes. Disability Network Michigan has Disability Network academy to support CILs in their training and development needs and then of course all of the above elements are part of the culture of excellence concept are presented to the CIL directors. That happened in 2018.

2019 progress, Disability Network Michigan launched the Disability Network academy and has standardized CIL stuff and IL training curriculum la with a culture of excellence concept to all Michigan CILs.

So, when I read this, I think we need to know more about the Disability Network academy, what their goal is, what is their milestones, what topics are being covered, and how is it getting rolled out. That's what I see there.

Aaron: Yes, I would agree.

Joe: Sorry I had a hard time getting on to this call.

Hi Joe.

Joe: Yes, I kept getting blocked off on this call.

Mark: We used the same number, didn't we? And Aaron says he keeps going away or something or gets disconnected.

Joe: I've been trying to get on for 20 minutes.

Mark: I believe it. I don't know what happened but thank you for joining.

We are right now just to run you up to speed we are on objective number five and the discussion is on the Disability Network academy and what progress has happened in 2019. And so, we are reading what was in there thus far, but I think we do need an update on the disability the DNA academy that they have.

Joe: The DNA academy is crap. I'm going to say it right now out loud. That was a $40,000 extravaganza that was garbage.

Elanor: I'm sorry that I was late, but I just would like to comment on this topic that I don't think any of us have ever even seen that this academy exists let alone knowing what kind of content is in it, whether it portrays a, quote, culture of excellence. I mean the SILC spent $40,000 on this and we don't even know that it exists, so I would like to see more information about this but also be given access to the content.

Mark: Thank you and that is where I was kind of closing out with saying we need to know what this is all about and where it's at and what is the content topics, so forth. And so that would be my recommendation that we get the whole gamut what the whole academy is about and what is the plan for this. And let's see what it is.

Because it's weird because supposedly all the CIL staff are supposed to be using this but if you haven't even seen it then.

Mark: I've seen it but all I've seen is the basics of being rolled out. We got five topics thus far, but we have been having trouble with the delivery of it and so it's not accessible one of the pieces. I'm just going to say that and so we need to make sure that it's accessible and I say that we get information on it and we get a presentation, a report on what's going on with it, that's what I say.

Joe: Excuse me. I'm sorry, but how in the world does the SILC spend $40,000 on something that nobody knows about? I don't understand this. I can't wrap my head around this. How in the world do we spend $40,000 on a goofy, non‑tangible, non‑spongable item? What in the world is going on here?

Mark: Well, that is why we are going to get to the bottom of what this is and see how tangible it is. That is all I know what to say because in 2018 it was written in here that we do it and we have been talking about it since 2017 and so I want ‑‑ I say we find out what it is, put it out there. Let's see the program.

Joe: The money has already been spent.

Mark: We can get maybe get them to come to our committee meeting and explain it to us.

Joe: But this is my center for Independent that is a piece of crap nothing.

Eleanor: This is clearly a giveaway to somebody's friend and a gigantic waste of mean and asking them to speak to the committee, so we can ask them these questions directly is a good idea and they need to take some responsibility for the money they took.

Mark: Yeah.

Joe: And so, does the previous executive director who is making all kinds of money off us and violating our civil rights, sir. What the heck is going on with this SILC? I'm sorry, I'm sorry, man, I'm so ticked off at being never mind, go ahead.

Mark: So, what we're going to do is ask for a request to have them come in and give us an overview what is going on with the Disability Network academy, we can get somebody to come in and present it to us.

Joe: How about giving us our money back? How about that? How about it?

Mark: Once you talk to them, I guess you can ask them but I'm going to start with step one to get someone here to explain what is going on. Does that sound reasonable?

Aaron: Yes.

Mark: Okay, thank you. I'll look for someone, a presenter.

Okay, and bring them to the committee before we bring them up to the Council, correct? So, we can make a recommendation.

Aaron: I think that would be wise, so we can report back to the Council of what exactly we found.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: I move as a member of this academy or this committee, I move that we have a complete accountability of where the $40,000 went and where it was spent and how it was spent.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: That's a formal motion.

Mark: The funds that were spent on the academy, line item out as to where they went.

Joe: Yes, and what they were spent on.

Aaron: I'm having a hard time hearing Joe. I don't know if you stepped away from the phone or what but it's hard to hear specifically Joe.

Joe: Do you hear me now?

Aaron: You are still quiet, but I can make out.

Joe: Can you hear me now? Can you hear me now?

Mark: I hear you.

Joe: I move that we account for all the $40,000 that was spent on disability academy and what it was spent for and how it was done.

Joe: I'm losing you now.

Mark: We have a lot of static, yeah, okay.

Joe: Can you hear me?

Mark: Yeah, I can hear you. Okay, so financial report and during the presentations of what transpired over the past 2017, 2018 for the program; is that correct?

Aaron: Yes.

Joe: That's correct.

Mark: Okay, all right, okay, any more comments on number five?

Joe: Do we have a passage on this? Do we have a vote on this? That was a formal motion.

Aaron: In committee we don't need motions because we are going to do what the committee recommends and that was a recommendation by the committee.

Joe: What the heck are you people talking about?

Mark: Well I mean this is the situation, Joe, if you want us to get the report and get them to do the presentation that's what we will go and do.

Aaron: Yeah, that is what we are doing.

Joe: Oh, my God, whatever.

Mark: Okay so I got that wrote here to do so we will get the finance report on it and find out exactly the whole layout of the DNA and then from there we will make our recommendations to the Council and tell them this is what we found.

Joe: Do you understand how ‑‑ okay, never mind. I'm just so flabbergasted, so flabbergasted by the fact that this committee in that this SILC is so outrageously out of compliance with the laws of these lands that I can't even stand it, man. It took me 20 minutes to get on to this meeting. It took me 20 minutes, sir, it took ‑‑ then we have tens of thousands of dollars that are just unaccountable, unaccountable. I'm trying to be calm.

Aaron: We will get to the bottom of it and we will report back. That is what this committee is for.

Joe: Really, really.

Aaron: Yes.

Joe: What this committee is for is we got a fight going on in our committees. We got stealing going on, sir, under your watch, under your watch, tens of thousands of dollars were stolen from people with disability, sir.

Mark: Joe, for accountability purposes that's why we were bringing this program in, to see if they would present their report on how it was spent and if that is what happened then we will go from there and by going through the actual SPIL and making sure that we look at each objective and that was the one we want accountability on the DNA program so we will get the presentation and monies that were spent.

Joe: Sir.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: Look, no, let me point out facts, facts, sir. The former director made no, and I will repeat no vetting of the accountant who was indeed convicted of embezzlement and fraud. That was a fact, sir. These are facts, sir. Facts, he was convicted of fraud in 2000. He had his accounting license taken away in 2002, sir, the executive director is still being paid in excess of $100,000 to work for the DSA. The DSA, sir. What the heck, man? These are fraudulent activities. These are outrageous activities. These are unaccountable facts. These are facts, sir. Now we don't have to look into this, sir, these are facts, sir. We got crooks, we got crooks involved with our agencies, sir. Now, you think I'm not going to let this go, I am not going to let this go.

Aaron: Joe, we are trying to get to the bottom of it. We are trying to get to the bottom of the issues you want to address, and we are doing that.

Joe: Really, how are you doing that? How are you doing that Aaron?

Eleanor: We all get what you're saying Joe, you made your point, can we get back to the SPIL?

Aaron: I would like to do that, yes. Mark, if you would.

Mark: I'm ready to move to the next one. Number six, objective six, the Bureau of services of blind person will offer part B funds IL services to people who are blind, objective and measurable indicators and activities advance the goal, number of BSBP consumers who receive part B IL fund services and percentage of the goals set and BSBP and the IL services. In 2017 they had 157, BSBP customers or consumers receive part B services. For B they had 55.25% of the goal met of 257 set and 142 met. That was in 2017.

In 2018, 121, BSBP consumers received part B services. BSBP will continue to utilize part B funding to provide services for individuals that are blind and visually impaired with multiple disabilities as well as nursing home transition as a result of WIOA eliminated vocational goals of homemaker, the IL part of B programming is simply provide more limited services. 48.34% of goals met of the 211 set at 102 were met so 102 were met.

Joe: Nothing.

Mark: That was in 2019 so they did not meet that goal.

Joe: No, and they never will because they are totally out of compliance with IL goals and guidelines. They always have been, and they always will be because nobody, nobody looks at what they're supposed to be doing. This is outrageous that we give them any money, any at all or we supply them with any money when they have committed fraud. They committed fraud upon me. They, I have a documented case load and the documented case where they called me a client when I wasn't even a client. They are in total violation of the law, sir. They always have been, they always will be. They have been ever since the Governor Snyder destroyed the commission for the blind. Open and documented.

Mark: So going with this particular goal going into 2019 then we can look at what you just stated, Joe, in 2019 this far in two quarters they have 68, BSBP consumers receive part B services here to date and 28.06% of the goal was met of the 139 set, only 39 was met and so in mid-term we were sitting at a what looks like a first quarter goal and kind of what you just said they are not meeting their goal. The goal was set at 139 and is less than what it was in 2018 and they have only met 39, so what do we want to do in this particular objective?

Joe: Here is my particular objective, we deny them the funding. They are guilty of theft. Deny them the funding. End it.

Eleanor: I think that we need to get to a place in this committee and with the Council where we are regularly communicating with the BSBP and letting them know that these numbers are not acceptable because, guys, I think what we need to step back and understand when you look at the Disability Network annual report that talks about who is being served by centers for Independent, the number of blind people and deaf people together is really low like 4% compared to 10% nondisabled people that are being served. So, when blind people are not properly served given Independent services by BSBP that means in our state blind people are not being served by the Independent program and that is a really big problem.

Joe: It's a very big problem. I don't get services, sir. I don't get them.

Mark: So, when you look over the past three years of all the goals that have been set and we have a small percentage only 43% of it .6 of the goal is really being met. The question is why is that? You know, why are we not receiving the services? So right now, that is where we are at. We are going to in 2019, over a year's time moving along the goal hasn't even hit 50% so that is a fact per se.

Joe: Sir, why it is because it's all free money. It's all a bunch of crap. It's a bunch of give and BSBP money to do nothing. That's what the goal is. That is what it's all about, sir. I'm sorry to be the person to bring up the fact that they will always and especially since Governor Snyder destroyed the Commission for the Blind, destroyed it, destroyed the consumer control over our agency that ‑‑ this is all about giving people money for doing nothing. I'm telling you this is all about giving people for doing nothing.

Aaron: Can we set up some kind of ‑‑ have somebody come and tell us exactly what they spent money on to give some type of action to see what exactly what are the problems and why they are not meeting the goals over the three years, can we send something out?

I mean we do have a BSBP representative and I can say she can come in and talk about part B funds IL services how they were distributed and what is going on with the goal.

Aaron: Right.

Mark: Does that make sense?

Joe: You've already said they haven't met their goals even by their own omission.

Aaron: In order to fix it we need to know why though.

Eleanor: Comes to every Council meeting so at the next Council meeting we can ask her for an answer approach her beforehand and say I want an answer to this at the next Council meeting.

Mark: That would work well, I like that, we will get with and let Lisa know.

Joe: Where is the 704 report, where is it? I've asked for it. They don't even produce it.

Mark: That is what we are saying we are going to ask for that report and talk about their particular objective six to give us a comprehensive report of this, of these people and what services were actually offered. We should be able to break it down I would say. They are IL services but at the same time you can break them down as to what it was, you know, and we set a goal in 2019 of 139 and we are only at 39. What is happening? Is there any outreach? Why is it that way? So, I think we could ask for that report and if she can report to the Council that would be the proper way to do it. A report that can be put on file, put on record. That sounds reasonable to me.

Aaron: Yes.

Mark: A report from BSBP.

Joe: They have not filled out a report for ten years under part B funding. They have done nothing, nothing.

Mark: On part B funds. All right, okay, that's who is on there, all right, that is objective six. Let's get to objective seven if we are ready to move forward, okay.

Objective seven, assurance and control for database use, database entry protocol, measurable indicators, number seven, develop a database user manual by December 31st, 2016. Then B would be a by annual report of the training offered to the CIL network and then C would be developing a quality assurance report which indicates 95% adherence to the data protocol within the CIL network.

So, in 2017, objective seven the development of the state net CIL Michigan database user manual was completed in the third quarter of 2017. All CILs net CIL users are required through their MRS contracts to ensure certification of net CIL user staff. CIL has provided three webinars on NetCIL usage and providing rules and reporting, entering services and completion of a 704 Part Two Report. Quality assurance report protocol remains in development.

So, we have the 2018 they say the goal was completed and Disability Network Michigan offered training to CILs on the program in 2018. Quality assurance report protocol remains in development.

So, in 2019, the goal completed was ongoing. Ongoing review. Disability Network continues to offer training to CILs as programs are added and modified. Quality assurance report protocol remains in continuous development.

So, the quality assurance protocol seems to be the thread that we have been going over for the last three years. That's what I gather from this. The quality assurance protocol remains in continuous development. I would say we need to find out where that is at.

Joe: What are they?

Mark: Yeah.

Joe: Sir, this is just kind of a bunch of gobbly‑gook in my mind.

Mark: With all due respect I'm trying to work through this gobbly‑gook and trying to get some type of accountability. I want to find out about the assurance report the protocol remains in continuous development and that seems to be the key to that particular objective that we set out for quality assurance and quality control of the database and the data entry protocol and that we know we have a database user’s manual that we use, but the piece that we are concerned about is kind of goes back to what has been said about services and everything we do is that report, can we get that quality assurance report so we can have something to go by at our level. Without that we don't even know how each person is being trained. We don't know exactly how information is put into the database and I haven't seen that report, so I would like to get to the bottom of it.

Joe: You and I both have the same problem, we have no information.

Mark: Right.

Eleanor: None of us know anything about this because Rodney kept it totally a secret. We know he left us a hot mess to deal with. We need to talk to Steve about where he is at trying to figure out the mess Rodney left.

Mark: Right so with the quality assurance report protocol, I think that is a good place to start, to start with Steve on that. So, did Rodney leave anything and where is it at. Anybody else have any other suggestions on that one?

Joe: Why is Rodney being paid money?

Mark: I don't know why the state pays him. I don't know. I follow you, but I can't answer that question.

Joe: I understand. Apparently, he did the job and we are paying him, the same as paying him money to not do his job.

Mark: Okay, so let me go through a quick overview. I don't know if you guys need it of pages 12, according to the respective and efficient IL programming on the page that starts with objective number four, one of the things, I'm going to go through it real quick and we will go to the next one, objective number four we say there should be footnotes and get the report to Steve and Robin and even Aaron, they have went to the Congress and there was some standards and indicators of comply compliance they reported back on and I believe the footnote of that report that what we as a SILC should be doing so we need to get that report. I don't know if you all remember Steve read it back in March that report of what they got when they went to the Congress and then find out exactly what things they are supposed to get done there.

Joe: Okay.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: Here is the deal, we are totally out of compliance with our goals. We are totally out of compliance with our bylaws. They are totally, 100%, 150% out of compliance. We are totally out of compliance with our executive order. 150% out of compliance to this day. That's a fact. These are facts.

Mark: Okay.

Joe: So, what are we going to do about that, sir?

Mark: That is why we get our reports and highlight on the things we have been told to do and move forward, so that's where we are at with this one. I'm talking about number four.

Number five is the one that you had mentioned about the DNA, giving a report on a presenter of what is going on with the DNA, with the network and the CIL I mean with the CILs so that report they are going to come to us and report on that. That is not going right to the Council.

The one.

Joe: Excuse me, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, we spent $40,000 on this DNA. We don't have a report right now; is that correct?

Mark: That is why we are questioning the report. We wrote it down, we want a line item report of what we spent on the programming and presentation of what DNA is supposed to be, the purpose.

Eleanor: We have already covered this. I'd like to go back to the last point about effective and efficient IL program in Michigan. We had had some conversations with Steve about setting up a conversation between the CILs and the SILC and consumers. Just one second.

Mark: Hello.

Eleanor: Yes, so my understanding is that that process has stalled because the CILs are not willing to meet with consumers or the SILC and consumers. So, Mark, I don't know if there is anything you can do there to help them understand, you know, that we are trying to turn the page and turn a new chapter, have real conversations about the state of the Independent program in Michigan. I think we got to find some way to connect the CILs and the SILC and the consumers there and all they do is sent their lobbyist Sara Grivitti to act in their place and that doesn't work so we have to find a way to engage in dialog with them and they don't seem to be willing. Do other people have thoughts on that?

Joe: Yes. They never ‑‑ our centers for Independent and our state agency, so called, you know, the Disability Network Michigan actively, actively violates the Americans with Disabilities Act, actively does it. It engages against consumers on our civil rights laws. It is an outrage and it always has been. Sara Grivetti, is not, and I would repeat is not an advocate for people with disabilities but an advocate against people with disabilities. In demonstrable fashion, demonstrable fashion. Now what are we as a state actor going to do about turning that around? Turning that ship around?

Mark: So, in response to Eleanor's question about how do we get the SILC, the centers for Independent and consumers, if I'm understanding you correctly, to have a meeting and a conversation to discuss services, IL services in the State of Michigan. You asked, Eleanor, how can we some ideas on how to get that to happen?

Eleanor: Yes.

Mark: Okay, so and this is just kind of a brainstorming idea but I think it can be done, it may be tough to get everybody here, but I think we can take kind of break it into groups and if, this is just an idea, just like the west side of the state so many CILs there will meet and their consumers and the SILC, you know, some of the actual Council members and of course the executive director. They could have a meeting, an outing or not a cookout but like a little mini conference or something and then the ones in the middle of the state, my area, going up maybe in the UP or something and could do theirs and the east side to do one and have someone facilitate it out, asking the questions and it could be educational as to what the SILC is here for and how it represents them and it can also be interactive where they have an opportunity definitely to state their actual concerns and what they expect out of the state, out of us and moving forward. It would take a little bit of logistical work, but I think that could be a way of rolling it out.

Eleanor: We got to find a way to have a conversation about the fact that the CILs are not in compliance. I'm not going to drone on and on about this, but I have been requesting an Independent plan for my CIL for three months and they absolutely will not respond. That's a direct violation. I mean, and these are big questions and we don't have any way of counting who is not getting served. So, we got problems and we need them to come to the table and take them seriously and talk to us, you know, like human beings.

Mark: Uh‑huh.

Eleanor: About tough conversations.

Mark: Yeah, I mean, you know, saying that this is what the CILs and SILC, this is our purpose, this is what we do and then saying and looking at the services that are being offered and people being able to say like with what you said I'm trying to get an Independent plan done, it's not happening, why is that? And how do we get you to get that done? It's hard for me to believe that and it's hard for me to understand why you with Independent with that and I don't know what is going on there.

Eleanor: What is going on, Mark, is they have been on a retaliation campaign against me for the past three years and, you know, I'm not sure I want to just meet with CILs on the western side of the state because that leaves Muskegon, Grand Rapids, Dave Bulkowski we have evidence of him saying use guerilla tactics against consumers and Disability Network lakeshore.

Mark: I was brainstorming, I didn't have it all thought out, but I didn't think about that piece.

Eleanor: I don't know and ask them how come you all don't hold each other accountability? How come nobody cares that CILs are not providing services across the state? I know some are better than others but like how did we get here and how can we get out?

Mark: Well, that is a good question because I guess, Eleanor, I never thought about an IL plan, to me that is the basic thing that we do. So, it's kind of hard for me to conceive that, you know, I mean the person comes in, they want to get the IL plan done, they have goals and they move forward with it. But I do understand from the point that there is an average and there is a relationship that your kind of bumping heads, what would be another option, would it be you do it with another ‑‑ you think the answer is to do it with another CIL? I mean, should it be done with one you would feel a little more comfortable because that is the same thing that ‑‑ I mean it's just like a right where okay I don't want to have my service given by this particular agency, I would like it with another one, but and.

Eleanor: This is just a suggestion Mark but, no, because the problem is that the CIL is out of compliance and it needs to come into compliance, so I appreciate your offer but I'm not going to go to some other CIL that I don't have a right to.

Mark: So, in order, I will take that particular example that you have given me, what would be the proper thing for the SILC would do talking with the other CILs? What do you think the group of CILs should do for them type of concerns? We need a way of getting that out and then how do you ‑‑ how do I hold a sovereign CIL accountable somewhere else? Something has to be ‑‑ do you follow me?

Joe: This is Joe.

Mark: Eleanor, I was just trying to go through it, can you say that Eleanor?

Eleanor: All of the conversations that happen between the CIL directors take place behind closed doors, so we have no access to that whatsoever, so I don't know what kind of conversations you all have when you meet. I asked Steve that question and he said that they have never had a conversation about compliance like that. So, I am hoping that by engaging with the SILC and the SPIL and consumers directly that that might start to change, and we might be able to have a conversation about what's going on in this state. I don't know what else to do.

Mark: Okay, yeah, and that is why I wanted to tease it out. So, it's almost like how does a person, and I'm not trying to minimize it, egregious process.

Eleanor: We have a grievance process here, I filed a grievance, they won't respond or comply with their own policies. I mean they just don't care.

Mark: I've took note of that. That is a hard conversation, these are hard conversations, I'm sorry.

Aaron: I have a question. Eleanor and Joe and everybody involved, I know that you say the SILC is hugely out of compliance and that we need to change some things and I just wonder about other consumers because frankly the only people we hear from are ‑‑ are from you all that are on the phone right now. Honestly, all the people that I talk to granted, I'm in the UP, so all the people that I talk to don't have the same concerns that you do so I'm just wondering how, you know, how other people feel and we want to address their concerns as well as your concerns and since we only hear from a select group of people it's hard to get other people's thoughts and feelings on the subject as well.

 Joe: Really, I tell you what, mother, what the heck, what are you talking about? You don't even think about consumer. You don't consider it ever. I'm so sick of you saying what you say. I'm disgusted by it.

Mark: So, I think that we need to move forward.

Joe: Really, I tell you what you know, here is the deal, we got people that are put into institutions every day, and we have people that are put ‑‑ that are destroyed every day sir.

Mark: Yes, I would agree with Joe, there are people that have been their rights have been violated and they have no voice and.

Eleanor: I would like to answer Aaron's question.

Aaron: I wasn't trying to get everybody off. Would one other people's voices and if you are able to speak for those voices, great. If they are able to speak for themselves, great, I just wanted to know other people, you know.

Eleanor: Aaron, what you're saying is a good thing, but here is the thing, you're not going to hear from other people because our CILs are so divorced from the disability community that they're done interacting with their CILs and the CILs aren't teaching Independent philosophy, so nobody here knows except us old schoolers what CILs are supposed to be doing. So, we are the ones here holding you accountable for this very problem that we don't have enough consumer involvement, so we want you to hear from other people, we want you to be hearing from a lot of people, we are just the ones that you couldn't make go away, you know.

Aaron: For the record I'm not trying to make you go away.

Mark: I would like to say that all voices are important and the voice that I hear I think we do have to move forward and find out why they feel that way, consumers and what other ways can we get consumers to be involved and I'm not going to toot my horn about my own CIL because that's not what I'm here for but we have consumer voice meetings monthly and we do a lot of different ‑‑ our consumers we are consumer driven so people tell us what to do so that is why I do the stuff I do.