



**Oregon  
Independent  
Living**



*News from the Oregon State Independent Living Council (SILC)  
Issue # 28 ~ August 2006*

### **What is the SILC?**

#### **What is Independent Living Philosophy?**

The State Independent Living Council (SILC) is a disability advocacy council that promotes Independent Living (IL) services and IL philosophy ~ the life philosophy that all people have the right and opportunity to make decisions about their lives and pursue activities of their choosing, with the associated responsibilities and consequences. The SILC works to ensure that people with disabilities are not denied these basic human rights.

IL philosophy promotes informed choice, equal access, and full inclusion ~ all contributing to increasing the independence of people with disabilities, and ensuring that people with disabilities can actively participate in families, communities, careers, and recreation... as peers.

The SILC partners with Centers for Independent Living (CILs) ~ non-profit organizations, run by people with disabilities, for people with disabilities. Every CIL provides four core Independent Living Services: 1) individual and systems advocacy, 2) information and referral, 3) independent living skills training, and 4) peer counseling. Oregon has ten Centers for Independent Living.

#### **SILC Contact Information**

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TTY: 1-866-813-3526  
Email ~ [oregon.silc@state.or.us](mailto:oregon.silc@state.or.us)  
SILC website:  
<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/vr/silc/index.shtml>

### **Newsletter Subscription Info**

The SILC OIL News is a quarterly publication of the Oregon State Independent Living Council. For a free on-line subscription send a request with your email address to: [oregon.silc@state.or.us](mailto:oregon.silc@state.or.us).

If you receive this newsletter in print format and would like to receive it via e-mail or alternate format, please let us know. We encourage people to consider the on-line option, since it reduces printing/mailing costs.

### **Executive Director Update ~ Tina Treasure**

It has been another busy quarter! With a new fiscal year beginning October 2006, and a new legislative session approaching, activities focused on planning and implementing new projects, developing budgets and state IL fund requests, and taking initial steps in planning the next State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL).

These activities often required reviewing materials to identify and summarize progress, IL needs, successes, and the status of IL in Oregon ~ where we were, where we are, accomplishments so far, where we want to be ~ reflecting on, and celebrating the "life" of the IL movement... Tying in to the theme of this newsletter ~ celebration of life. Wishing you learning, joy, and celebration of personal and IL accomplishments!

*Go confidently in the  
direction of your dreams.  
Live the life you have  
imagined. ~ Thoreau*



*The Mission of the SILC is to promote choice, equal access, and full inclusion  
of people with disabilities, throughout the State of Oregon.*

### Oregon IL Highlights

- **Home Care Commission Project** ~ Moved forward with gathering curriculum and initial steps to hire staff for this project where the SILC will develop and implement a state-wide training program for consumers/employers of homecare workers who are a part of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) bargaining unit. Training will teach employer skills, i.e. recruiting, interviewing, hiring, managing, and providing a safe working environment for homecare workers.
- **SILC/CIL/OVRS projects** ~ Developed a joint project where each OVRS branch office will receive \$10,000 to be used exclusively to purchase employment related CIL services that are mutually beneficial to the consumer, OVRS, and the CIL. Began discussions about a new Work Incentives project where CILs will provide consumers with information about employment work incentives, options and resources.
- **IL funding** ~ Developed and submitted a Policy Option Package that explains the need for, value of, and cost savings of state IL funding, and requests \$1.3M state IL funds ~ an increase of \$800,000 a biennium, returning us to the originally allocated amount, for the next biennium. DHS included these funds in their budget ~ a significant first step and accomplishment! Thanks DHS and OVRS for your support and belief in IL!!!!
- **CIL Consultant project** ~ Reviewed proposals, and selected a contractor ~ APRIL, for this project. APRIL will assess CIL development levels, identify training needs, develop a Program Improvement Plan, and provide individualized training, technical assistance, and mentoring to each CIL ~ enhancing CIL professionalism, sustainability, and strengthening Oregon's CIL network.
- **IL review** ~ Conducted various review and monitoring activities to assess progress, identify needs, plan next steps, and share and celebrate progress and accomplishments.

***The highest art is the art of living an ordinary life in an extraordinary manner.***

### Celebration of Life

It is with a heavy heart, but lots of great memories, that we share the news that Liz Prendergast, a fellow IL advocate, passed away this June. Liz was the Executive Director of SCILS in Brookings. Liz was a selfless, effective, and tireless advocate and human being. IL was one of her passions and she worked to enhance the lives of people with disabilities ~ through her work, and how she lived her life.



When you look into the sky tonight, there will be one more star ~ spreading its sparkles and shining bright ~ just like Liz. In deep admiration and respect, we celebrate Liz's life, and will carry on her work.

***Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. ~ Leo Buscaglia***

### SILC Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location/Representing</u>
1. Jack Benson	St. Helens
2. Charlotte Buxton	Ontario
3. Jan Campbell ~ Chair	Portland
4. Scott Cohan	CIL-Roseburg
5. Brad Collins	Eugene
6. Chuck Davis	Portland
7. John Dziennik	Portland
8. Sharon Ely	White City
9. Roger Gednalske	Cottage Grove
10. Kristi Laney	Baker City
11. Angel Hale	Salem
12. Wendy Howard	CIL-Klamath Falls
13. James Naegele	Medford
14. Martha Simpson	Florence
15. Frank Synoground	Ex-officio ~ OCB
16. Stephaine Parrish-Taylor	Ex-officio ~ OVRS
17. Glenn Van Cise	CIL-Bend
18. Dean Westwood	Portland
19. Ulee Yanok	Huntington

## IL News and Advocacy Opportunities

- **RSA visits Oregon** ~ Oregon IL leaders met with Fred Ibister ~ RSA's new Oregon liaison and Jamela Akbari ~ a Program Examiner from the Office of Management and Budget, to get to know each other and to share about Oregon IL and innovative projects. Both were impressed with Oregon's IL leaders and accomplishments ~ thanks to everyone who was able to attend and/or share written information for this meeting!
- **2006 Housing Vouchers Increased** ~ Nearly \$14 billion will be available for funding housing vouchers in 2006, an increase of 3.5% over 2005, and significantly restoring more than half the vouchers lost in 2004-2005. IL advocates can get involved by meeting with Executive Directors of local Housing Authorities to encourage them to use some of these vouchers for persons with disabilities. Housing authority voucher information is available at: [www.cbpp.org/5-23-06housingwebchat.htm](http://www.cbpp.org/5-23-06housingwebchat.htm)
- **IL Outcomes** ~ In a program assessment a few years ago, the Office of Management and Budget was unable to determine whether IL was an effective program, so IL was rated "results not demonstrated" ~ putting future IL funding in jeopardy. As a result, NCIL and IL advocates formed a task force to develop outcome measures that demonstrate the effectiveness of IL programs. The task force will have a draft of the outcome measures available for review and input in October, and training workshops will be conducted regionally and nationally ~ at the APRIL conference, SILC Congress, NCIL conference, and regional conferences upon request.
- **Rehab Act/WIA update** ~ Senate passed amendments to the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), which includes the Rehab Act and its amendments. Congress will work to resolve differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill.  
 NCIL and other IL advocates were successful in making important changes to the Senate bill, as listed below. An analysis of WIA amendments, and a side-by-side comparison of House and Senate WIA bills, is available at: [http://www.onestops.info/website.php?page=wia\\_update](http://www.onestops.info/website.php?page=wia_update).
  - 1) **Carryover** ~ Centers would be able to carry over Part C funds not expended during the first year.
  - 2) **SILC Chairperson** ~ Both bills confirm that the Council shall select a chairperson from among the voting membership of the Council. The exception for governors who lack veto authority has been removed.
  - 3) **C funds** ~ Part C funded CILs that maintain CIL compliance would not need to re-compete for C funding.
  - 4) **Formula change** ~ New C funds will be shared among all of the states and territories; states with the largest populations will receive more.
  - 5) **New core IL service** ~ "Promoting full access to community life" will be added as a core IL service.
  - 6) **SILC clarifications** ~ New language to clarify the SILC roles in some key areas.

*Real success comes in small portions day by day. You need to take pleasure in life's daily little treasures. It is the most important thing in measuring success. ~ Denis Waitley*



### IL Resources, Information, and Websites

- **Youth and transition resource** ~ Incight's mission is to educate and employ people with disabilities, with a focus on youth ~ helping students access education and training and gain the right mindset for successful transition, and training on empowerment and leadership:  
<http://www.incight.org/incight/what.html>
- **Free online training** ~ "At Your Service: Welcoming Customers with Disabilities" ~ created as a training tool to share best practices and interacting effectively with people with disabilities:  
<http://ent.groundspring.org/EmailNow/pub.php?module=URLTracker&cmd=track&j=88919672&u=825679>
- **Youth resource** ~ National Collaborative on Workforce & Disability for Youth (NCWD/Youth) <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/> ~ Resources to improve services to youth with disabilities. Resources include an online newsletter, and a mentoring guide ~ Paving the Way to Work: A Guide to Career-Focused Mentoring for Youth with Disabilities, developed to specifically address the needs of youth with disabilities during their transition from school to work.
- **Google news** ~ Google Accessible Search finds sites that are more accessible to individuals with low vision or blindness:  
<http://labs.google.com/accessible>. Google also offers a search tool to simplify searches for government info ~ the site will search content on U.S. federal, state and local government web sites or the entire internet:  
<http://www.google.com/ig/usgov>.
- **Disability Nation** ~ Resources and an internet podcast audio magazine ~ focusing on people working, participating in the sport or recreation of their choice, married couples, singles, children, adults, politicians and couch potatoes who happen to be people with disabilities, living life, with focus on living, not disability: [www.disabilitynation.net](http://www.disabilitynation.net)

- **Disability is Natural** ~ Resources with the perspective that disability is a natural part of human experience.  
[www.disabilityisnatural.com](http://www.disabilityisnatural.com)
- **Social Security Red Book** ~ Reference source on employment-related aspects of SSDI and SSI: Voice: 800-772-1213; TTY: 800-325-0778; online:  
<http://www.socials.gov/disabilityresearch/redbook.htm>.

### Announcements

#### Oregon Welcomes New CIL Directors!

- Barry Quamme ~ ILR
- Elaine Lortscher ~ SCILS
- Jackie Macy ~ POCIL

#### SILC News

- Kristi Laney joins the SILC as a new member from Baker City ~ Welcome, Kristi!
- Martha Simpson and Sharon Ely have been appointed to serve another term!
- Glenn Van Cise re-joins the SILC as a CIL representative ~ Welcome back, Glenn!
- Julie Pugh ~ SILC support staff, gave birth to William Alexander on June 15 ~ Congratulations to Julie and family, and welcome to the world, William!

### Hear Ye, Hear Ye... Get Involved! Share Your Story!

Announcing an exciting opportunity to promote Independent Living (IL)! We want to hear your unique story. By sharing your experience of how you have retained/developed/regained your ability to live more independently, you may assist others to obtain more independence and improve their quality of life. Are you ready to make a difference? If so, please share your personal experiences around living with a disability so that others will also be inspired and compelled to live and advocate as IL champions. Together we can make a difference. Contact SILC staff for a list of questions to consider, or for more info, or to schedule an interview: 503-370-8157 voice; [lynell@comcast.net](mailto:lynell@comcast.net).

## SILC Meetings ~ General Information

**GUESTS** ~ Guests are welcome to attend SILC meetings. If you plan to speak or share materials, you may do so during the Public Input part of the meeting; materials must be available in alternate formats.

**ACCOMMODATIONS** ~ Accommodations, including provision of interpreters, assistive listening devices and materials in alternate formats, are available upon request. Although efforts will be made to arrange accommodations with 48 hours notice, the SILC requests 2 weeks notice to ensure accommodations.

**INCLUSION** ~ In support of the SILC mission of inclusion, we request that people refrain from wearing perfumes or other scents at the meetings so that people with chemical sensitivities may attend and participate comfortably. All service and companion animals must be in control throughout the meetings. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

### SEPTEMBER 2006 ~ SILC MEETINGS

Red Lion Hotel ~ 3301 Market Street, NE ~ Salem, OR ~ 503-370-7888

#### Thursday, September 7, 2006

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.      SILC Retreat

5:00 p.m. ~ 7:00 p.m.      Executive Committee meeting

#### Friday September 8, 2006

8:30 a.m. ~ 4:00 p.m.      Quarterly SILC meeting

### SILC STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Individuals interested in SILC committee meetings must contact staff in advance to confirm meeting times and dates, and to coordinate logistics to attend, if applicable. All SILC committee meetings are subject to change based on the availability of committee members.

- **CIL Support/Mentoring Committee (CSMC)** ~ conference call meetings: January 26, April 27, July 27, October 26, 2006 2:00 p.m. via conference call
- **Advocacy Committee (AC)** ~ 3rd Tuesday of each non-SILC meeting month ~ 10:00 a.m. via conference call.
- **Education, Outreach, Leadership Development Committee (EOLDC)** ~ 4th Monday each month ~ 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. via conference call
- **Executive Committee (EC)** ~ 4th Friday each month ~ 1:30 ~ 3:30 p.m. via conference call; First Thursday each quarter, usually 4:00 ~ 6:00 p.m. (in-person meeting)
- **Membership, Development and Training Committee (MDTC)** ~ Meetings ~ Third Friday of non-SILC meeting months at 10:00 a.m. via conference call; First Thursday each quarter 1:30 ~ 3:30 p.m. (in-person meeting)

*I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble. ~ Helen Keller*



### SILC QUARTERLY MEETING AGENDA

Friday, September 8, 2006 ~ 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ~ Red Lion Hotel, Salem

8:30	WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS	11:00	PUBLIC COMMENT
8:45	SILC APPLICANT INTRODUCTIONS	11:15	NEW BUSINESS
9:00	AGENDA REVIEW	12:00	WORKING LUNCH/NETWORKING
9:05	HOUSEKEEPING	1:00	REPORTS
9:15	CIL PRESENTATION	2:00	OLD BUSINESS ~ updates
9:30	SILC ACTION ITEMS	2:45	SILC appointment recommendations/vote
10:15	RETREAT UPDATE AND ACTION ITEMS	3:30	WRAP UP/ADJOURN
10:45	BREAK		

### Oregon Centers for Independent Living

Centers for Independent Living are non-profit organizations, run by people with disabilities, for people with disabilities. CILs serve all ages and all disability groups. Every CIL provides four core Independent Living Services: 1) individual and systems advocacy, 2) information and referral, 3) independent living skills training, and 4) peer counseling. Oregon has ten Centers for Independent Living.

**CORIL** (Central Oregon Resources for Independent Living) ~ Bend ~ 541-388-8103 ~ [www.coril.org](http://www.coril.org)  
Service Area: Deschutes, Crook & Jefferson Counties

**DASIL** (Disability Advocacy Social Independent Living) ~ Medford ~ 541-608-6746 ~ [dasil@medford.net](mailto:dasil@medford.net)  
Service Area: Jackson County

**EOCIL** (Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living) ~ Ontario ~ 541-889-3119 (voice/TTY) ~ [www.eocil.org](http://www.eocil.org)  
Service Area: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa and Wheeler Counties  
**EOCIL Pendleton Satellite Office**  
541-276-0883

**HASL** (Independent Abilities Center) ~ Grants Pass ~ 541-479-4275 (voice) ~ [hasl1@qwest.net](mailto:hasl1@qwest.net) ~ <http://haslonline.org/index.php>  
Service Area: Josephine and Jackson Counties

**ILR** (Independent Living Resources) ~ Portland 503-232-7411 ~ 503-232-8408 ~ [ilrpdx@qwest.net](mailto:ilrpdx@qwest.net) ~ [www.ilr.org](http://www.ilr.org)  
Service Area: Multnomah, Washington & Clackamas Counties

**LILA** (Lane Independent Living Alliance) ~ Eugene ~ 541-607-7020 ~ 541-284-9474 (Message) ~ [lila@lilaoregon.org](mailto:lila@lilaoregon.org) ~ [www.lilaoregon.org](http://www.lilaoregon.org)  
Service Area: Lane County

**Progressive Options** ~ Newport ~ 541-574-0384 ~ [progop541@yahoo.com](mailto:progop541@yahoo.com) ~ [www.progressive-options.org](http://www.progressive-options.org)  
Service Area: Lincoln County

**SCILS** (South Coast Independent Living Services) ~ Brookings ~ 541-469-5306 x303 or 800-481-5777 ~ [scils06@yahoo.com](mailto:scils06@yahoo.com)  
Service Area: Coos & Curry Counties

**SPOKES Unlimited** ~ Klamath Falls 541-883-7547  
Service Area: Klamath & Lake Counties

**UVDN** (Umpqua Valley disAbilities Network) ~ Roseburg ~ 541-672-6336 ~ 541-440-2882 (TTY) ~ [scottcohan@uvdn.org](mailto:scottcohan@uvdn.org)  
Service Area: Douglas County

***We all take different paths in life, but no matter where we go, we take a little of each other everywhere.*** ~ **Tim McGraw**

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***Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and then go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive. ~ Harold Thurman***