



Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Plan for Independent Living

Federal Fiscal Years

2011 – 2013

Approved September 2010

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State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

State:

Massachusetts

Agency:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Plan for:

2011-2013

Submitted in fiscal year:

2010

Part I: Assurances

Section 1: Legal Basis and Certifications

1.1 The designated State unit (DSU) eligible to submit the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL or the plan) and authorized under State law to perform the functions of the State under the State Independent Living Services (SILS) and Centers for Independent Living (CIL) programs.

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

1.2 The separate State agency eligible to submit the plan and authorized under State law to provide vocational rehabilitation (VR) services to individuals who are blind.

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind

1.3 The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) that meets the requirements of section 705 of the Act and is authorized to perform the functions outlined in section 705(c) of the Act in the State.

Massachusetts Statewide Independent Living Council

1.4 The DSU and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, and the SILC are authorized to jointly develop, sign and submit this SPIL on behalf of the State, and have adopted or otherwise formally approved the SPIL.

Yes

1.5 The DSU, and, if applicable, the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, may legally carry out each provision of the plan and will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the three-year period it receives funding under the SPIL.

Yes

1.6 The SPIL is the basis for State operation and administration of the program. All provisions of the SPIL are consistent with State law.

Yes

1.7 The representative of the DSU and, if applicable, of the separate State agency authorized to provide VR services to individuals who are blind, who has the authority under State law to receive, hold, and disburse Federal funds made available under the SPIL and to submit the SPIL jointly with the SILC chairperson is Charles Carr, Commissioner and Janet LaBreck, Commissioner.

Section 2: SPIL Development

2.1 The plan shall be reviewed and revised not less than once every three years, to ensure the existence of appropriate planning, financial support and coordination, and other assistance to appropriately address, on a statewide and comprehensive basis, the needs in the State for:

- The provision of State independent living services;
- The development and support of a statewide network of centers for independent living;
- Working relationships between programs providing independent living services and independent living centers, the vocational rehabilitation program established under title I, and other programs providing services for individuals with disabilities.

Yes

2.2 The DSU and SILC conduct public meetings to provide all segments of the public, including interested groups, organizations and individuals, an opportunity to comment on the State plan prior to its submission to the Commissioner and on any revisions to the approved State plan.

Yes

2.3 The DSU and SILC establish and maintain a written description of procedures for conducting public meetings in accordance with the following requirements. The DSU and SILC shall provide:

- appropriate and sufficient notice of the public meetings;
- reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication in the conduct of the public meetings, including providing sign language interpreters and audio-loops; and
- public meeting notices, written material provided prior to or at the public meetings, and the approved State plan in accessible formats for individuals who rely on alternative modes of communication.

Yes

2.4 At the public meetings to develop the State plan, the DSU and SILC identify those provisions in the SPIL that are State-imposed requirements beyond what would be required to comply with the regulations in 34 CFR parts 364, 365, 366, and 367.

Yes

2.5 The DSU will seek to incorporate into, and describe in, the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under a project funded under chapter 2 of title VII of the Act and that the DSU determines to be effective.

Yes

2.6 The DSU and SILC actively consult, as appropriate, in the development of the State plan with the director of the Client Assistance Program (CAP) authorized under section 112 of the Act.

Yes

Section 3: Independent Living Services

3.1 The State, directly or through grants or contracts, will provide IL services with Federal, State, or other funds

Yes

3.2 Independent living services shall be provided to individuals with significant disabilities in accordance with an independent living plan mutually agreed upon by an appropriate staff member of the service provider and the individual, unless the individual signs a waiver stating that such a plan is unnecessary.

Yes

3.3 All service providers will use formats that are accessible to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about:

- the availability of the CAP authorized by section 112 of the Act;
- the purposes of the services provided under the CAP; and
- how to contact the CAP.

Yes

3.4 Participating service providers meet all applicable State licensure or certification requirements.

Yes

Section 4: Eligibility

4.1 Any individual with a significant disability, as defined in 34 CFR 364.4(b), is eligible for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs authorized under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act. Any individual may seek information about IL services under these programs and request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities, as appropriate. The determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs meets the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51.

Yes

4.2 Service providers apply eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services.

Yes

4.3 Service providers do not impose any State or local residence requirement that excludes any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services from receiving IL services.

Yes

Section 5: Staffing Requirements

5.1 Service provider staff includes personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of centers.

Yes

5.2 To the maximum extent feasible, a service provider makes available personnel able to communicate:

- with individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication, nonverbal communication devices, Braille or audio tapes, and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act; and
- in the native languages of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act.

Yes

5.3 Service providers establish and maintain a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services and, if appropriate, in administering the CIL program. The staff development programs emphasize improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of IL services, including knowledge of and practice in the IL philosophy.

Yes

5.4 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act.

Yes

Section 6: Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting

6.1 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will comply with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements and will adopt those fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for those funds.

Yes

Section 7: Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting

7.1 In addition to complying with applicable EDGAR recordkeeping requirements, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will maintain records that fully disclose and document:

- the amount and disposition by the recipient of that financial assistance;
- The total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which the financial assistance is given or used;
- the amount of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources;
- compliance with the requirements of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act and Part 364 of the regulations; and
- other information that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate to facilitate an effective audit.

Yes

7.2 With respect to the records that are required by 34 CFR 364.35, all recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will submit reports that the Commissioner determines to be appropriate.

Yes

7.3 All recipients of financial assistance under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will provide access to the Commissioner and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, to the records listed in 34 CFR 364.37 for the purpose of conducting audits, examinations, and compliance reviews.

Yes

Section 8: Protection, Use, and Release of Personal Information

8.1 Each service provider will adopt and implement policies and procedures to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names in accordance with the requirements of 34 CFR 364.56(a)(1-6).

Yes

Section 9: Signatures

As the authorized signatories, we will sign, date and retain in the files of the state agency(ies) and the Statewide Independent Living Council the Part I: Assurances, 1-8, and the separate Certification of Lobbying forms ED-80-0013 (available in [MS Word](#) and [PDF](#) formats) for the state independent living program (Part B) and the centers for independent living program (Part C).

The effective date of this SPIL is October 1, 2010.

Signature for SILC Chairperson

Karen Bureau
SILC Chairperson
Date signed
06/24/2010

Signature for DSU Director

Charles Carr
Commissioner
Date signed
06/24/2010

Signature for Separate State Agency for Individuals Who Are Blind

Janet LaBreck
Commissioner
Date signed
06/24/2010

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

State:

Massachusetts

Agency:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Plan for:

2011-2013

Submitted in fiscal year:

2010

Part II: Narrative

Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities - Screen 1

1.1 Goals and Mission

Describe the overall goals and mission of the State's IL programs and services. The SPIL must address the goals and mission of both the SILS and the CIL programs, including those of the State agency for individuals who are blind as they relate to the parts of the SPIL administered by that agency.

Goal Name:

Goal Number 1, Guide and support individuals in their transition from institutions to community

Goal Description:

This goal is at the heart of the Supreme Court Olmstead Decision and is the core focus of the Plan. CILs will work to identify institutionalized individuals who want to move back home or to other community settings, and will develop and provide services to assist in these transitions?.

Goal Name:

Goal Number 2, Access to community-based long-term supports will increase

Goal Description:

The CILs, DSU's & Community Partners will collaborate to expand access to case management, medication management, behavioral health, caregiver supports, assistive technology and other supports for accessible transportation for elders and persons with disabilities. This includes expanding access to transition services for adolescents with disabilities who are leaving the education system and becoming adults as well as transitional services and supports for those who chose to leave or avoid institutional settings for independent community living.

Goal Name:

Goal Number 3, Persons with disabilities are empowered

Goal Description:

A core principle of the Olmstead Plan is choice. To promote choice, the DSU's, ILC's, partners, in state government and in the community, will develop strategies to further emphasize consumer empowerment and person-centered planning and decision-making. These efforts will include seeking significant improvements in current guardianship, regulatory and administrative practices.

Goal Name:

Goal Number 4, Access to affordable and accessible housing with supports is expanded

Goal Description: Availability of affordable and accessible housing is critical to a system that successfully supports elders and people with disabilities to remain in the community or move to the community from an institutional setting. The DSU's, ILC's, its partners in government, and in community agencies will develop strategies for increasing and expanding the housing stock that is affordable and accessible.

Goal Name:

Goal Number 5, Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders

Goal Description:

The DSU's, ILC's, its partners, in government, and community agencies and groups, will develop and collaborate on initiatives for greater access to employment opportunities, including employment support services, for elders and individuals with disabilities, as well as increased access to vocational rehabilitation services and career planning for individuals with disabilities, including evaluation of the effectiveness of employment initiatives.

Goal Name:

Goal Number 6, Promote awareness of long-term supports (LTS)

Goal Description:

The DSU's, ILC's, its government, and community partners and groups will educate clinicians/staff in community agencies as well as in institutions regarding the resources available for seniors and those with disabilities for living independently in the community. These strategies will involve working through the ADRCs and the Long Term Care Options program, as well as wider efforts to educate service providers, clinicians and the community at large.

Goal Name:

Goal Number 7, Develop a Strategic Plan for MA SILC

Goal Description:

Through the engagement of the SILC, its government and community partners, and recruitment of new partners, the MA SILC will design and develop a strategic plan. This Strategic Plan will include addressing composition of the SILC, relevance of its current by-laws and Executive Order, as well as the future for the network of independent living services and centers, financial needs for this plan will also be included.

Goal Name:

Goal Number 8, Identify future needs for expansion of IL Services and the Network of Centers in

Goal Description:

Through the engagement of its government and community partners, and recruitment of new partners, the MA SILC will develop a strategic plan to address future needs for the expansion of IL Services and the Network of Centers in Massachusetts. This plan will identify un-served and underserved populations, unmet IL service needs of youth or other specific groups, as well as the future of the Massachusetts network of CIL's, methods of expansion, determination of base funding for existing centers, determination of base funding for new centers, definition of un-served/underserved areas including expansion priorities, hold harmless statements.

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

State:

Massachusetts

Agency:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Plan for:

2011-2013

Submitted in fiscal year:

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Part II: Narrative

Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities - Screen 2

1.2 Objectives

1.2A. Specify the objectives to be achieved and the time frame for achieving them.

Goal(s) from Section 1.1	Objective to be achieved	Time frame start date	Time frame end date
Guide and support individuals in their transition from institutions to community	<p>Goal 1 Objective 1</p> <p>MRC will partner with EOHHS & other government agencies to utilize MDS data to identify who and where the people are who have indicated that they want to move out of nursing homes/ institutions.</p> <p>a. During year 1 of the SPIL MRC, MCB, ILC's & Community Partners will meet with the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to determine how ILC's can obtain MDS data to reinforce the necessity for the state to shift funding resources from institutional care to community care as well as ancillary costs that are all meant to allow people to live in the community. In partnership with EOHHS develop a process for sharing of MDS data with ILC's to facilitate smooth transitions for persons who have indicated they would like to transition to the community.</p> <p>b. Establish measurable transition goals for numbers of persons who have indicated that they would like to transition.</p> <p>c. Establish a process to record the number of successful/non successful transitions that occur based on the sharing of MDS data with ILC's.</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2011
Guide and support	Goal 1 Objective 2	10/01/2010	09/30/2013

<p>individuals in their transition from institutions to community</p>	<p>Enhance the ADRC model state wide expanding options to community services.</p> <p>a. Include the Executive office of Elder Affairs, MCB, MRC, ILC's, & Community Partners in the development of the state's ADRC strategic plan.</p> <p>b. Establish a process for input into the design and implementation of the strategic plan.</p> <p>c. Update the SILC Quarterly on the progress of the plan.</p> <p>d. As part of building the ADRC Network, review the Health Care Reform Bill to seek funding opportunities for the ADRC's.</p>		
<p>Guide and support individuals in their transition from institutions to community</p>	<p>Goal 1 Objective 3</p> <p>Expand the provisions of Options Counseling with ADRC partners throughout Massachusetts by 6/30/11.</p> <p>a. MRC, MCB, ILC's and Community Partners will assist in the process to obtain the necessary funding by Coordinating communication between state government entities and the disability community on opportunities for participation in state policy development and the value of this program throughout all three years of this SPIL. Should information be requested, the IL partners: the DSUs, the SILC and the CILs will respond to requests by legislators and other lawmakers to provide education on disability-related issues and topics when contacted.</p> <p>Materials provided could include fact sheets or white pages that have up to date information from current 704 reports, information from current Consumer Satisfaction Surveys, up to date geographic/demographic information, and contact information for ILC's and partners in the community.</p> <p>b. MRC, MCB, ILC's and community partners will assist in the development and the provision of training of Options Counselors.</p>	<p>10/01/2010</p>	<p>06/30/2011</p>
<p>Guide and support individuals in their transition from institutions to community</p>	<p>Goal 1 Objective 4</p> <p>Establishment of a repository area on the SILC web site to assist counselors, consumers & the general public in the transition process.</p> <p>a. A task will be added to the SILC Coordinators duties to gather information from its Government Partners, ILC's, National Affiliations, and other sources.</p>	<p>10/01/2010</p>	<p>09/30/2013</p>

	<p>b. Information gathered will be added to the SILC web page by the end of year 1 of the SPIL.</p> <p>c. An evaluation of all materials and links will be conducted annually.</p> <p>d. New materials will be added to the repository throughout the entire SPIL.</p>		
<p>Access to community-based long-term supports will increase</p>	<p>Goal 2 Objective 1</p> <p>Develop a variety of activities to expand access to community based long term supports during the time of this SPIL.</p> <p>a. MRC, MCB, ILC's & Community Partners will Coordinate communication between state government entities and the disability community on opportunities for participation in state policy development to change policies for community based supports which are barriers to access and include:</p> <p>i. Establish presumptive eligibility for PCA & Community Based services for persons already deemed Medicaid eligible to facilitate smoother transitions.</p> <p>ii. Reshape the Commonwealth's resistance to applying for Money Follows the Person.</p> <p>iii. To access and leverage supports in the various waivers ? 1915(i), Acquired Brain Injury and 1115 - seeking inclusion in the planning processes of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services.</p> <p>iv. To Expand transportation opportunities, while maintaining existing opportunities and allowing access to elder transportation services to all persons with disabilities in the Commonwealth.</p> <p>v. To maintain funding for MassAccess Housing Registry.</p> <p>For clarification: Community Education and Public Information (formerly Community Education/Training & Public Information) is defined as ? Time spent preparing and providing activities and information to enhance the community's awareness of disabilities, disability issues and Independent Living philosophy.</p> <p>Collaboration/Networking (formerly Community Involvement) is defined as activities related to building coalitions or</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2013

	<p>collaborative partnerships designed to expand the participation of individuals with significant disabilities in services, programs, activities, resources and facilities. Time spent participating and/or involving people with disabilities in the activities of community organizations to ensure that the perspectives of persons with disabilities are represented.</p> <p>Materials provided could include fact sheets or white pages that have up to date information from current 704 reports, information from current Consumer Satisfaction Surveys, up to date geographic/demographic information, and contact information for ILC's and partners in the community.</p>		
Persons with disabilities are empowered	<p>Goal 3 Objective 1</p> <p>Improve the capacity and quality of community-based long-term supports.</p> <p>a. Formation of a study group with MRC, MCB, ILC's & Community Partners to review guardianship regulations and practices identifying ways to modify those regulations or practices to enhance consumer empowerment and include decision making rights. This will be monitored by the SILC Public Information & Education Committee by 9/30/11.</p> <p>b. MRC, MCB, ILC's & Community Partners will Research what other legal and advocacy entities have recently worked on or are currently working on regarding similar guardianship issues - by 3/31/12.</p> <p>c. MRC, MCB, ILC's & Community Partners will Produce written recommendations by 9/30/12</p> <p>d. MRC, MCB, ILC's & Community Partners will Utilize this research and the resulting document to Coordinate communication between state government entities and the disability community on opportunities for participation in state policy development. This information will be shared with legislators and the court system as well as nursing facilities who tend to seek guardianship for some residents.</p> <p>Materials provided could include fact sheets or white pages that have up to date information from current 704 reports, information from current Consumer Satisfaction Surveys, up to date geographic/demographic information, and contact information for ILC's and partners in the community.</p>	10/01/2010	03/31/2012
Persons with disabilities are empowered	<p>Goal 3 Objective 2</p> <p>The differences between independent living vs. person centered</p>	10/01/2010	03/31/2012

	<p>planning promoting choice in all options are identified.</p> <p>a. The SILC chair and DSU ex-officio representative to appoint a working group by 3/31/11.</p> <p>b. Group to gather material on current practice of IL philosophy and person centered planning in Massachusetts by 9/30/11.</p> <p>c. Group to develop a chart which illustrates the similarities and differences between IL philosophy and person centered planning by 3/31/12.</p> <p>D. SILC, ILC and DSU to utilize this written document when relevant as a tool to coordinate communication between state government entities and the disability community on opportunities for participation in state policy development meeting with EOHHS policymakers as the Commonwealth continues its 'Community First' efforts.</p> <p>Materials provided could include fact sheets or white pages that have up to date information from current 704 reports, information from current Consumer Satisfaction Surveys, up to date geographic/demographic information, and contact information for ILC's and partners in the community.</p>		
Persons with disabilities are empowered	<p>Goal 3 Objective 3</p> <p>Long term support programs which enhance the empowerment of individuals with disabilities are identified.</p> <p>a. SILC chair to appoint a small committee to explore ways to identify agencies, programs, and or practices that enhance empowerment of individuals within long term supports by 11/15/10.</p> <p>b. Committee will develop recommendations for the SILC by 1/31/11.</p> <p>c. SILC will develop next steps based upon those recommendations.</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2012
Access to affordable and accessible housing with supports is expanded	<p>Goal 4 Objective 1</p> <p>MRC the ILC's and its community partners will coordinate communication between state government entities and the disability community on opportunities for participation in state policy development. Which could include a move for legislation, if necessary, at the federal and state level to give first priority for subsidized housing to individuals coming out of Medicaid-funded institutions.</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2011

	<p>a. By 9/30/11 MRC will invite other members of EOHHS? Interagency Housing Committee to address this goal together with housing advocates (e.g. Citizens Housing and Planning Association {CHAPA}, ILCs, DHCD) by reviewing existing regulations governing tenant selection and proposing legislation or policy changes that would give priority to individuals leaving nursing facilities.</p>		
<p>Access to affordable and accessible housing with supports is expanded</p>	<p>Goal 4 Objective 2</p> <p>Increase stock of affordable, accessible, available housing throughout the Commonwealth.</p> <p>a. By 9/30/2011 MRC will assist the Dept. of Housing and Community Development to apply for additional federal housing vouchers targeted for individuals seeking to transition to the community from nursing facilities.</p> <p>b. By 9/30/2011 MRC will collaborate on at least two information sessions with the Dept. of Housing and Community Development, to encourage private and non-profit real estate developers to make use of Community Based Housing funds, tax credits, Mass Housing Registry, and other available funding sources to develop additional accessible, affordable housing units.</p> <p>c. By 9/30/2011 MRC will send outreach letters to at least 6 for-profit housing developers informing them of the CBH program and encouraging them to utilize the funding in their development projects.</p> <p>d. By 9/30/2011 MRC will host regular meetings with ILC Housing Specialists to share information between all parties regarding MRC and other state agency housing initiatives on the needs, issues or planned initiatives at the local level. Information shared in these meetings will inform the policy work of MRC, and the systems advocacy work of the ILCs.</p> <p>e. By 9/30/2012 the ILCs and other community partners will help draft and support legislation to create state regulations regarding substantially equivalent accessibility, which would result in increasing accessible housing.</p> <p>f. By 9/30/2012 the ILCs and other community partners will work with EOHHS and The Department of Housing and Community Development to establish a process to ensure oversight and enforcement of state and federal fair housing laws.</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2013

	<p>g. By 9/30/11 the ILCs and other community partners will participate on the CHAPA sub-committee regarding housing for people with disabilities to further the implementation of housing policies that will increase the overall affordable accessible housing in Massachusetts.</p>		
<p>Access to affordable and accessible housing with supports is expanded</p>	<p>Goal 4 Objective 3</p> <p>Ensure that people with disabilities have the right supports separately from housing.</p> <p>a. By 9/30/2012 MRC will work closely with the ILCs, DHCD, CHAPA, and Elder Affairs to ensure that state regulations require any housing projects developed with supports will allow tenants to receive services from the provider(s) of their choice. This will not apply to projects such as Assisted Living or Adult Foster Care where the service and housing component are jointly planned, funded and operated.</p> <p>b. MRC, MCB, ILC's & Community Partners will pursue efforts to encourage housing providers, developers, and service providers to exchange information as a means of coordinating services, guaranteeing consumers equal access to all housing programs and benefits.</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2012
<p>Access to affordable and accessible housing with supports is expanded</p>	<p>Goal 4 Objective 4</p> <p>Continue to ensure that Community Based Housing, Home Modification Loan Program, and Housing Registry are funded.</p> <p>a. Each year the ILCs, and partner community agencies (such as CHAPA) will monitor the state budget process through completion to ensure that funding for the MassAccess Housing Registry is included in the final state budget. The Community Based Housing program and Home Modification Loan Program are funded by the issuance of Housing Bonds, up to an existing limit. SPIL partners will work to educate legislators and administrative entities to ensure appropriate funding levels and legislative support for the Bond bill when reauthorization is needed.</p> <p>Materials provided in education of legislator could include fact sheets or white pages that have up to date information from current 704 reports, information from current Consumer Satisfaction Surveys, up to date geographic/demographic information, and contact information for ILC's and partners in the community.</p> <p>b. By 9/30/12 MRC will organize and host at least three housing workshops, in conjunction with ILCs, to teach consumers, IL staff and others about the CBH program, Home Modification</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2012

	Loan program, Housing Registry and other programs which support the availability of affordable, accessible housing.		
Access to affordable and accessible housing with supports is expanded	<p>Goal 4 Objective 5</p> <p>Ensure that ILC staff and other advocates are familiar with housing search or development resources.</p> <p>a. By 9/30/2011 MRC and ILCs will identify helpful resources and best practices already developed by the partners, or publicly available, which relate to housing search, housing rights, the Home Modification Loan program and other housing issues. These resources will be shared with all ILCs at a statewide housing resource forum.</p> <p>b. By 9/30/2012 MRC and ILCs will develop an on-line housing resource site, with information on how to find housing, application tips, eligibility, tenant selection priorities, Home Modification Loan program and other resources as identified by the partners, possibly utilizing the Mass Access Housing Registry website.</p> <p>c. By 9/30/2013 MRC, the ILCs and other partners will organize and hold three trainings across the state for consumers and/or staff of ILCs in the availability and use of the housing resource site.</p>	10/01/2012	09/30/2013
Access to affordable and accessible housing with supports is expanded	<p>Goal 4 Objective 6</p> <p>A specific objective of the Chapter 2 Older Blind program for the coming year is the development and utilization of an individualized service designed to evaluate, analyze, and correct safety hazards (such as poor lighting or tripping hazards) in the homes of legally blind consumers.</p> <p>a. Plan and develop the service requirements and parameters October, 2010</p> <p>b. Issue a request for proposal for provision of the service October November, 2010</p> <p>c. Select a vendor and begin service provision ? December, 2010</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2011
Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders	<p>Goal 5 Objective 1</p> <p>The Commonwealth of Massachusetts will be a model employer of persons with disabilities.</p> <p>a. MRC, MCB, ILC's & Community Partners will Share information on the Commonwealth's Model Employer initiative</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2013

	<p>with SILC members via SILC’s website, emails, and SILC quarterly meetings as needed</p> <p>b. Develop a method for ILC;s, MRC, MCB, and community partners to share information on the Model Employer initiative, possibly through SILC’s website</p> <p>c. Gather information from ILC’s, MRC, MCB, and community partners on issues related to the Commonwealth’s employment of people with disabilities via the method developed in action (b)</p> <p>d. Develop a method for providing feedback to the Commonwealth</p> <p>e. Provide feedback to the Commonwealth annually from information gathered from SILC members, ILC’s, MRC, MCB, and community partners via method developed in action (d)</p> <p>f. Partner with the Medicaid Infrastructure Grant at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.</p>		
<p>Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders</p>	<p>Goal 5 Objective 2</p> <p>MRC, The ILC's, and Community Partners will work with the Employment Now coalition in its endeavors to bring employment to all the citizens of Massachusetts.</p> <p>a. Provide information to the ILC’s on the Employment Now coalition through mail, email, and the SILC website</p> <p>b. In Year One, four ILC’s will be encouraged to host an Employment Now event in their service areas</p> <p>c. In Year Two, four other ILC’s will be encouraged to host an Employment Now event in their service areas</p> <p>d. In Year Three, the remaining three ILC’s will be encouraged to host an Employment Now event in their service areas</p> <p>e. Provide information on disability rights and laws as needed to the Employment Now coalition</p>	<p>10/01/2012</p>	<p>09/30/2013</p>
<p>Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders</p>	<p>Goal 5 Objective 3</p> <p>The relationship between One Stop centers, MRC, Regional Employment Collaboratives, and ADRC’s will be strengthened</p> <p>a. In Year One, help facilitate forums with MRC, One Stops, Regional Employment Collaboratives, and ADRC’s</p>	<p>10/01/2010</p>	<p>09/30/2012</p>

	<p>b. In Year Two, encourage cross-training among staff of MRC, One Stops, and ADRC's</p>		
Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders	<p>Goal 5 Objective 4</p> <p>ILC's are educated about the expansion of Project Enable</p> <p>a. Educate ILC's on Project Enable through the SILC website and at SILC quarterly meetings as needed</p> <p>b. Update ILC's through the SILC website and quarterly meetings on the progress of Project Enables expansion</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2011
Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders	<p>Goal 5 Objective 5</p> <p>Barriers to employment and potential strategies to address those barriers are identified</p> <p>a. In Year One, assist the State Rehab Council, MRC, MCB, ILC's, and community partners in identifying barriers to employment through meetings, listening sessions, or other forums</p> <p>b. In Year Two, work with the State Rehab Council, MRC, MCB, ILC's, and community partners to develop strategies for addressing barriers to employment</p> <p>c. In Year Three, SILC and the State Rehab Council will make recommendations to MRC, MCB, ILC's, and community partners on addressing the barriers to employment that have been identified</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2013
Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders	<p>Goal 5 Objective 6</p> <p>Regional employers and potential employment opportunities are identified.</p> <p>a. In Year One, MRC, MCB, ILC's, and community partners will help facilitate meetings to discuss identifying employers and potential employment opportunities</p> <p>b. In Year Two, assist MRC, MCB, ILC's, and community partners with outreach to potential employers via presentations and meetings to discuss the benefits of hiring people with disabilities</p> <p>c. In Year Three, encourage ILC's and community partners to hold events that bring together job seekers with disabilities and employers</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2013

<p>Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders</p>	<p>Goal 5 Objective 7</p> <p>A specific objective of MCB's Chapter 2 program for the coming year is the provision of training for agency VR counselors and independent living case managers on the employment capacities of older blind persons and appropriate services directed toward realistic employment goals.</p> <p>a. Plan and develop the training requirements and parameters October, 2010</p> <p>b. Select a trainer and schedule the training October 2010</p> <p>c. Complete the training - November, 2010 December, 2010</p>	<p>10/01/2012</p>	<p>09/30/2011</p>
<p>Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders</p>	<p>Goal 5 Objective 8</p> <p>MRC, MBC will collaborate with the ILC's to encourage the placement of DSU consumers as interns at ILC's as appropriate to the consumer's Individual Plan for Employment and the needs of the ILC.</p> <p>a. Plan and develop a collaborative project to encourage participation? October, 2010</p> <p>b. Send information about the project to the DSU's and the ILC's ? December 2010</p> <p>c. DSU staff and ILC staff will make appropriate contacts to arrange any internships for the summer of 2011 - January, 2011 June, 2011</p>	<p>10/01/2010</p>	<p>09/30/2011</p>
<p>Promote awareness of long-term supports (LTS)</p>	<p>Goal 6 Objective 1</p> <p>Establish an Outreach task force to identify best practices on communicating IL values, techniques, and supports.</p> <p>A. Contact and schedule monthly meetings for outreach task force by 8/1/10 MRC, MCB, MCDHH, DDS, ILCs, ASAP's</p> <p>B. Develop training program to train in best practices by 1/11/11</p> <p>This program will identify standards and assurances that are used in evaluating compliance in the following areas: Philosophy, including consumer control and equal access; Provision of services on a cross-disability basis; Support of the development and achievement of the independent living goals chosen by consumers; Advocacy to increase the quality of community options for independent living; Provision of independent living core services; Resource development; and Community capacity-building activities, such as community advocacy, technical assistance and outreach.</p>	<p>10/01/2010</p>	<p>02/28/2011</p>

	C. Create training team by 2/11 to include representatives from ADRC's, ILC's,		
Promote awareness of long-term supports (LTS)	<p>Goal 6 Objective 2</p> <p>Provide training to in implementation of Outreach best practices identified by Outreach Task Force by 9/30/11.</p> <p>A. Using training program to provide training starting 2/11 to 9/30/11</p>	02/28/2011	09/30/2011
Promote awareness of long-term supports (LTS)	<p>Goal 6 Objective 3</p> <p>Eleven fully functioning Aging and Disability Resource Consortiums (ADRC) which meet the NCIL ADRC position paper are developed throughout the Commonwealth by 6/30/2011.</p> <p>ADRC's are a collaborative between ILC's and ASAP's which use the streamlined and seamless I&R process and use of standardized Consultation Form for Intake and referrals, consumers are referred to appropriate service providers, and the information collected by ADRC I&R and intake workers is shared directly with those providers, reducing the number of times consumers must repeat this information.</p> <p>A. Identify 2 SILC representatives to participate in current ADRC strategic planning process with EOHHS, MRC, ILC's, ASAPs</p>	10/01/2010	06/30/2011
Promote awareness of long-term supports (LTS)	<p>Goal 6 Objective 4</p> <p>Expansion statewide of the Options Counseling Program, The first funded ADRC program in Massachusetts. Options counseling is provided to educate residents of Massachusetts regarding the broad array of community-based long-term supports options. Information is provided on home and community-based services including but not limited to case management, medication management, behavioral health, caregiver supports, and assistive technology, for elders and persons with disabilities, regardless of income.</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2012
Promote awareness of long-term supports (LTS)	<p>Goal 6 Objective 5</p> <p>MCB's Chapter 2 program also includes an on-going program of public information and consumer outreach. Also, MCB is currently conducting a statewide census, that will continue over the next year, of all of the approximately 33,000 registered legally blind persons in Massachusetts. The census mailing includes information about MCB services and a mechanism for</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2011

	<p>consumers to request further information and/or services.</p> <p>a. The BRIDGE Program has identified an additional 35 low vision support groups which do not receive support from MAB or SLS. A conference in fall 2010 will bring together leaders of these groups for training and mutual support. October-December 2010</p> <p>b. The BRIDGE Program will expand outreach and public education activities to underserved minorities. These activities will include health fairs, in-service training, and presentations to seniors at councils on aging, elder housing, nursing homes, houses of worship, etc. October 2010 September 2011</p> <p>c. Through affiliation with the New England Eye Institute, the BRIDGE Program will conduct outreach programs for ophthalmologists and optometrist to inform them about the benefits and services available to seniors who are legally blind. October 2010 September 2011</p> <p>d. MCB will complete the statewide census of legally blind persons and will refer all service requests to direct services staff. October 2010 March 2011</p>		
<p>Develop a Strategic Plan for MA SILC</p>	<p>Goal 7 Objective 1</p> <p>Develop a strategic plan to determine the direction of the SILC in the commonwealth.</p> <p>During year one the SILC will appoint a workgroup to develop a long range strategic plan. This workgroup will be composed of SILC members, Partners in Government and will welcome participation from the community.</p> <p>This workgroup will begin with conducting a Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, & Threats (swot) plan for the SILC including but not limited to reviewing its current bylaws, policies & practices.</p> <p>Information gathered through this process along other information will be used to create a strategic plan to carry the SILC through the next 5 years. The workgroup will be tasked with completing this work by Sept 2012. Funding for the development of the plan will be included as part of the quarterly/committee meetings line in the SILC budget.</p> <p>This plan will</p> <p>a. Clearly define the purpose of the SILC and establish realistic</p>	<p>10/01/2010</p>	<p>09/30/2012</p>

	<p>goals and objectives consistent with the SILC's mission in a defined timeframe within the SILC's capacity for implementation.</p> <p>b. Communicate those goals and objectives with the SILC's constituents.</p> <p>c. Ensure the most effective use is made of the SILC's resources by focusing the resources on the key priorities developed in the plan.</p> <p>d. Provide a base from which future progress can be measured and establish a mechanism for informed change when needed.</p>		
Develop a Strategic Plan for MA SILC	<p>Goal 7 Objective 2</p> <p>MCB will participate in the development of the long-term SILC Strategic Plan. It will also welcome SILC involvement in the new agency strategic plan that is planning to develop in 2011.</p> <p>a. MCB will complete Phase I of its strategic plan development. This phase includes Primary and Secondary Information Collection and analysis of Secondary External Trends and Internal Information from stakeholder groups, including the SILC. - July 2010 October 2011</p> <p>b. MCB will complete Phase II of its strategic plan development. This phase includes: SWOT analysis (strength, weakness, opportunity, threat), vision, mission, guiding principle; strategic priority goals development; supporting objectives development October March 2011</p> <p>c. MCB will complete Phase III of its strategic plan development. This phase includes action and implementation plan development March 2010 September 2011</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2011
Identify future needs for expansion of IL Services and the Network of Centers in	<p>Goal 8 Objective 1</p> <p>Develop a comprehensive plan to determine future needs of the network of CILs in Massachusetts. Activities to achieve this objective include:</p> <p>a. Develop a task force which will be responsible for development of a plan with recommendations and presenting it to the SILC, DSU's, partners in government and community.</p> <p>1. Analysis of demographic data regarding geographic areas and services of the ILCs and comparison with data from the 2010 Census by 9/30/2011.</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2012

	2. Identification of and outreach to consumer membership organizations other than CILs by 6/30/2011.		
Identify future needs for expansion of IL Services and the Network of Centers in	<p>Goal 8 Objective 2</p> <p>By 12/31/2010 develop a task force to identify the needs of youth transitioning to adulthood. Identify practices whereby the ILCs can help youth attain basic life goals including gainful employment to succeed in their adult lives.</p>	10/01/2010	12/21/2010
Identify future needs for expansion of IL Services and the Network of Centers in	<p>Goal 8 Objective 3</p> <p>By 9/30/2011 the SILC, the ILCs and MRC will collaborate to develop a system of performance-based outcomes and measurements to evaluate effectiveness of CILs and services.</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2011
Identify future needs for expansion of IL Services and the Network of Centers in	<p>Goal 8 Objective 4</p> <p>Provide Technical Assistance to CILs in the analysis and comparison of their service demographic information with available community demographic data.</p>	10/01/2010	09/30/2013

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

State:

Massachusetts

Agency:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Plan for:

2011-2013

Submitted in fiscal year:

2010

Part II: Narrative

Section 1: Goals, Objectives and Activities - Screen 3

1.2 Objectives

1.2B Describe the steps planned regarding outreach to populations in the State that are unserved or underserved by programs under title VII, including minority groups and urban and rural populations.

- Identify the populations to be designated for targeted outreach efforts

MRC MBC & the SILC have determined that the entire Commonwealth of Massachusetts is underserved by Centers for Independent Living. Although CILs are serving more persons with disabilities as noted above it is just the tip of the IL service need. It appears all the CILs are still serving less than 1% of persons with disabilities across the state. All CILs at anytime have waiting lists for IL services. The demand is much greater than current funding can support. (As noted in goal titled Identify future needs for expansion of IL Services and the Network of Centers in Massachusetts.)

- Identify the geographic areas (i.e., communities) in which the targeted populations reside

The areas of the Commonwealth identified as most underserved are those to the northwest & southeast of metropolitan Boston. This area is currently served by the Boston Center for Independent Living Inc. Although BCIL does a wonderful job it is impossible for one center to serve such a large population base. Many individuals to the north or south of the city do not necessarily identify with Boston proper for their day to day services and would be better served by a center located in their community.

- Describe how the needs of individuals with significant disabilities from minority group backgrounds will be addressed

By expanding the network of centers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from 11 to 13 centers, the unmet needs of the consumer base in the Metropolitan Boston area would be addressed. Having more community based CIL's would help to address the shortage of services available in this area while embracing the many cultural backgrounds of the region.

1.3 Financial Plan

Describe in sections 1.3A and 1.3B, below, the financial plan for the use of Federal and non-Federal funds to meet the SPIL objectives.

1.3A Financial Plan Tables

Complete the financial plan tables covering years 1, 2 and 3 of this SPIL. For each funding source, provide estimated dollar amounts anticipated for the applicable uses. The financial plan table should include only those funding sources and amounts that are intended to support one or more of the objectives identified in section 1.2 of the SPIL. To the extent possible, the tables and narratives must reflect the applicable financial information from centers for independent living. Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about completing the financial tables and narratives.

Year 1 - 2011 Approximate funding amounts and uses

Sources	SILC resource plan	IL services	General CIL operations	Other SPIL activities
Title VII Funds				
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part B	\$71,231	\$165,352	\$60,000	\$15,455
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part C			\$1,331,733	
Title VII Funds Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)		\$704,800		
Other Federal funds - Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$19,500			
Other Federal funds - other	\$45,255			\$19,745
Non-Federal funds - State funds		\$4,497,862		
ARRA Part B			\$175,082	
ARRA Part C			\$780,642	
Total	135986	5368014	2347457	35200

Year 2 - 2012 Approximate funding amounts and uses

Sources	SILC resource plan	IL services	General CIL operations	Other SPIL activities
Title VII Funds				
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part B	\$71,231	\$165,352	\$60,000	\$15,455
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part C			\$1,331,733	
Title VII Funds Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)		\$704,800		
Other Federal funds - Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$19,500			
Other Federal funds - other	\$45,255			\$19,745
Non-Federal funds - State funds		\$4,497,682		
ARRA Part C			\$500,488	
Total	135986	5367834	1892221	35200

Year 3 - 2013 Approximate funding amounts and uses

Sources	SILC resource plan	IL services	General CIL operations	Other SPIL activities
Title VII Funds				
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part B	\$71,231	\$165,352	\$60,000	\$15,455
Title VII Funds Chapter 1, Part C			\$1,331,733	
Title VII Funds Chapter 2, OIB (only those provided by the OIB grantee to further a SPIL objective)		\$704,800		
Other Federal funds - Sec. 101(a)(18) of the Act (Innovation and Expansion)	\$19,500			
Other Federal funds - other	\$45,255			\$19,745
Non-Federal funds - State funds		\$4,497,862		
ARRA Part C			\$310,379	
Total	135986	5368014	1702112	35200

1.3B Financial Plan Narratives

1.3B(1) Specify how the part B, part C and chapter 2 (Older Blind) funds, if applicable, will further the SPIL objectives.

MRC utilizes Part B funds to support operations of the SILC and for direct funding of services to consumers at all 11 CILs in the network.

MCB utilizes Part B funds for its direct services program to provide independent living services to those legally blind persons with the most significant secondary disabilities. The priority for MCB Part B is service provision that will enable people to remain in their homes, enhancing capacity for independent living and community integration.

The Massachusetts Commission for the Blind's IL objectives will be accomplished with resources available under Title VII, Part B. The Commission anticipates that its share of these resources will total approximately \$55,348.00. It is projected that these federal resources will be applied annually to support and further the individual independent living goals of legally blind consumers who, due to very significant secondary disabilities, require low-cost housing modification (such as a portable ramp) or medical equipment, or other independent living support services that are essential for them to achieve any degree of independent living and community integration. In addition, the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind will support the appropriate annual activities of the Statewide Independent Living Council by allocating \$19,500 of its Section 110 Vocational Rehabilitation grant to that purpose. As in the past, the Commission for the Blind will not devote any of its very limited Part B resources to MCB administrative or personnel purposes. It is anticipated that these activities will be budgeted for each year as follows:

\$19,500.00 (Vocational Rehabilitation funds) for on-going support of the SILC via an inter-agency service agreement

\$45,348.00 for blind IL consumers who present with relatively modest home adaptation needs; these home modifications will be limited to those that are essential to enable the consumer to live in the community and to prevent institutionalization. Consumers with other or more extensive home modification needs will be referred to the Commonwealths low-interest home loan program for an affordable alternative to Part B funding.

\$10,000.00 for blind IL consumers in need of medical equipment or medical equipment repair; these medical equipment services will be limited to those that are essential to enable the consumer to live in the community and to prevent institutionalization.

MCB uses Section 110 funds to support operations of the SILC, Part B funds to support delivery of services to legally blind persons with the most significant secondary disabilities, and Chapter 2 funds to support operations and administration for the provision of services to the older blind community.

All Title VII part B, part C, and chapter 2 funds used will support SPIL objectives.

1.3B(2) Describe efforts to coordinate Federal and State funding for centers and IL services, including the amounts, sources and purposes of the funding to be coordinated.

Massachusetts current 11 independent living centers serve all counties of the Commonwealth. Many areas though go underserved without established CIL presences in the local area. Centers are currently funded using a combination of Federal Part B & C dollars and state funds.

During the course of this SPIL the SILC & DSUs will coordinate communication between state government entities and the disability community on opportunities for participation in state policy development to educate legislators of the need for additional funding to bring all of the existing centers of the Commonwealth up to a base level funding of \$625,000.

Should information be requested, the IL partners: the DSUs, the SILC and the CILs will respond to requests by legislators and other lawmakers to provide education on disability-related issues and topics when contacted.

Materials provided could include fact sheets or white pages that have up to date information from current 704 reports, information from current Consumer Satisfaction Surveys, up to date geographic/demographic information, and contact information for ILC's and partners in the community.

We will also coordinate communication between state government entities and the disability community on opportunities for participation in state policy development and the need of an additional \$500,000 to address future expansion of the network and to addresses identified unmet needs of consumers.

1.3B(3) Describe any in-kind resources including plant, equipment or services to be provided in support of the SILC resource plan, IL services, general CIL operations and/or other SPIL objectives.

None. The MASILC does not receive any in kind resources at this time.

1.3B(4) Provide any additional information about the financial plan, as appropriate.

None

1.4 Compatibility with Chapter 1 of Title VII and the CIL Work Plans

1.4A Describe how the SPIL objectives are consistent with and further the purpose of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act as stated in section 701 of the Act and 34 CFR 364.2.

This SPIL reflects the State's commitment to carry out an IL plan under Chapter 1 of Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Chapter 1), and also the State's planning and implementation activities related to the plan.

1.4B Describe how, in developing the SPIL objectives, the DSU and the SILC considered and incorporated, where appropriate, the priorities and objectives established by centers for independent living under section 725(c)(4) of the Act.

In developing objectives for the SPIL, the centers of the Commonwealth were involved throughout the entire process.

In December of 2009, the SPIL committee met with the directors of the eleven centers prior to the beginning of public hearings on the SPIL to answer any questions or concerns they had and receive any input they had at that time.

During the public hearing and comment period virtually all of the centers in the Commonwealth were included and given the opportunity to provide input into the development of the SPIL. Virtually all of the centers testified either in person or in writing in this spil.

The testimony received from CIL's was incorporated in the final document. The SILC SPIL committee also reviewed 704 reports and Consumer Satisfaction Surveys for developing trends from throughout this past SPIL period and incorporated information involving developing trends and training needs into this spil.

Several of the persons included in the workgroup developing the SPIL itself were either directors or senior management staff of centers.

1.5 Cooperation, Coordination, and Working Relationships Among Various Entities

Describe the steps that will be taken to maximize the cooperation, coordination and working relationships among the SILS program, the SILC, and centers; the DSU, other State agencies represented on the SILC and other councils that address the needs of specific disability populations and issues; and other public and private entities determined to be appropriate by the SILC.

The description must identify the entities with which the DSU and the SILC will cooperate and coordinate.

The council includes ex-officio seats for the DSU, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, as well as the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind, Department of Developmental Disabilities Services, Massachusetts Office on Disability, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, The Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council as well as the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Members of the Council also serve on the State Rehab Councils for both the Rehabilitation Commission and the Commission for the Blind. The SILC is regularly invited to participate in the works of the Massachusetts Office on Disability, the DD Council and with other disability related organizations in the state.

The SILC & State Rehab Councils regularly co-support education events at the State House working together as equal partners to educate legislators and on many other projects throughout the year.

Each year the SILC supports the States annual ADA Day celebration working with the State Department of Conservation & Recreation, all eleven Independent Living Centers, and various community organizations such as the American Association of People with Disabilities, Institute for Human Centered Design, Disability Law Center, New England PVA, SEIU 1199 and others.

Through this collaboration, the SILC continues to reach out to unserved and underserved populations throughout the Commonwealth seeking input, developing relationships and identifying individuals to serve as SILC members.

1.6 Coordination of Services

Describe how IL services funded under chapter 1 of title VII of the Act will be coordinated with and complement other services to avoid unnecessary duplication with other Federal, State, and local programs, including the OIB program authorized by chapter 2 of title VII of the Act, that provide IL- or VR-related services.

By including ex-officio participation from Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, as well as the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind, Department of Developmental Disabilities Services, Massachusetts Office on Disability, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, The Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council as well as the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The SILC, DSU's and other partners in government will work to coordinate services and avoid unnecessary duplication, maintaining clear & open communication throughout the period of this SPIL.

Both MRC & MCB will continue to provide a staff member to attend quarterly SILC meetings, serve on SILC committees, and participate in ILC reviews.

In compliance with the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) Bylaws, both the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind & the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission have a non-voting representative on the SILC in order to have an active voice in the SILC & coordination of IL services and to avoid duplication of services.

MCB and the MCB BRIDGE Program will strengthen linkages with the SILC and ILCs in order to share information about its program and services.

The DSU and the CILS also coordinate services with the following programs:

Special Education

TAP Grants with BCIL, CLW, NILP, CORD, Stavros, SCIL MRC provides transition to adult services;

Vocational Education

VR IL contract MRC VR and each of the CILs, except MILCB, for pre- vocational services for current MRC VR consumers.

Developmental Disabilities Services

Some of the CILS are involved with developmental disabilities services through their participation in their local ADRC and MRC is involved with the statewide coordination of ADRCs.

Public Health

Some of the CILS are involved with public health services through their participation in their local ADRC and MRC is involved with the statewide coordination of ADRCs.

Mental Health

Two CILS have a Recovery Learning Community, funded by the Department of Mental Health; another CIL has a drop in program also funded by the Department of Mental Health;

Housing

Many CILS are working with local housing authorities, as well as the Community Based housing initiative and the Citizens Housing and Planning Association on housing policy and development; Some CILs have been working with MRC on mobilizing local housing authorities with Department of Housing and Community Development on the new NOFA from HUD to increase subsidized housing. MRC funds and with CILs collaboration work with the statewide web based Housing Registry

Transportation

One CIL within their ADRC has a major task force on Transportation, with the mission of all residents of the North Shore will be able to travel where they want, when they want and is working on multiple new transportation service projects.

Veterans' Services

Some of the CILS are involved with veterans consumer directed services through their participation in their local ADRC and MRC is involved with the statewide coordination of ADRCs.

Programs under XVIII - XX of the Social Security Act

All CILs consistently work with the DSUs and other state agencies to insure that the consumer directed PCA

program, the first in the country, is reflective of independent living philosophy as well as is sufficiently available to CIL consumers. Many CILs provide Medicaid funded consumer directed Personal Care Assistance programs. MRC provides to MCB consumers as well as to CIL consumers Benefits Planning assistance. Some CILs have had staff trained in SHINE skills and another CILs use through their ADRC the existing SHINE services.

1.7 Independent Living Services for Individuals who are Older Blind

Describe how the DSU seeks to incorporate into, and describe in, the State plan any new methods or approaches for the provision of IL services to older individuals who are blind that are developed under the Older Individuals who are Blind program and that the DSU determines to be effective.

MCB proposes to continue the operation of the BRIDGE Program with a particular emphasis on the following program components:

1. Peer Empowerment Program (PEP) Peer Support Groups

The BRIDGE Program contracts with MAB community services to facilitate peer support groups. MAB will provide training to the 34 support groups over the next two years with a program entitled What's Up Doc? which will enhance communication between consumers and their doctors and other health care professionals. MAB will do a pre-test/post-test utilizing Chapter 2 outcomes.

MAB will also purchase 34 Chattervoxes for PEP groups. These individual amplification systems devices cost approximately \$200 each and will enhance communication for the many hearing-impaired elders in these groups.

2. Sight Loss Services

SLS, an agency on Cape Cod that runs an additional 11 peer support group, plans to use stimulus funds to expand their resource center for peer support members. This would include the purchase of a variety of magnifier and reading machines, light, and technology devices, for example, the Solo, Clearnote, and Ruby.

3. Outreach and public education

The BRIDGE Program has identified an additional 35 low vision support groups which do not receive support from MAB or SLS. A conference in fall 2010 will bring together leaders of these groups for training and mutual support.

The BRIDGE Program will expand outreach and public education activities to underserved minorities. These activities will include health fairs, in-service training, and presentations to seniors at councils on aging, elder housing, nursing homes, houses of worship, etc.

Through affiliation with the New England Eye Institute, the BRIDGE Program will conduct outreach programs for ophthalmologists and optometrist to inform them about the benefits and services available to seniors who are legally blind.

The Mobile Eye Care Van Program described below will greatly expand the BRIDGE Program's outreach and education capacity. Elements of the program include:

1. Outreach to the optometric community to encourage patient registration with the MCB.
2. Outreach to Community Health Centers, Elder Service Centers, Councils on Aging, and Housing Authorities to identify potential consumers who are currently unserved or underserved.

3. Outreach to current peer support groups for blind and visually-impaired persons throughout the state.
4. Outreach to culturally diverse communities to educate and identify potential consumers who may be at risk for acquiring specific eye conditions that have a higher prevalence in culturally diverse communities.
5. Outreach to other potential state and community partners.
6. Development of educational materials in accessible formats.

4. Employment

Mississippi State University has expressed an interest in providing training on employment for seniors. This training would be provided to BRIDGE staff as well as other agency staff. This would necessitate MSU staff traveling to Massachusetts for 2-3 days to provide comprehensive training. MSU has a curriculum in place for this training and outcomes would be linked to Chapter 2 outcomes. A recent RSA audit highlighted the need to emphasize employment possibilities with all Chapter 2 referrals.

5. Expansion of Services to Geographically Underserved Areas

Expanded activities with the Carroll Center for the Blind in Newton, MA will include the following additional services for consumers outside of the Boston area:

Community-based senior vision assessments

Community-based diabetic self-management training

Community-based skills training consisting of 4 ? 6 week training sessions held at various locales through this state.

Community-based Safe Home assessments, analyzing the safety of each room, identifying safety concerns, and providing low-cost/low-tech remedies A Train the Trainer program in the area of adaptive technology. Carroll Center staff would train local senior center technology instructors in the ZoomText and Jaws programs. These instructors would then be able to instruct local MCB consumers at the senior center without having to travel to Newton.

6. Mobile Eye Care Van

The BRIDGE Program will develop, during FY 2010-2011 and in conjunction with a qualified vendor with expertise in comprehensive eye health services, a state-of-the-art mobile eye care van. This innovative approach will provide sophisticated ophthalmologic care and low vision evaluations to seniors who are underserved because of lack of transportation access or an inability to travel long distances. The Massachusetts Commission for the Blind is committed to a collaborative model of care to address the needs of the whole person and to creative, comprehensive approaches to delivering this care. 35,000 citizens are registered as legally blind persons in Massachusetts and 70 % of those are over the age of 70. Our fastest growing population is those over the age of 85. An increasing number of our consumers are frail and not able to access traditional health care services outside of their homes or home communities.

Section 7: Evaluation

Describe the method that will be used to periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the plan in meeting the objectives established in Section 1. The description must include the State's evaluation of satisfaction by individuals with significant disabilities who have participated in the program.

The BRIDGE (OIB) Program contracts with the Mississippi State University Rehabilitation Research and Training Center to conduct an annual evaluation in order to review how well the BRIDGE Program has assisted clients in meeting their goals for independence. The evaluation methodology includes (a) a client satisfaction survey; (b) a demographic survey; (c) a site visit for the purpose of reviewing case files and interviewing clients and staff; (d) a review of additional program data; and (3) the publication of a report.

A review of the demographic data has consistently shown that a significant portion of the population served is composed of those with multiple physical impairments, including significantly cardio/circulatory diagnoses; musculoskeletal diseases, including arthritis; hearing loss, and respiratory disability.

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

State:

Massachusetts

Agency:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Plan for:

2011-2013

Submitted in fiscal year:

2010

Part II: Narrative

Section 2: Scope, Extent, and Arrangements of Services

2.1 Scope and Extent

2.1A Check the appropriate boxes in the SPIL Instrument table indicating the types of IL services to be provided to meet the objectives identified in section 1.2 of this SPIL, and whether the services will be provided by the CILs or by the DSU (directly and/or through contract or grant).

Table 2.1A: Independent living services	Provided by the DSU (directly)	Provided by the DSU (through contract and/or grant)	Provided by the CILs (Not through DSU contracts/grants)
Core Independent Living Services - Information and referral	Yes	Yes	Yes
Core Independent Living Services - IL skills training	Yes	Yes	Yes
Core Independent Living Services - Peer counseling	Yes	Yes	Yes
Core Independent Living Services - Individual and systems advocacy	Yes	Yes	Yes
Counseling services, including psychological, psychotherapeutic, and related services	No	No	No
Services related to securing housing or shelter, including services related to community group living, and supportive of the purposes of this Act and of the titles of this Act, and adaptive housing services (including appropriate accommodations to and modifications of any space used to serve, or occupied by, individuals with significant disabilities)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rehabilitation technology	Yes	Yes	No
Mobility training	Yes	Yes	No
Services and training for individuals with cognitive and sensory disabilities, including life skills training, and interpreter and reader services	Yes	Yes	No

Personal assistance services, including attendant care and the training of personnel providing such services	No	Yes	Yes
Surveys, directories and other activities to identify appropriate housing, recreation, accessible transportation and other support services	Yes	Yes	No
Consumer information programs on rehabilitation and IL services available under this Act, especially for minorities and other individuals with disabilities who have traditionally been unserved or underserved by programs under this Act	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education and training necessary for living in the community and participating in community activities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Supported living	No	Yes	No
Transportation, including referral and assistance for such transportation	Yes	Yes	Yes
Physical rehabilitation	No	No	No
Therapeutic treatment	No	No	No
Provision of needed prostheses and other appliances and devices	No	No	Yes
Individual and group social and recreational services	No	No	No
Training to develop skills specifically designed for youths who are individuals with significant disabilities to promote self-awareness and esteem, develop advocacy and self-empowerment skills, and explore career options	No	Yes	No
Services for children with significant disabilities	Yes	Yes	No
Services under other Federal, State, or local programs designed to provide resources, training, counseling, or other assistance of substantial benefit in enhancing the independence, productivity, and quality of life of individuals with significant disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Appropriate preventive services to decrease the need of individuals with significant disabilities for similar services in the future	No	Yes	No
Community awareness programs to enhance the understanding and integration into society of individuals with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other necessary services not inconsistent with the Act	Yes	Yes	Yes

2.1B Describe any service provision priorities, including types of services or populations, established for meeting the SPIL objectives identified in section 1.2.

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind Part B Program

The priority for MCB Part B is service provision that will enable people to remain in their homes, enhancing capacity for independent living and community integration.

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind BRIDGE Elder Blind Program (OIB)

MCB will continue to manage a comprehensive service program that includes direct service, purchase of service capacity and an innovative sub-grant program that supports the operation of peer support groups. The priority is the provision of services that enhance the capacity for independent living among blind elders.

The priority of the public education component of the BRIDGE Program is the provision of information that will enhance capacity for independent living to consumers and service providers, with particular emphasis on outreach to under-represented populations.

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission Part B Program administration

Part B funds made available through the Mass. Rehabilitation Commission will be administered through the ILCs, including determinations of eligibility and certification for services. Prior to 10/1/10 some ILCs chose not to certify applications as appropriate for funding, and delegated that task to MRC. As of 10/1/10 all ILCs will carry out this function, with MRC providing training, technical assistance and oversight.

Program guidelines were developed in accordance with the SPIL, and were agreed to by the SILC, Centers & DSUs. The program guidelines cover the following services and limits in funding:

\$8,200 limit for vehicle modifications.

\$2,500 limit for Assistive Technology.

\$2,000 limit for home modifications. People eligible for the state-funded Home Modification Loan Program would be ineligible for Part B.

\$500 limit for ancillary services. Ancillary services must be related to either:

a. expenses that will facilitate transition or diversion from an institution (nursing facility or shelter), and where such institutionalization is disability-related, and not solely due to financial circumstances; or,

b. goods and services that improve the health or safety of an eligible individual when it can be justified that these goods and services will improve the individual's ability to function, continue functioning or move towards functioning independently in family or community or to continue in employment. MassHealth approval for the item or service must be sought, and a denial received prior to use of Part B funds. Written documentation of this denial must be kept in the consumer's CSR.

It was agreed that a redistribution of not expended or un-encumbered funds will occur on March 1st, of each year.

All of Massachusetts CILs will administer the day-to-day operation of the Part B Program without DSU intervention. MRC will monitor the program, collect quarterly quantitative data and conducted on site program reviews. Should an ILC be unable to meet performance criteria specified in the review process, the DSU reserves the right to assume responsibility for the operation of the Title VII Part B program until such time that the ILC demonstrates that all needed corrective actions have been taken.

In the previous SPIL, SILC supported that MRC make 3 options available to all 11 CILs for use of Part B funds. Due to the success of the program the options will be carried forward in the 2011-2013 SPIL. They are:

Option #1 Continue the provision of individual independent living services.

Although MRC, MCB and MCDHH have state funds for assistive technology it is not sufficient to meet all the needs of the large number of people requiring these services. Long waiting lists for these services exist.

Under this SPIL, consumers can apply for Part B funds while on a waiting list for any of these other funding sources for assistive technology and may use the AT Loan program as well. This would mean that if state funds for assistive technology are made available first, then the consumer must take that source of funding, and Part B cannot be used. The reverse would also be true and this would safeguard double service provision.

Option #2 Operate innovative projects to enhance Independent Living options for individuals with significant disabilities within the community.

Project activities must address improved access to community services. The CIL will be required to submit a proposal to MRC which must include:

Goals of the project

Measurable outcomes

How Part B, and other, funds will be utilized

Evaluation measures

Time limit of up to three years, or end of this SPIL, whichever comes first.

Each proposal must describe the community system change need(s) being addressed, consumer and Board input of the project design, and strategies for achieving the project outcomes.

Some examples of projects under this option include: developing, printing and distributing a resource guide of a particular topic in the ILC's service area; community development to obtain support from local municipalities and other entities for funding of CIL activities; or development of a disability awareness curriculum for use in a particular setting. MRC with a select group of consumers recommended by the SILC will review all proposals. Proposals will be solicited prior to the start of each fiscal year.

Option 3: effective October 1, 2010, A CIL can choose to use their Part B allocation in a combination of Option 1 and Option 2, above.

2.1C If the State allows service providers to charge consumers for the cost of services or to consider the ability of individual consumers to pay for the cost of IL services, specify the types of IL services for which costs may be charged and for which a financial need test may be applied, and describe how the State will ensure that:

- Any consideration of financial need is applied uniformly so that all individuals who are eligible for IL services are treated equally; and
- Written policies and consumer documentation required by 34 CFR 364.59(d) will be kept by the service provider.

Indicate N/A if not applicable.

N/A

2.2 Arrangements for State-Provided Services

2.2A If the DSU will provide any of the IL services identified in section 2.1A through grants or contractual arrangements with third parties, describe such arrangements.

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind BRIDGE Elder Blind Program (OIB)

The MCB BRIDGE Program contracts the management of the vision loss peer support group program to two non-profit agencies, chosen through a competitive bidding process. Currently MAB Community Services supports thirty-four support groups and hosts the Senior Connection event in June which brings up to 300 members of these groups together. Sight Loss Services of Cape Cod and the Islands supports eleven peer support groups on the Cape.

The BRIDGE Program contracts with a public education consultant for approximately 1,000 hours/year to do outreach and in-service training. The contractor is selected through a competitive bidding process.

MRC does not provide direct IL services, but provides the IL services listed in section 2.1A through contracts with ILCs or other providers. These include:

Home Modification Loan program - administered by the Community Economic Development Assistance Corp.

Accessible Housing Registry - operated by the Citizens Housing and Planning Association

New England Index - a statewide database of resources and services - operated by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Supported Living - MRC contracts with 11 non-profit providers across the state.

2.2B If the State contracts with or awards a grant to a center for the general operation of the center, describe how the State will ensure that the determination of an individual's eligibility for services from that center shall be delegated to the center.

Each of the CIL's in Massachusetts determines eligibility for services during the consumer intake process. The Data Management System currently in use will not count a consumer as active for 704 purposes unless the eligibility form has been completed and signed electronically by the staff person completing the intake process.

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

State:

Massachusetts

Agency:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Plan for:

2011-2013

Submitted in fiscal year:

2010

Part II: Narrative

Section 3: Design for the Statewide Network of Centers

3.1 Existing Network

Provide an overview of the existing network of centers, including non-Part C-funded centers that comply with the standards and assurances in section 725 (b) and (c) of the Act, and the geographic areas and populations currently served by the centers.

Massachusetts has a network of eleven centers for independent living that meet the Section 725 standards. Each CIL has a defined service area, although many CILs provide services to individuals outside their service areas. The service areas are defined by lists of cities or towns, and do not fully coincide with county lines or service areas of other agencies.

An example of a service provided to consumers outside of a CIL's service area would be; information and referral which is provided to any caller, from anywhere in the state, this is under Part C funding as a core service, if the caller indicates during a call that they do not reside in the CIL's service area they are directed to the CIL in their area who would be able to provide the services they are seeking information on at that time.

All of Massachusetts CIL's receive a combination of Part C, Part B, and state funding. Many of the centers also receive funding from other sources in their geographic region of the state.

The network of CIL's in Massachusetts provide services to all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth at sixteen sites:

Ad Lib (Pittsfield and North Adams) serves 32 mostly rural cities and towns in Berkshire County, the westernmost county in Massachusetts;

Boston Center for Independent Living (Boston) serves communities in Boston and 33 suburbs to the south, north, and west located in Suffolk, Norfolk & Middlesex Counties;

Cape Organization for Rights of the Disabled (Hyannis) serves the 23 towns on Cape Cod, and the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket located in Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket Counties;

Center for Living and Working (Worcester and Fitchburg) serves 63 cities and towns in Central Massachusetts located in Worcester & Middlesex Counties;

Independence Associates (Brockton) serves 31 cities and towns in Southeastern Massachusetts located in

Plymouth & Bristol Counties;

Independent Living Center of the North Shore and Cape Ann (Salem) serves 25 cities and towns along the coast North of Boston as far north as the tip of Cape Ann in the coastal region located in Essex County;

MetroWest Center for Independent Living (Framingham) serves 26 towns in suburban and rural communities located between Boston and Worcester in Middlesex & Norfolk Counties;

Multicultural ILC of Boston (Dorchester) serves 9 communities in inner city Boston located in Suffolk & Norfolk Counties.

Northeast Independent Living Program (Lawrence) serves 27 cities and towns located in the northeast corner of Massachusetts in Middlesex & Essex Counties;

Southeast Center for Independent Living (Fall River and New Bedford) serves 20 cities and towns in the southeast coastal area of Massachusetts located in Plymouth & Bristol Counties;

Stavros (Amherst, Greenfield, and Springfield) serves consumers who live in 69 cities and rural towns of Western Massachusetts in Franklin, Hampden, & Hampshire Counties.

3.2 Expansion of Network

Describe the design for the further expansion of the network, including identification of the unserved and underserved areas in the State and the order of priority for serving these areas as additional funding becomes available (beyond the required cost-of-living increase).

Although previously it is noted in this SPIL that all 351 communities in the Commonwealth are served by a CIL the SILC, DSU's and other partners in government have determined that the entire Commonwealth of Massachusetts is underserved. Although CIL's are serving more persons with disabilities as noted above, it is just the tip of the IL service need. It appears all the CILs combined are still serving less than 1% of persons with disabilities across the state. All CILs at anytime have waiting lists for IL services. The demand is much greater than current funding can support.

During year one of the SPIL the Centers along with the DSU will educate legislators both State & Federal as to the value of independent living & need for additional funding to bring all of the centers to a base level funding of \$450,000.

The CIL's, DSU's & partners in the community will also educate legislators on the need for an additional Center or Satellite (which would be spun off as a free standing Center) to be established to the northwest of the current Boston Center for Independent Living to serve consumers in that area that do not always identify with Boston proper. The Center or Satellite will be funded at \$325,000 to \$340,000 combined state and federal funding should it become available (which was identified as the minimum needed in the past SPIL).

During year two the CIL's, DSU's, & partners in the community will also educate both state and federal legislators as to the need for a raise in the center base funding to \$625,000 combined state & federal funding (as identified in the past SPIL) for the existing centers in the network.

Massachusetts defines Community Education and Public Information (formerly Community Education/Training & Public Information) as Time spent preparing and providing activities and information to enhance the community's awareness of disabilities, disability issues and Independent Living philosophy.

Materials provided could include fact sheets or white pages that have up to date information from current 704 reports, information from current Consumer Satisfaction Surveys, up to date geographic/demographic information, and contact information for ILC's and partners in the community.

As will be stated in Section 3.3A as a 723 State Massachusetts has chosen the following funding priorities:

As a 723 state the MA SILC and the DSUs agree in this SPIL to the following set of priorities which will target expansion of funding for the existing CILs, and establishment of branches, satellites and/or new CILs dependent upon federal and state funding increases.

In allocating new federal Part C and state independent living funds among the CILs, the Commonwealth will be guided by the following priorities:

MRC will support existing CILs and development of branches, satellites and/or new CILs that comply with Section 725 standards and assurances. New money will be distributed among the existing CILs using the following four-step process:

1. any additional new monies will be used to bring CIL's to Pre-ARRA funding allocation by an equal distribution proportionate to any cuts received.
2. Base funding will be the second priority for use of increased funding. The minimum base funding level for existing CILs will be \$450,000 combined state and federal funding (as defined in prior SPILs). Any new funds remaining after priority 1 during this SPIL will be equally distributed among the CILs that are funded below the base funding level. If this division of funds brings any CIL over this new base funding level, the amount over the base funding level will be then equally re-distributed among the remaining CILs that are funded below the base funding level until all CILs are at the minimum funding level.
3. Cost of Living Allocation (COLA) based on Consumer Price Index (CPI).

The percent COLA will be assessed at the level of the increase of the consumer price index (CPI) for the previous year ending on September 30. The CPI for the previous year will be obtained from the Department of Labor web site.

The CPI will be applied to the total amount of combined state and federal CIL funds for each CIL in the state for the previous federal fiscal year ending September 30.

If the amount of new money is not enough to cover the COLA as defined above, it will then be divided equally among the CILs.

Regardless of how many funding increases occur, the cost of living increases will be applied only once in a given year.

4. Additional monies will be split 50/50 with
 - a) 50% divided 13 ways. The Boston Center for Independent Living would receive 3 shares to address unmet needs as identified earlier in this SPIL to establish presences in the areas to the Northwest & Southeast of BCIL targeted for expansion of the network. Each of the 10 remaining CIL's will receive 1 share.
 - b) Expansion of the network of CIL's with \$325,000 \$340,000 allocated (as identified in previous SPILs) for satellite offices located first in the area North West of the current Boston Center for Independent Living

(NWBCIL), then in area South East of the current Boston Center for Independent Living (SEBCIL). If sufficient funds are not allocated to effectively open a satellite office then revert back to a.)

c) SILC to form committee/taskforce to determine additional expansion to un-served & under-served areas of state and priorities for additional branch offices or satellites. (New satellites or branches may only be applied for & run by Centers for Independent Living in the contiguous area which meets the Standards and Indicators.)

To be approved for continued funding under the priorities, existing CILs must submit to the DSU documentation of compliance with standards defined in Section 725 of the Act.

As a 723 state part of MRC's Administrative cost will be taken from any new federal funds at a % negotiated with the SPIL Committee and approved by SILC Executive Committee annually.

3.3 Section 723 States Only

3.3A If the State follows an order of priorities for allocating funds among centers within a State that is different from what is outlined in 34 CFR 366.22, describe the alternate order of priority that the DSU director and the SILC chair have agreed upon. Indicate N/A if not applicable.

As a 723 state the MA SILC and the DSUs agree in this SPIL to the following set of priorities which will target expansion of funding for the existing CILs, and establishment of branches, satellites and/or new CILs dependent upon federal and state funding increases.

In allocating new federal Part C and state independent living funds among the CILs, the Commonwealth will be guided by the following priorities:

MRC will support existing CILs and development of branches, satellites and/or new CILs that comply with Section 725 standards and assurances. New money will be distributed among the existing CILs using the following four-step process:

1. any additional new monies will be used to bring CIL's to Pre-ARRA funding allocation by an equal distribution proportionate to any cuts received.
2. Base funding will be the second priority for use of increased funding. The minimum base funding level for existing CILs will be \$450,000 combined state and federal funding (as defined in prior SPILs). Any new funds remaining after priority 1 during this SPIL will be equally distributed among the CILs that are funded below the base funding level. If this division of funds brings any CIL over this new base funding level, the amount over the base funding level will be then equally re-distributed among the remaining CILs that are funded below the base funding level until all CILs are at the minimum funding level.
3. Cost of Living Allocation (COLA) based on Consumer Price Index (CPI).

The percent COLA will be assessed at the level of the increase of the consumer price index (CPI) for the previous year ending on September 30. The CPI for the previous year will be obtained from the Department of Labor web site.

The CPI will be applied to the total amount of combined state and federal CIL funds for each CIL in the state for the previous federal fiscal year ending September 30.

If the amount of new money is not enough to cover the COLA as defined above, it will then be divided equally

among the CILs.

Regardless of how many funding increases occur, the cost of living increases will be applied only once in a given year.

4. Additional monies will be split 50/50 with

a) 50% divided 13 ways. The Boston Center for Independent Living would receive 3 shares to address unmet needs as identified earlier in this SPIL to establish presences in the areas to the Northwest & Southeast of BCIL targeted for expansion of the network. Each of the 10 remaining CIL's will receive 1 share.

b) Expansion of the network of CIL's with \$325,000 \$340,000 allocated (as identified in previous SPILs) for satellite offices located first in the area North West of the current Boston Center for Independent Living (NWBCIL), then in area South East of the current Boston Center for Independent Living (SEBCIL). If sufficient funds are not allocated to effectively open a satellite office then revert back to a.)

c) SILC to form committee/taskforce to determine additional expansion to un-served & under-served areas of state and priorities for additional branch offices or satellites. (New satellites or branches may only be applied for & run by Centers for Independent Living in the contiguous area which meets the Standards and Indicators.)

To be approved for continued funding under the priorities, existing CILs must submit to the DSU documentation of compliance with standards defined in Section 725 of the Act.

As a 723 state part of MRC's Administrative cost will be taken from any new federal funds at a % negotiated with the SPIL Committee and approved by SILC Executive Committee annually.

3.3B Describe how the State policies, practices and procedures governing the awarding of grants to centers and the oversight of these centers are consistent with 34 CFR 366.37 and 366.38.

The Designated State Unit (DSU), the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC), will continue to receive and administer federal funds under Section 723 of the Rehabilitation Act as amended, according to current practice, including:

A. Compliance with funding priorities set forth below and the allocation formula approved by the SILC during this plan.

The director of the DSU hereby applies to award grants or assistance contracts to eligible agencies in the State that comply with the standards and assurances set forth in section 725 of the Act. The grants are to be made from the funds allotted to the State for the planning, conduct, administration, and evaluation of CILs under part C, Chapter 1.

The state administers funds in compliance with §723 (Sec. 704(h) of the Act; 34 CFR 366.32, .35)

B. State IL contracts for existing centers for independent living (CILs) will continue to be linked to existing federal grants pursuant to the provisions of regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Purchased Services.

The director of the DSU awards grants or assistance contracts under section 723 of the Act to any eligible agency that was awarded a grant under part C, Chapter 1 on September 30, 1993, unless the director makes a

finding that the agency involved fails to comply with the standards and assurances set forth in section 725 of the Act or the director of the DSU and the chairperson of the SILC, or other individual designated by the SILC to act on behalf of and at the direction of the SILC, jointly agree to another order of priorities.

The State assures that any assistance contracts issued to eligible agencies will not add any requirements, terms, or conditions to the assistance contract other than those that would be permitted if the assistance contract were a sub-grant consistent with grants issued by RSA under section 722 of the Act.

In administering the part C, Chapter 1 program, the State will not enter into any procurement contracts with CILs to carry out section 723 of the Act.

Monitoring and Oversight. (§§704(h), 723(g) and (h) of the Act; 34 CFR 366.38)

The State assures that periodic and on-site compliance reviews will be conducted to determine CIL compliance with section 725 of the Act as described in Attachment 3.

C. State and federal site reviews for compliance with standards and assurances will continue to be conducted by the MRC, in cooperation with the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), using the time lines established for federal compliance reviews.

D. the DSUs (MRC and the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind) the ILC's and partners in the community in the education of both state and federal legislators and partners in government of the need to increase the funding of CILs throughout this plan.

Should information be requested, the IL partners: the DSUs, the SILC and the CILs will respond to requests by legislators and other lawmakers to provide education on disability-related issues and topics when contacted.

Materials provided could include fact sheets or white pages that have up to date information from current 704 reports, information from current Consumer Satisfaction Surveys, up to date geographic/demographic information, and contact information for ILC's and partners in the community.

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

State:

Massachusetts

Agency:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Plan for:

2011-2013

Submitted in fiscal year:

2010

Part II: Narrative

Section 4: Designated State Unit (DSU)

4.1 Administrative Support Services

4.1A Describe the administrative support services to be provided by the DSU for the SILS (Part B) program and, if the State is a Section 723 State, for the CIL (Part C) program.

Refer to the SPIL Instructions for additional information about administrative support services.

State Applies to Administer Part C Program (Sections 704(h) and 723 of the Act; 34 CFR 366.32)

The director of the DSU hereby applies to award grants or assistance contracts to eligible agencies in the State that comply with the standards and assurances set forth in section 725 of the Act. The grants are to be made from the funds allotted to the State for the planning, conduct, administration, and evaluation of CILs under part C, Chapter

1. The state administers funds in compliance with §723 (Sec. 704(h) of the Act; 34 CFR 366.32, .35)

The director of the DSU awards grants or assistance contracts under section 723 of the Act to any eligible agency that was awarded a grant under part C, Chapter 1 on September 30, 1993, unless the director makes a finding that the agency involved fails to comply with the standards and assurances set forth in section 725 of the Act or the director of the DSU and the chairperson of the SILC, or other individual designated by the SILC to act on behalf of and at the direction of the SILC, jointly agree to another order of priorities.

The State assures that any assistance contracts issued to eligible agencies will not add any requirements, terms, or conditions to the assistance contract other than those that would be permitted if the assistance contract were a sub-grant consistent with grants issued by RSA under section 722 of the Act.

In administering the part C, Chapter 1 program, the State will not enter into any procurement contracts with CILs to carry out section 723 of the Act.

Monitoring and Oversight. (§§704(h), 723(g) and (h) of the Act; 34 CFR 366.38)

The State assures that periodic and on-site compliance reviews will be conducted to determine CIL compliance with section 725 of the Act as described in Attachment 3.

C. State and federal site reviews for compliance with standards and assurances will continue to be conducted by the MRC, in cooperation with the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), using the time lines

established for federal compliance reviews.

D. the DSUs (MRC and the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind) will join the CIL's in education to increase the funding of CILs from federal and state resources each year of this plan.

Community Education and Public Information (formerly Community Education/Training & Public Information) is defined as: Time spent preparing and providing activities and information to enhance the community's awareness of disabilities, disability issues and Independent Living philosophy.

MRC does not provide direct training to the CILs or to the SILC other than a monthly meeting with CIL ED's to address information sharing on contracting, MRC priorities, Statewide priorities.

4.1B Describe other DSU arrangements for the administration of the IL program, if any.

The Designated State Unit (DSU), the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC), will continue to receive and administer federal funds under Section 723 of the Rehabilitation Act as amended, according to current practice, including:

A. Compliance with funding priorities set forth below and the allocation formula approved by the SILC during this plan.

B. State IL contracts for existing centers for independent living (CILs) will continue to be linked to existing federal grants pursuant to the provisions of regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Purchased Services.

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

State:

Massachusetts

Agency:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Plan for:

2011-2013

Submitted in fiscal year:

2010

Part II: Narrative

Section 5: Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

5.1 Resource plan

5.1A Describe the resource plan prepared by the SILC in conjunction with the DSU for the provision of resources, including staff and personnel, made available under parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII, section 101(a)(18) of the Act, and from other public and private sources that may be necessary to carry out the functions of the SILC identified in section 705(c). The description must address the three years of this SPIL.

- Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

For more information click the icon.

The SILC Resource Plan allocates Federal Part B funds for the operation of the SILC. The major areas where funding is allocated includes staff salary and benefits; SILC Board Member and CIL Director travel and teleconference expenses for board and committee meetings; training for staff and board; travel for staff to national IL conferences; office expenses including rent, supplies, phones, long distance and toll-free line. The SILC annually develops and approves its budget as an autonomous body separate from the DSU's. Funding for the SILC is in compliance with 34 CFR 364.21 to carry out its statutory duties.

5.1B Describe how the following SILC resource plan requirements will be addressed.

- The SILC's responsibility for the proper expenditure of funds and use of resources that it receives under the resource plan.

The SILC has established financial policies & procedures which are followed for all business of the SILC. In conjunction with the policies, MetroWest Center for Independent living, Inc. in Framingham MA acts as its fiscal intermediary processing transactions on behalf of the SILC according to the SILC's policies. Policies include; Procedure for Setting Up Teleconferences 7 Communication, Procedures for Performing an Inventory, Procedures for Processing Invoices for Payment, Procedures for Planning SILC Quarterly Meetings, Procedures for Accessing SILC Funded Transportation to and from Council activities, & Procedures for updating the Web Page.

- Non-inclusion of conditions or requirements in the SILC resource plan that may compromise the independence of the SILC.

The SILC operates as an independent entity under the MetroWest Center for Independent Living, Inc. where it is housed. The SILC maintains regular communication with the DSU's and the Governor's office but the board of the SILC is responsible for the decisions and actions of the SILC. The SILC annually develops and approves its budget & priorities as an autonomous body.

- Reliance, to the maximum extent possible, on the use of resources in existence during the period of implementation of the State plan.

The majority of the funds for the SILC are from the federal Part B program. Additional funding comes from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through the Rehabilitation Commission.

5.2 Establishment and Placement

Describe how the establishment and placement of the SILC ensures its independence with respect to the DSU and all other State agencies. Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

The Massachusetts SILC was established under Executive Order 373 by his honor Governor William Weld on September 26, 1994. It is housed independently as a program of the MetroWest Center for Independent Living, Inc. in Framingham MA., which acts as its fiscal intermediary.

The SILC develops and implements its own budget separate from MWCIL and the state agencies. MWCIL simply acts as the SILC's agent. The SILC Program is governed by its own set of bylaws and policies & procedures.

5.3 Appointment and Composition

Describe the process used by the State to appoint members to the SILC who meet the composition requirements in section 705(b). Refer to the SPIL Instructions for more information about completing this section.

The SILC maintains an active Nominations & Development Committee. This committee meets monthly via teleconference or face-to-face.

The committee reviews nominations in process, new nominations and continued development of the SILC. It regularly conducts outreach for new members.

SILC members are appointed by the Governor's office to fill a term of three years. SILC members may complete up to two consecutive complete terms.

The nominations process is as follows;

Nominations of qualified individuals are received by the SILC and forwarded to the Nominations & Development committee.

The Nominations and Development committee looks to see from the application or through personal knowledge if the applicant meets the qualifications of a SILC member established under the SILC's bylaws.

If the applicant is qualified an interview with the Nominations & Development Committee is set up, if necessary.

The committee then votes to forward the individuals name to the SILC Executive committee for approval.

During the next regularly scheduled meeting of the SILC Executive Committee the name is brought forward by the Nomination & Development Committee Chairperson during His/her report for consideration of the committee.

Once approval of the nominee is received from the Executive Committee the SILC Coordinator forwards the new nominees name and contact information to the Governor's Office on Appointments.

The Governor's office on Appointments then issues a complete background check which any individual applying for consideration for gubernatorial appointment in the Commonwealth must fill out.

The Governor's office then appoints the individual to fulfill either the remainder of a term that has been vacated or a new three year term.

Once the individual is appointed by the Governor's office they have 60 days to be sworn in and to take their oath of appointment.

A copy of the oath is then sent to the governor's office and maintained on the nominees file in the SILC office.

MA SILC will revise our procedure on this to insure that it meets 34 CFR 364.21 (F) even though the Commonwealth, specifically the Governor's office, allowed the SILC to not have to count a filling of existing vacancy time against the two consecutive term limit.

The MASILC bylaws committee has been re-constituted as of March 18 2010 to specifically look at and make recommendations for any need changes. This committees recommendations will be included in the work of Goal number 7 which is to develop a strategic plan for the SILC going forward.

5.4 Staffing

Describe how the following SILC staffing requirements will be met.

- SILC supervision and evaluation, consistent with State law, of its staff and other personnel as may be necessary to carry out its functions.

The SILC hires an independent consultant to act as its Coordinator. The Coordinator is a contracted position with the SILC's fiscal intermediary the MetroWest Center for Independent Living. The Coordinators contract is reviewed annually by the SILC Chairperson & its fiscal intermediary to be sure that the coordinator is fulfilling the tasks outlined on the independent consultant's contract.

- Non-assignment of duties to SILC staff and other personnel made available by the DSU, or any other State agency or office, that would create a conflict of interest while assisting the SILC in carrying out its duties.

The SILC Coordinator is directed by the SILC Chairperson. All assignments and tasks come to the coordinator directly from the chairperson who works with the Executive committee and the other active committees of the SILC. Although the SILC is housed at the MetroWest Center for Independent Living, Inc. it is governed by its own set of bylaws and policies and procedures separate from the centers which simply act as the SILC fiscal agent & provides office space for the SILC to perform its day to day operations.

State agency staff that are assigned as ex-officio members of the SILC are not assigned any duties that would create a conflict of interest while assisting the SILC.

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

State:

Massachusetts

Agency:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Plan for:

2011-2013

Submitted in fiscal year:

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Section 6: Service Provider Requirements

Describe how the following service provider requirements will be met:

6.1 Staffing

- Inclusion of personnel who are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and in the development and support of centers.

Both MRC & MCB have staff that are specialists in the development and provision of IL services and support and work directly with the centers in the network.

Each of the centers in the network of CIL's have staff that are specialist in the four core independent living services as well as the fifth core service of transitioning from institutionalized to community settings.

- Availability, to the maximum extent feasible, of personnel able to communicate (1) with individuals with significant disabilities who rely on alternative modes of communication, such as manual communication, nonverbal communication devices, Braille, or audio tapes and (2) in the native languages of individuals with significant disabilities whose English proficiency is limited and who apply for or receive IL services under title VII of the Act.

Staff of the DSU's & CIL's includes individuals who are able to communicate with persons with significant disabilities in their native languages. They have the ability to produce materials in alternative formats such as Braille, Large Print, Electronic Format, Audio, and the use of picture boards for non-verbal consumers.

- Establishment and maintenance of a program of staff development for all classes of positions involved in providing IL services and, where appropriate, in administering the CIL program, improving the skills of staff directly responsible for the provision of IL services, including knowledge of and practice in the IL philosophy.

Both DSU's maintain a program of on-site staff development, as well as sponsorship of off-site development. The SILC, CIL's, DSU's and Government Partners work together regularly on opportunities where cross training is valuable for the entire disability community.

- Affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities on the same terms and conditions required with respect to the employment of individuals with disabilities under section 503 of the Act.

The Commissions both employ affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with significant disabilities.

6.2 Fiscal Control and Fund Accounting

- Adoption of those fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure the proper disbursement of and accounting for funds made available through parts B and C of chapter 1 of title VII of the Act, in addition to complying with applicable EDGAR fiscal and accounting requirements.

All SILC, MRC, & MCB program activities are delivered in accordance with relevant sections of the Rehabilitation Act and EDGAR, including program services, program funding, state match, and state plan requirements.

All fiscal transactions are conducted in accordance with appropriate federal and state fiscal regulations.

Each CIL in the network is required to maintain compliance with contractual requirements, including compliance with the Rehab Acts Section 725 Standards and Assurances and other state & federal requirements.

6.3 Recordkeeping, Access and Reporting

- Maintenance of records that fully disclose and document the information listed in 34 CFR 364.35.

Massachusetts has a network of eleven CILs that provide Independent Living services statewide. Each CIL in the network is required to maintain compliance with contractual requirements, including compliance with the Rehab Acts Section 725 Standards and Assurances and other state & federal requirements.

- Submission of annual performance and financial reports, and any other reports that the Secretary determines to be appropriate

Each center annually submits its 704 report to the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. As a 723 State, MRC then compiles and submits 1 report for the entire state to the secretary in Washington.

Each center annually conducts a Consumer Satisfaction Survey. Information from this survey is shared with MRC & the SILC to determine trends and potential training needs within the network.

- Access to the Commissioner and the Comptroller General, or any of their duly authorized representatives, for the purpose of conducting audits, examinations, and compliance reviews, to the information listed in 34 CFR 364.37.

MRC & MCB staff review contract compliance of all SPIL related CIL contracts on an ongoing basis, regardless of funding source, including Title VII, Part B funds.

Each year fifteen percent of the centers in the network receive an onsite compliance review. The team for the review consist of staff from both DSU's, a peer reviewer for the executive director and a SILC observer.

Upon completion of the onsite review process. The final report of the review team is shared with the SILC's State Plan for Independent Living Committee which looks at the reports for any developing trends, patterns, and training needs.

6.4 Eligibility

- Eligibility of any individual with a significant disability, as defined in 34 CFR 364.4(b), for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs.

All Individuals with significant disabilities in the Commonwealth are eligible for services provided under this SPIL.

- Ability of any individual to seek information about IL services under these programs and to request referral to other services and programs for individuals with significant disabilities.

All eleven independent Living centers in the Commonwealth provide Information & Referral service to any person who contacts them as a core service. Persons contacting the SILC for information are directed to the Independent Living center which serves the community in which they reside.

- Determination of an individual's eligibility for IL services under the SILS and CIL programs in a manner that meets the requirements of 34 CFR 364.51.

To be eligible, an individual is one:

- (1) Who has a significant physical, mental, cognitive, or sensory impairment;
- (2) Whose ability to function independently in the family or community or whose ability to obtain, maintain, or advance in employment is substantially limited; and
- (3) For whom the delivery of IL services will improve the ability to function, continue functioning, or move towards functioning independently in the family or community or to continue in employment.

A certificate of eligibility is completed for each MCB consumer using medical documentation and discussion with consumer as verification. In order to be eligible the consumer must be legally blind and in BRIDGE, legally blind and over 55. The Title VII Part B program serves consumers of all ages. Aside from the mandated age requirement for the BRIDGE Program, The Massachusetts Commission for the Blind does not discriminate without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion, or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services.

- Application of eligibility requirements without regard to age, color, creed, gender, national origin, race, religion, or type of significant disability of the individual applying for IL services.

No individual will, on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under this SPIL.

- Non-exclusion from receiving IL services of any individual who is present in the State and who is otherwise eligible for IL services, based on the imposition of any State or local residence requirement.

No individual will be excluded from receiving services based on the imposition of state or local residence requirements.

6.5 Independent Living Plans

- Provision of IL services in accordance with an IL plan complying with Sec. 364.52 and mutually agreed upon by the individuals with significant disabilities and the appropriate service provider staff unless the individual signs a waiver stating that an IL plan is unnecessary.

The State provides IL services under Chapter 1 to individuals with significant disabilities in accordance with an ILP mutually agreed upon by an appropriate staff member of the service provider and the individual, unless the individual signs a waiver stating that such a plan is unnecessary.

6.6 Client Assistance Program (CAP) Information

- Use of accessible formats to notify individuals seeking or receiving IL services under chapter 1 of title VII about the availability of the CAP program, the purposes of the services provided under the CAP, and how to contact the CAP.

All recipients of financial assistance under Chapter 1 that provide services to individuals with significant disabilities advise those individuals seeking or receiving IL services about the availability of the Client Assistance Program under section 112 of the Act.

The purposes of the services provided under such program, and information on the means of seeking assistance under such program.

The administrator of the CAP Program for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is the;

Massachusetts Office on Disability
1 Ashburton Place
Room 1305
Boston, MA 02108

Information for the CAP program is available in alternative formats such as Braille, Large Print, Electronic Format, Audio, and the use of picture boards for non-verbal consumers.

6.7 Protection, Use and Release of Personal Information

- Adoption and implementation of policies and procedures meeting the requirements of 34 CFR 364.56(a), to safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, including photographs and lists of names.

The DSUs and CILs maintain written policies to assure and safeguard the confidentiality of all personal information, and release of information forms are used comply with 34 CFR 364.56(a), and HIPPA.

Each of Massachusetts CILs will be responsible for following its identified method of assuring consumer information is kept confidential and that its policy for acquiring signed releases of information prior to sharing information about individual consumers with other service providers or entities is strictly adhered to.

State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

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Section 7: Evaluation

Describe the method that will be used to periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the plan in meeting the objectives established in Section 1. The description must include the State's evaluation of satisfaction by individuals with significant disabilities who have participated in the program.

Section 7: Evaluation

Goal(s) and the related Objective(s) from Section 1	Method that will be used to evaluate
Guide and support individuals in their transition from institutions to community	The Statewide Independent Living Council will monitor and review the effectiveness of the SPIL on an ongoing basis.
Access to community-based long-term supports will increase	The SILC Chairperson annually appoints a State Plan Committee for the purpose of meeting at least twice a year to assess compliance with the SPIL. This Committee will include consumer members of the SILC and other interested parties. The State Plan Committee will prepare an annual written report for submission to the SILC at its final meeting of each fiscal year.
Persons with disabilities are empowered	The DSUs, in conjunction with the SILC SPIL Committee, has established a uniform survey for evaluation of consumer satisfaction. The centers administered the consumer satisfaction survey in 2008, 2009, and 2010 with consumers served during the prior SPIL. These survey results were submitted by each CIL to the SILC and MRC.
Access to affordable and accessible housing with supports is expanded	The SILC's State Plan Committee is tasked with Evaluation. As such reviews the consumer satisfaction process and results and makes relevant recommendations to the SILC body and the DSUs. These recommendations are included as part of the annual performance report (704 Report, Part I) submitted by the SILC and DSU to RSA.
Promote employment of persons with disabilities and elders	II. The SILC will assess activities of cooperating agencies.
Promote awareness of long-term supports (LTS)	In monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of the SPIL, the State Plan Committee will assess progress and achievement of activities by the SILC, the DSUs, the CILS, and other groups, which have responsibilities, defined in the SPIL. This review will be conducted by the SILC State Plan Committee and issued in a written report. The
Develop a Strategic Plan for MA SILC	

<p>Identify future needs for expansion of IL Services and the Network of Centers in</p>	<p>written report will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Review of activities of the SILC, DSUs, CILs, and other groups in implementing the SPIL; (2) Identification of barriers to implementation; and (3) Consideration of whether amendment to the State Plan is necessary or required. <p>Upon submission at the Annual Meeting of the SILC in the fall, this report will be a basis for determining changes in the existing State Plan and which then would be submitted to the RSA as part of the annual performance report (704 Report, Part I) submitted by the SILC and DSU.</p> <p>The State Plan Committee is tasked overall with providing the critical information to the SILC on State Plan effectiveness, 704 data analysis on Statewide Independent Living services needs and trends. The Committee reviews the report as approved by the SILC, reviews the Consumer Satisfaction Survey results and identifies/develops changes in the Consumer Satisfaction Survey Process in conjunction with the DSUs, identifies trends and patterns in Consumer service needs from Consumer Satisfaction Survey Data and review of 704 Reports Part I and II, and supports SILC recruitment for participation with MRC coordinated on-site reviews. The State Plan committee will review all final on-site review reports.</p> <p>C. As a '723 State, Massachusetts will periodically review each center receiving funds under section 723 of the Act to determine whether the center is in compliance with the standards and assurances in section 725(b) and (c) of the Act and Subparts F and G of this part. Periodic reviews of centers will include annual on-site compliance reviews of at least 15 percent of the centers in each year. An observer from the SILC will participate in each CIL review to insure that the review process occurs appropriately.</p> <p>III. The DSU will conduct oversight activities of IL contractors other than centers (for example, the contract for provision of SILC space and fiscal management)</p>
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Section 8: State-Imposed Requirements

8 State-Imposed Requirements

Identify any State-imposed requirements contained in the provisions of this SPIL.

N/A

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number of this information collection is 1820-0527. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 60 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4537. If you have any comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to: Ms. Sue Rankin-White, U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, PCP-5013, 400 Maryland Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20202-2800.

