



The Delaware Statewide Independent Living Council advocates for, promotes, supports, and enhances opportunities for Delawareans with disabilities to achieve and maintain an independent lifestyle.

Learn more about how you can be part of our dynamic mission.

WHAT IS THE SILC?

Members of the Delaware Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) are policy makers, educators and advocates whose mission is to advance independent living for Delawareans with disabilities.

This mission is accomplished through the development and implementation of a three-year State Plan for Independent Living which the Council creates.

The Council engages and solicits input from people with disabilities, their families, allies and professionals who work with them. From these invaluable firsthand sources of information, the Council develops the State Plan. It then works with its Centers for Independent Living partners to execute, monitor and evaluate the results.

The SILC's research informs policymakers and the public. It also coordinates with other councils and organizations to promote opportunities, services, and resources for people with disabilities and their communities.

BECOME A MEMBER

If you are a person who is committed to independent living for Delawareans with disabilities, we invite you to apply for membership on the Council.

Council members are appointed by the Governor. A majority of members must be individuals with disabilities who do not work for a Center for Independent Living or any state agency.

The SILC must include members who

- are representative of the entire state
- represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities from diverse backgrounds
- are knowledgeable about independent living philosophy and services

The SILC provides orientation and training for all new members and offers opportunities to attend events and conferences. The SILC meets six times a year (bi-monthly). Meetings are held both virtually and in-person. Appointment terms are three years, and each Council member serves on at least one committee.

If you are interested in serving or would like to learn more, contact us at info@delawaresilc.org.

VISION

The State Independent Living Council envisions a Delaware where people with disabilities

- make informed choices and direct their own lives
- can assess and be better prepared for risks
- are individuals, not stereotypes
- live, work, and play in the least restrictive environment possible

Achieving this mission will maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence, and productivity of individuals with disabilities, as well as the integration and full inclusion of individuals with disabilities into mainstream American society.

MISSION

The mission of Delaware's SILC is to promote

- the Independent Living philosophy
- self-determination and consumer directed services
- peer support
- self-help
- equal access
- individual and systems advocacy

WHAT MEMBERS SAY

"The biggest impact of being a member of the SILC is having a voice, being able to speak your mind, sharing your personal reality and your vision for the future. It's rolling up your sleeves and being part of a team effort to make positive change for people with disabilities."

Arte Mays, Member

"Being a member of the SILC has taught me how to be an advocate – not only for myself, but for people with disabilities. I have learned about the issues, the challenges, the barriers to inclusion and have become an agent for change."

Sandra Farina, Member



105 Sleepy Hollow Drive
Middletown, DE 19709
(302) 238-1798
www.fcilde.org



Delaware Statewide



Independent Living Council

8 The Green #18657
Dover, DE 19901
(302) 238-1798
info@delawaresilc.com
www.delawaresilc.org



www.facebook.com/DEIndependentLivingCouncil



Independent Resources, Inc.

Wilmington (302) 765-0191
Dover (302) 735-4599
Milford (302) 536-1387
www.iri-delaware.org/



Federal Funding Provided By
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