

# Independent Living Services

*FSN will Advocate to expand the network of Centers for Independent Living (CILs) statewide to ensure every West Virginian with a disability has access to the services and resources provided by a CIL.*

## What is a center for independent Living?

The term "center for independent living" means a consumer-controlled, community-based, cross-disability, nonresidential private nonprofit agency that is designed and operated within a local community by individuals with disabilities and provides an array of independent living services.

## Core Independent Living Services

- Advocacy – individual & systems
- Independent Living Skills Development
- Peer Support
- Information and Referral
- Transition services:
  - Transition from nursing homes & other institutions to home & community-based residences
  - Diversion from nursing home & other institutions
  - Transition of youth (who were eligible for IEPs) to employment or postsecondary education

## Other Independent Living Services

- Home Modifications, Equipment & Technology (CLSP Program)
- Personal Assistant Services
- Employment
- ADA Compliance Surveys
- Housing (CILs are not allowed to own or operate housing & CILs are not places for people with disabilities to live)
- Transportation
- Recreation Services
- Other services as determined by the CIL Board of Directors

## 20 Counties directly served by a CIL:

**Appalachian CIL** – serving Kanawha, Clay, Boone, and Putnam

**Mountain State CIL** – serving Cabell, Wayne, and Raleigh

**Northern WV CIL** – Monongalia, Barbour, Braxton, Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison, Lewis, Marion, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker, and Upshur (many of these counties are underserved)

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## Priority Areas for the establishment of new CILs:

- Barbour, Randolph, Tucker, and Upshur (spin off from NWVCIL)
- Braxton, Gilmer, Harrison, and Lewis (Spin off from NWVCIL)
- Marion, Monongalia, Preston, and Taylor counties (spin off from NWVCIL)
- Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio, and Wetzel counties
- Greenbrier, Nicholas, Pocahontas, and Webster counties
- Add Lincoln and Fayette counties to MTSTCIL service area
- Mercer, Monroe, and Summer
- Doddridge, Pleasants, Ritchie, Tyler, Wirt, and Wood
- Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan
- Calhoun, Jackson, Mason, and Roane
- McDowell, Mingo, Logan, and Wyoming
- Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, and Pendleton

## Concerns:

- Lack of understanding of what a CIL is and what CILs do
- CILs are underfunded with no increases to their federal grants from their founding in the early 1980s until 2018 & 2019 when small increases were received
- 35 counties do not have access to a CIL

## Goals:

- Create a “brand” for the West Virginia network of CILs
- Educate the public and policymakers about what CILs are and what CILs do
- Collaborate with the CILs on resource development to expand capacity of current CILs and to establish new CILs
- Secure additional federal funds to bring the existing CILs to a minimum funding level of \$450,000 each
- Conduct leadership development activities for current and potential SILC members and/or potential board members for new CILs
- Conduct outreach to and leadership development activities for youth with disabilities
- Conduct research to gather data on the return on investment and the economic impact of CILs
- Collaborate with the CILs, SILC, and the school system to educate youth about disability history and the IL Philosophy
- Use new funding to establish a statewide network of CILs

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