

NYSILC

New York State Independent Living Council, Inc.
Empowering New Yorkers with disabilities



News Briefs, Summer 2014

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA): President Obama signed WIOA into law on July 22, 2014. It will impact numerous federal laws and titles important to people with disabilities. Specifically, it will make changes that advocates have pursued through NCIL for CILs and SILCs. More details will be forthcoming as regulations are rolled out in 2015.

Update & Retooling of the NYSILC Website: Network Experts of New York (NETXNY) are in the process of transitioning the NYSILC website (www.nysilc.org) over to a new platform which includes enhanced presentation and features. The home page will include the online version of the Independent Living and History Philosophy Tutorial. Look for updates about the launch of our new website!

Emergency Preparedness Project with Albany Law School/Disability Law Clinic: During the spring semester, NYSILC's Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee and legal interns at the Disability Law Clinic directed by Bridget Burke, Esq. developed a plan to impact disaster preparedness planning for ten local counties in the Capital region working with local Independent Living Centers. Bridget and clinic fellow Michael Gadomski presented their initial findings at the NYSILC May full council meeting. Look for the final report that will be issued and posted on the NYSILC website.

Featured SPIL Project: The New York Disability Vote Network (DVRN) is a two-year project that involves developing and maintaining a database of voters with disabilities and building a coalition of like-minded organizations. The goal is to unify and solidify a large disability voting bloc in New York State and impact positive changes on a statewide level. For more information, go to the DVRN website: <http://www.nydvn.org>. At the bottom of the home page, it describes three steps and provides links of how to get involved. Jessica Thurber is the program coordinator and can be reached via the contact page.

Most Recent Blog Posting: "Multiple Pathways to Graduation" By Zach Garafalo, Assistant Director, YOUTH POWER! The New York State Independent Living Council (NYSILC) recently released its 2014 Public Policy Agenda. The framework for the agenda is guided by feedback received from the Statewide Needs Assessment conducted in 2012. Of particular concern for all young people - and specifically students with disabilities, young English Language Learners (ELL) and other vulnerable school-aged populations - are the unnecessary obstacles to obtaining a high school diploma **Read More Here:** [May 2014](#).

SAVE THE DATE!

- A **Best Practices Webinar** is being planned for **Tuesday, September 23, 2014**. The Current capacity building and SSP projects will present on their projects. Look for communications about the exact date and time of the webinar event, including participation announcements.
- The next **NYSILC full council meeting** is scheduled for **Friday, September 12, 2014** at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy.

Recent Postings to NYSILC Website:

- [NYSILC 2014 Public Policy Agenda](#)
- [NYSILC 2013 Annual Report](#)
- [2013 SPIL Evaluation Report](#)
- [3-Year SPIL Summary Report](#)

Thank You For Your Support!

NYSILC would like to thank all of our donors to the Leadership Development and Civic Engagement program for their contributions to help support this initiative. With your support we can continue our mission of developing new leaders, increasing awareness of disability issues, providing education and resources to increase leadership skills among people with disabilities and increase the number of New Yorkers with disabilities who become directly involved with their communities through civic engagement activities.

NYSILC acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their generous donations and initial support for the program (as of 6/30/14).

Individuals/ Current NYSILC Members

Roger Benn, Julie Cardone, Lynn Drucker, Brett Eisenberg, Helen Fang, Denise Figueroa, Zach Garafalo, Kenneth Stewart, Ralph Giordano, Wendy Strobel-Gower (Secretary), Susan Gray (Member-at-Large), Luis Gutierrez, Susan Hoger (Treasurer), Maura Kelley, Shelley Klein (Vice Chair), Marc Rosen, Susan Ruff, Chad Underwood (Chair), Dave Whalen.

Former Council Members

Patricio Figueroa, Jr., Douglas and Becky Usiak

Other Individuals

Brad and Cathy Williams, Rosalind Harris

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

New York State Independent Living Council, Inc. (NYSILC)
111 Washington Avenue, Suite 101, Albany, NY 12210
(518) 427-1060
www.nysilc.org