

## State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)

Montana's State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) is a lengthy document containing many sections. During the first reading, the SPIL seems at best to be a cumbersome document. However, if it is read in sections, it is easier to comprehend! Also, an orientation to the SPIL will be provided as part of the orientation process. The Attachments are placed within the corresponding Sections so what might seem confusing becomes clear. The 5 Attachments clearly describe the goals, missions, and objectives of the SILC that fit within the 15 Sections.

Acquaint yourself with the Sections in the Table of Contents and take note of the Attachments, as they often include important information. While you are reading the SPIL, it will begin to make sense and you will begin to appreciate the hard work your fellow SILC colleagues have put into the plan and someday you, too, may be called upon to write the next State Plan.

The State Plan for Independent Living is written every three years to meet the changing needs of individuals with disabilities residing in the Great State of Montana. So while you read the SPIL, take time to understand the issues involved and feel free to ask questions of your mentor. They will be glad to provide you with an explanation.

## Program Progress Report (PPR)

The PPR reports are the annual report on the progress toward achieving goals of the SPIL and the activities of independent living in Montana to the federal government. The PPR reports are divided into PART I and II. Generally, SILC members are provided copies of the PPR Reports before the January quarterly SILC meeting and the Directors give oral reports to the SILC membership.

The PART I is prepared by the Program Manager and is signed by the Disability Employment Transitions Division Administrator and SILC Chair.

PART I provides a detailed account of Sources and Amounts of Funds and Resources for the SILC. PART I, also, reports the SILC's General Activities in a narrative format that includes an introduction, major accomplishments within the SPIL development, transportation, outreach efforts, systems advocacy, SILC's design for network of centers, monitoring and evaluation of the SPIL by the SILC and composition of the SILC membership. It is well worth the time you spend reading these reports.

PART II, the Centers for Independent Living Programs Chapter 1, Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended, is the second part of the report. The directors of the Centers for Independent Living are required to send a copy to the Rehabilitation Services

Administration (RSA) on an annual basis and this is the PPR report. Each PPR report is unique and different because each Center serves a different geographical area with its own characteristics and three Centers provide independent living services to American Indian Reservations.