

NYSILC

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



News Briefs, Fall 2014

Governor Cuomo Signs Employment First Executive Order # 136: Employment First looks to increase the employment rate and decrease the poverty rate by 5% for New Yorkers with disabilities. Click [Here](#) to read the official press release, and [Executive Order](#).

Best Practices Webinar: The webinar aired successfully on Tuesday, September 23rd at 1:00 pm with 35 participants, including one colleague from the Alaska SILC. In a follow up survey with the participants, 71% replied “yes” and 29% identified “somewhat” to the question “Did you find the webinar and materials useful?” Nobody (0%) identified “no” as a response. 100% replied “yes” to the question “Would you like to see more best practices exchanges, including more materials on self-sustaining approaches and activities?” When asked, “Do you think it is likely you will contact or replicate one of the capacity building projects,” participants sending back a survey responded: 14% Yes, 14% No, 71% Not Sure, and 0% Other.

Technology Upgrades: The council will be updating its web platform, computer technology and server by the end of the year. All of these items are pre-requisites to be able to support an effective online social marketing program like the Leadership Development & Civic Engagement Program (LDCEP).

New Capacity Building SPIL Projects Awarded: ACCES-VR announced the following centers as award recipients of SPIL objective #5 relating to capacity building projects and the unserved and underserved populations they serve: WILC White Plains – Healthy living, WILC Putnam ILS – Healthy Living, Rockland ILC – Youth, AIM – Youth, ATI Cortland – Youth, STIC – Veterans, NCCI – Healthy Living, WNYIL – Youth, BILS – Hispanic/deaf, RCIL Utica – Minorities.

Each center will receive \$25,000 a year over a three-year time period to serve their target population toward a goal of self-sustainment. The projects are expected to start in 2015.

Most Recent Blog Posting: “Searching the Portal through the Second Floor” by Brad Williams, Executive Director, NYSILC. I watched the Ken Burns documentary on the Roosevelt’s and was taken by their leadership and commitment to social issues impacting people on the domestic front, despite the advantages of their upbringing and individual differences. Theodore Roosevelt, a Republican and former Governor of New York, pursued a “Square Deal” domestic program when he was President. It led to the conservation of natural resources, control of corporations and consumer protection pushing the agenda to more progressive issues **Read More Here:** [Oct. - Nov. 2014](#).

SAVE THE DATE!

- The next **NYSILC full council meeting** is scheduled for **Friday, November 14, 2014** at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy.

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 10/22/14).

Individuals/ Current NYSILC Members

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

Former Council Members

Patricio Figueroa, Jr., Mary Ewing, Douglas and Becky Usiak

Other Individuals

Brad and Cathy Williams, Rosalind Harris

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