

## **Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council**

Unapproved Minutes

Nevada, Missouri

May 18, 2007

**Members in Attendance:** Stephanie Brady, Chair; Donna, Borgmeyer, Vice Chair; Joseph Matovu; Barbara Dewberry; Gary Maddox; Clayton Porter; Tim Azinger; Lloyd Tichenor; Jerry Armstrong; Mike Keller; Randy Custer, RSB; Kelly Flaugher, DVR

**Others in Attendance:** Gary Moll, DVR; Tammy Schlote, SILC; Sherry Keller; Shirley Tichenor; Pat Chambers, OMO; Lori Steffen, UDHN; Sara McDowell, SADI; Eric Kelly; Mike Hutchins; Theresa Scherer; Joanne Rosales; Sybil Noble; Duane Wester; Jeanne McKim, RAIL; Theresa Myers, RAIL; Kimberly Anderson, MO P&A; John Klingaman, OMO

### **Agenda**

Stephanie Brady called the meeting to order and started introductions around the room. Pat Chambers welcomed the SILC to Nevada, MO and introduced Kathy Wysong, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce and Mike Hutchins, City Councilman. Ms. Wysong and Mr. Hutchins both gave a welcome speech and a brief history of Nevada, MO. John Klingaman, Executive Director at OMO also gave a welcome to the SILC.

Stephanie asked for a review of the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Donna Borgmeyer and was seconded by Joseph Matovu. The motion to approve the agenda was approved.

### **SILC Meeting Minutes Approval**

Stephanie Brady asked for approval of the minutes from the February 2007 Council Meeting. Joseph Matovu made a motion to approve the minutes. Barbara Dewberry seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the council.

### **Chair Report – Stephanie Brady**

Stephanie gave an overview of a couple of opportunities available to the CILs. The Veteran's Administrations is looking for organizations to partner with to provide vendor services for attendant care and home modifications. Also the Healthy Children and Youth through the Bureau of Special Health Care Needs is another organization looking for contractors and vendors to contract through them to provide the same type of programs that the CILs are already doing except for children ages birth to 21 years.

The SILC will be providing more information regarding Public Service Announcements that will be available to the CILs for customization to advertise their services.

### **DSU Reports**

#### **Vocational Rehabilitation – Kelly Flaugher**

The State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) was taken to the State Board of Education's April meeting for approval. The SPIL was approved by the State Board of Education at that time. The SPIL will go into effect October 1, 2007 pending approval by RSA.

The budget is still pending approval by the Senate and House. The additional funding for the CILS is in the recommended budget that the Senate and House both approved. Also, the additional match dollars requested by VR for the VR Employment Program is in the budget. These items in the budget will be submitted to the Governor and will become official when he signs off on the final budget.

The IL grant applications are available on the mosilc.org website for download by the CILs. The grants are due June 15, 2007. Please call Kelly Flaugher or Gary Moll if the CILs have questions regarding the grant application.

## **Rehabilitation Services for the Blind – Randy Custer**

RSB is looking to purchase an electronic caseload management system. There was a demonstration in April in Columbia on two systems. A committee of about 40 people from around the state from RSB took part in the demonstration and a proposal has been made for one of the systems. This will help improve the way RSB cases are managed in all programs RSB provides.

## **SRC Report – Gary Maddox**

Gary attended the April State Rehabilitation Council meeting. New officers were elected and the SRC has a new chairperson, who's a person with a disability. The SRC has taken a leadership role at the national level in trying to call attention to the terminology associated with the name "order of selection". The SRC feels that this is a derogatory term and doesn't accurately reflect the programmatic access. The SRC will be composing a letter to the CSAVR to call national attention to the order of selection. The SRC would like to have the SILC sign on to get this topic the attention it deserves. The language in the regulations under the Rehabilitation Act creates a problem in that the order of selection dictates that the state serve those with the most significant disability first, but the problem is that there are people that need services and can't receive them because of the lack of funds. So the SRC are going to try to bring some national attention to this topic through Missouri. There are 1546 people in the Missouri order of selection right now which is down 24% from last year. The waiting time is approximately 60 days on the waiting list which is very timely considering how many people are signing up for services monthly.

VR is looking at other needs areas such as ethnicity and will be providing outreach to those populations. SRC is very committed to positive employment outcomes for persons with disabilities and realize that this is a key to independence.

The SRC needs new members and is having a hard time getting appointments.

## **RSB Advisory Council – Donna Borgmeyer**

Donna attended the RSB Advisory Council meeting in May. Their council is also needing new members. There are several with expired terms. RSB is making the computer system used by the Income Maintenance System, the Family Support Division accessible for blind and visually impaired case managers. RSB has suggested using \$110 of VR dollars to subsidize existing transportation programs to encourage people to use these programs to get to work. This means possible funding for CILs to purchase a van and pay for a driver for a year with this subsidy. RSB will receive funding to maximize the Older Blind Services and the IL programs. RSA has a new monitoring program for the states and will be in Missouri next year. RSB is planning a summit in St. Louis in August at the School for the Blind to get agencies, organizations, and individuals together to work with people who are blind or visually impaired. They want to look at what services each group provides and how they can all work together. RSB has recently put out an RFP for a consultant to come in and look at the Randolph-Shepard program. There have been some complaints by vendors on the program and want to look to improve that. RSB is also doing a transition program study and have a committee working on a transition program for RSB. This will look at transition from high school to post high school activities which include college, training, employment, and independent living.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Executive Committee – Stephanie Brady**

The committee met May 17, 2007 and also held a couple of conference calls since the last SILC meeting. The committee will be researching and looking into partnering with the Kansas SILC to possibly co-host a future APRIL conference in the Kansas City area.

The efforts to pursue potential SILC members continue. Stephanie encouraged anyone who was interested in being a part of the SILC to also join a committee.

As part of the new SPIL activities, the SILC created a new committee which is called the Resource Committee. This committee will be looking at developing resources both financial and other types for the SILC and also for the CILs. This committee needs membership. Stephanie encouraged CIL staff that has experience in grants or research to contact the SILC.

### **Budget Committee – Mike Keller**

The Budget committee reviewed the expenditures for the last two quarters and found that there were a couple areas over budget. The committee will be looking into this and this information will help to develop next year's budget accordingly.

Mike asked that all the committee chairpersons submit any future funding requests to him or Tammy Schlote to help this committee develop next year's budget. Those funding requests need to be submitted by June 30, 2007.

### **Communication/Service Capacity Committee – Mike Keller**

The committee is researching the PSA's that were mentioned in the Chair report. The committee expects these not to exceed \$150 and recommends the SILC to approve these funds. The SILC voted to approve this recommendation for the PSA's.

The committee will also be posting information on the website regarding translation software. This will help to translate documents in a very short period of time and will help outreach efforts in local communities.

The committee also discussed outreach to different cultures and minorities which included suggestions like contacting the human resource departments of corporations that hire large numbers of minority populations. The SILC could partner with the corporations to reach their employees and help increase morale and acceptance of these services. Other suggestions were to work with senior citizen groups and different health care businesses to reach the elderly population. The committee will be sending out a survey to the CILs asking about obstacles they face when trying to outreach to minority populations. This will be used to create a best practices information sheet that will be disseminated to the CILs.

### **Emergency Management – Gary Maddox**

Gary has been attending the state special needs meetings along with Kelly Flaughner to discuss the State Annex and other emergency preparedness topics. There were pieces of emergency preparedness for the SILC and CILs added to the new SPIL. There was discussion on back up plans and weather emergencies. Gary discussed the plans in place in the Springfield area because of the ice storm in February.

### **Housing Committee – Joseph Matovu**

The committee has met three times since the last SILC meeting. The committee is working on plans for another Universal Design Housing Conference to be held in St. Louis in the Spring of 2008. The committee will work with the Starkloff Institute to co-host this conference.

The committee worked on the new housing objectives for the 2008-2010 SPIL to take effect in October 2007. The committee modified some of the old objectives and created new ones based on needs from the CILs and consumers.

### **Legislative Committee – Donna Borgmeyer**

Donna discussed the latest legislative updates including Senate Bill 577 which is in debate at the moment. Ticket to Work is back in with 300% of the poverty level included, which is a compromise between opposing parties. Dental and optical services were added back in to the managed care program. Senate Bill 8 was combined with Senate Bill 327 and did pass the legislature, but is waiting on the Governor to sign off.

LEP had good participation this year. There were around 100 people and 10 centers that participated, some of them more than once. There was a large group from the Missouri Council for the Blind that attended LEP. The Governor's Council on Disability has a new executive director, Linda Baker. She is meeting with the planners for the LEP on next year's LEP project. There was an exit survey from the LEP that the participants filled out, but there was some confusion in communication and it was not passed out to everyone. This will be corrected for any future LEP sessions.

### **Training Committee – Clayton Porter**

Clayton Porter is the new chair for this committee. Clayton asked for people to volunteer to be on this committee. The committee will meet by conference call in the near future to discuss objectives and activities associated with the Training committee.

### **Transportation – Barbara Dewberry**

Sara McDowell from SADI has joined this committee. She will be able to give a rural perspective on the transportation issues. The committee will discuss having another transportation conference in a different area in the state. Barbara discussed some of the transportation issues in the Kansas City area.

### **Quality Assurance/Consumer Satisfaction Committee – Tim Azinger**

The committee met by conference call on May 14, 2007. Tim is compiling all of the survey responses together from the CDS survey and will disseminate to all the CILs in the near future. There are two centers that have not sent in a response yet. There is data on 4,778 consumers around the state. This survey is the one that DHSS requires of the CDS vendors to report on an annual basis. The results so far are extremely favorable towards the consumer's satisfaction with the CDS services. This survey is being compiled by the SILC at the request of several centers. Tim read aloud several of the consumer's comments that accompanied the survey results. The results will be available on the mosilc.org website. The committee will work on the survey next year to standardize more questions to add to the data. A suggestion by Chris Camene at Paraquad was to use an online survey tool called surveymonkey.com to make the survey more efficient in collecting the data.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Correspondence**

Stephanie sent a letter of support to the legislators who were in favor of the additional IL funding. She did get a response from Margaret Donnelly's office. Stephanie is still in correspondence with the man from Mongolia who is trying to establish a CIL in his country.

### **Approval of 2008-2010 SPIL**

The SILC discussed the approval of the SPIL which was done by email to the SILC members and conference call by the Executive Committee. Tim Azinger made a motion to accept the 2008-2010 SPIL as submitted to the State Board of Education. Mike Keller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the council. Joseph Matovu abstained from the vote.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Easy Living Home presentation – Lori Steffen**

### **Myths of Working while on SSA Benefits presentation - Theresa Scherer**

### **Open Forum**

David Robinson discussed the SPIL objectives regarding outreach to minorities.

## **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by the council.

The next meeting will be on August 17, 2007 at the JCK State Information Center.