

GOAL # 2: People with disabilities will be actively involved in promoting disability rights in New York State.

Objective # 2: Objective # 2: New Yorkers with disabilities will be actively engaged to promote disability rights through the support of a Statewide Systems Advocacy Network (SSAN) and statewide coordinator working with priorities identified in the NYSILC statewide needs assessment.

The SSAN was identified as a clear priority during the public hearing and comment process. Objective 2, SSAN, will be coordinated by a consumer-controlled, cross-disability, statewide, not-for-profit organization, with proven expertise in the coordination of statewide organizing and advocacy campaigns focused on systems change, and the development of an annual statewide agenda working with priorities identified in the statewide needs assessment. The coordinator will also have expertise in: providing statewide technical assistance to community-based disability organizations; statewide training and advocacy events; in-depth policy expertise in areas of health, long term care, housing, education, employment, transportation and other areas that impact people with disabilities; and will have established relationships with other statewide disability and related organizations and coalitions on systems change efforts. It should be noted that during the public hearings, individuals expressed great concern and need for affordable and accessible transportation and housing.

The DSE (ACCES-VR) will offer \$103,000 a year for three years in a grant opportunity for an organization to provide the SSAN coordination through competitive procurement. An additional \$20,000 will be provided to the coordination contract in year two to direct a public education campaign fund for priority issues, such as a campaign to educate the public and our network about assisted suicide and ableism, promoting the positive aspects of living with a significant disability, making sure that peers are not misled or coerced into a choice to end their life. The SSAN network will continue to expand its participation to CILs and SCILs that are not a part of the SSAN, and work with advocates to identify best practice opportunities to develop and share in various formats with the network. In addition, the coordinator will collaborate with NYSILC and its Public Policy Committee to find alignment and agreement on agenda issues connected to the statewide needs assessment and provide the council with consistent reports and support materials that help to substantiate the activity for evaluation purposes.

The SSAN will focus on strengthening efforts of the CIL and SCIL network in grassroots community organizing, developing local partnerships and coalitions, engaging in community education about issues impacting people with disabilities, local public education activities, and public testimony activities. The efforts of the SSAN will be directed by an Independent Living statewide agenda shaped by priorities identified in the statewide needs assessment. The impact of the SSAN will result in increased visibility and influence of CILs in local communities and documented achievement of significant statewide systemic change. During the activity, people with disabilities who are actively involved in the network will be organized to promote disability rights in the State.

The DSE (ACCES-VR) will offer fifteen grant opportunities at \$30,000 per year for three years through competitive procurement. These SSAN contractors must be Centers for Independent Living (CILs) or Service Centers for Independent Living (SCILs) that are consumer-controlled, cross-disability, not-for-profit organizations with proven expertise in systems change directed by Independent Living philosophy.

This objective is cross-referenced in Section 1.3A, Column 4 “Other SPIL Activities” and Attachment I (A) & (B). The specific performance targets related to the measureable indicators for this objective can be found in the SPIL Evaluation Plan: Section 7, Attachment III, by plan year.

- SPIL Support Criteria:
 - Resource Amount:
 - \$1,679,000 (\$553,000 Year 1, \$573,000 Year 2, \$553,000 Year 3).
 - \$450,000 each year for 15 sites (\$30,000 each); \$103,000 for annual coordination plus \$20,000 in Year 2 for a public education campaign fund.
 - Section 1.3A Column 4, Attachment I (A) & (B).
 - Funding Source:
 - Title VII, Part B.
 - Timeframe for Achievement:
 - Each year through September 30, 2019
 - Measureable Indicators:
 - Number of SSAN significant statewide system changes.
 - Number of local partnerships and coalitions established by the SSAN network.
 - Number of educational alerts disseminated to local volunteers by the SSAN network.
 - Number of local public education activities engaged in

- by the SSAN network.
- Number of grassroots organizing activities engaged in by the SSAN network.
- Number of oral or written public testimonies statements or letters provided, in response to a documented request, by the SSAN network.
- Number of CILs or SCILs without a SSAN contract voluntarily involved in the participation of the network.
- Demonstrate improved understanding by the ILC network of unique advocacy priorities and public education campaign issues.
- Action Steps:
 - The DSE will develop and distribute competitive bid applications regarding the coordination of the SSAN and the fifteen statewide SSAN contracts.
- Eligible Applicants:
 - SSAN Coordination: A consumer-controlled, cross-disability, not-for-profit organization, with proven expertise in the coordination of statewide organizing and advocacy campaigns focused on systems change, the development of annual statewide agenda shaped by priorities identified in the statewide needs assessment. It will also have expertise in providing statewide technical assistance to community-based disability organizations, coordinating statewide training and advocacy events, in-depth policy expertise in areas of health, long term care, housing, education, employment, transportation and other areas that impact people with disabilities, and have established relationships with other statewide disability and related organizations and coalitions on systems change efforts.
 - SSAN Providers: Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and Service Center for Independent Living (SCILs) in the New York State network.
- Deliverables:
 - SSAN Coordination (Annual Basis):
 - The SSAN Coordinator will direct and track the process whereby the collective SSAN network will achieve two (2) significant statewide systems changes per contract year consistent with the definition developed by the DSE, NYSILC, and SSAN coordinator.
 - The SSAN Coordinator will look to expand and voluntarily involve the participation of two (2) CILs or SCILs without SSAN contracts per year.

- The SSAN Coordinator will develop a statewide disability agenda shaped by priorities identified in the statewide needs assessment. The coordinator work with the NYSILC Public Policy Committee so that collaborative priorities are effectively developed and communicated.
 - The SSAN Coordinator will facilitate statewide organizing and advocacy campaigns focused on systems change.
 - The SSAN Coordinator will receive an additional \$20,000 in year two (2018) to direct a public education campaign fund for priority issues, such as a campaign to educate the public and our network about assisted suicide and ableism, promoting the positive aspects of living with a significant disability, making sure that peers are not misled or coerced into a choice to end their life.
 - The SSAN Coordinator will provide statewide technical assistance to the SSAN sites and provide trainings and or advocacy events as needed.
 - The SSAN Coordinator will work with advocates to identify best practice opportunities to develop and share with the network.
 - The SSAN Coordinator will conduct a brief survey of SSAN volunteers to determine the value of systems advocacy (i.e., feeling empowered, having control over one's life, etc.). In addition, another survey will be conducted in year two to measure improved understanding (before/after) by the ILC network of unique advocacy priorities and public education campaign issues.
- **SSAN Providers (Annual Basis):**
 - Each of the 15 SSAN providers will establish at least five (5) local partnerships and coalitions per contract year with organizations whose mission is consistent with Independent Living philosophy and addresses issues of concern to people with disabilities such as health, aging, poverty, housing, education, employment, and transportation. Such partnerships may be evidenced by: the regular exchange of information and/or shared decision-making between CILs and local organizations and coalitions; by CIL staff

attending partnership organization meetings and trainings; by partner organization staff attending CIL meetings and trainings; by CIL staff who sit on local planning councils, advisory committees and boards of local organizations with missions consistent with the Independent Living philosophy, and by partner organization staff being represented on CIL boards and committees.

- Each of the SSAN providers will respond to at least forty-four (44) educational alerts disseminated by the SSAN Coordinator on behalf of the network, and distribute them to the local volunteers in their network, keeping track of the what alerts have been responded to and the level of response activity. This could include any significant communication that might be received in the process and forwarding it to the SSAN Coordinator related to the issue.
- Each of the SSAN providers will coordinate or participate in at least twenty (20) public education activities per contract year at the local level about Independent Living and issues of concern to people with disabilities. Such activities would include, for example, facilitating educational and training events at the CIL, presenting information at other organizations' events, and generating media hits in local newspapers, television, radio, newsletters and other local media outlets.
- Each of the SSAN providers will engage in at least six (6) local community organizing activities or events per contract year, with the goal of engaging community members and volunteers in providing education about statewide issues impacting people with disabilities, including issues addressed in the statewide disability policy agenda shaped by priorities identified in the needs assessment.
- Each of the SSAN providers will provide at least six (6) oral or written public testimonies, statements or letters per contract year, in response to a documented request from the state legislature, state agencies, statewide councils, or other statewide public bodies.

○ Reporting Requirements:

- SSAN Coordination:

- The coordinator of the SSAN will submit a quarterly report to the DSE (ACCES-VR), which will update information related to the performance targets as well as the deliverables of the contract. The information will be shared with NYSILC and reviewed at full council meetings as part of the SILC monitoring process. The relevant committee may discuss a report in advance and have comments or recommendations for the council. The SSAN coordinator will prepare a yearend report that will summarize the total impact of the network and allow the SPIL objective to be evaluated by the NYSILC Public Policy Committee. The results will be reported in the Annual 704 Report submitted to ACL by NYSILC.
- The SSAN Coordinator will provide NYSILC with consistent reports, support materials, and any relevant information that helps promote and substantiate the activity of the SSAN for evaluation purposes.
- SSAN Providers:
 - SSAN providers (sites) will report results (outcomes) to the SSAN Coordinator according to their contract. The information will be captured and highlighted in quarterly reports prepared by the coordinator and will be sent to the DSE (ACCES-VR). The collective results will be summarized by the SSAN coordinator in an annual report.
- Lead Organization:
 - Coordinator of SSAN.
- Key Partners:
 - DSE, NYSILC Public Policy Committee.