



**Ohio SILC**

Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council

**Community Advancement and Advocacy Committee**

**Crowne Plaza Columbus North - Worthington**

**6500 Doubletree Ave, Columbus, OH 43229**

October 20, 2021

1:00-3:00

[Meeting Link](#)

**Agenda**

- Welcome and Introductions
- Health Care Workgroup Priorities
- Transportation Workgroup Priorities
- Housing Work Group Priorities
- Current advocacy issues to discuss
- Public Comment

Committee Chairs: Rajai Saleh & Gina Wilt

Committee Members: Renee Wood, John Ballard, Gwen Harshaw, Mirta Reyes-Chapman, Paul Jarvis, Pam Drake, Katie Hunt Thomas, Kara Ayers, Maria Matzik, Dave Bertsch, James Russell

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670 Morrison Road, Suite 200, Gahanna, Ohio 43230  
614.892.0390 • 800.566.7788 (Toll-Free) • 614.861.0392 (Fax) • [ohiosilc.org](http://ohiosilc.org)



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### Advocacy Action Steps Implementation

Our current State Plan requires the creation of annual work plans to be developed around the three top priority areas of Housing, Health Care, and Transportation. The year one work plan report is being finalized and will include information from the CILs around efforts that they were successful in systemic advocacy work on the topics.

Recently the three workgroups met and determined the following action steps to be up for consideration of the Committee. The Committee will review the following ideas and determine final steps to be part of the action plan for the upcoming year.

### Health Care Advocacy

- Increase collaboration between agencies and education
  - o Work with state agencies to meet and hear from the IL Network on a more regular basis on critical topics and issues to gather feedback on how the disability community can be more engaged.
- Increase education and awareness of importance of direct support staff
  - o Create informational materials on the ways the disability community utilizes direct support staff, how not all individuals access services the same, and those programs are limited for the vital nature of the services.
- Increase Emergency Preparedness Planning
  - o Work to expand on best practices developed from the ACL pilot project sharing successful strategies and projects.
- Continue work from Consumer Rights in health care training
  - o Expand on the training created by CILO last year and implement a pilot project.

### Transportation Advocacy

- Increase the collaboration with CILs and Mobility Managers in Ohio.
  - o Set up meetings to find better ways of partnering together and host informational sessions to promote CILs and Mobility Managers in Ohio
- Increase awareness of transportation barriers, utilizing data from the recent surveys completed
  - o Set up training sessions on topics related to accessible communities and accessible rights of way.
  - o Create a guide for IL Network to utilize transportation data to effectively promote accessible transportation in their communities.
- Coordinate on future of Transportation Equity Forum
  - o The current funded project is ending, and SILC can have the opportunity to collaborate on continuing this effort.

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### Housing Advocacy

- Increase work with local public housing authorities
  - o Host three roundtable discussions with housing authorities from rural, suburban, and urban counties to discuss strategies of increasing affordable and accessible housing in Ohio.
- Host a Housing forum with other housing partners
  - o Hold a forum to provide information on different topics (home accessibility, smart home tech for access, rental housing), and gather input from consumers on challenges in housing.

### Current Advocacy Topics

- **Parental Rights Bills**
  - o Prohibit disability from being used against individual in parental rights determinations.
  - o [House Bill 352](#) 2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing 10/12/21 in House Civil Justice
  - o [Senate Bill 202](#) Sponsor testimony on 9/14/21 in Senate Judiciary
- **Mental Health and Disability Terminology Act**
  - o Will update outdated and derogatory terminology in Ohio Revised Code
  - o [House Bill 281](#) Passed House, Sponsor testimony in Senate Health on 10/6/21
- **Living Organ Donor Discrimination**
  - o Prevents insurance companies from discriminating against individuals that have been living organ donors in health, disability, and long-term insurance.
  - o [House Bill 188](#) Passed the House, 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing 9/22/21 in Senate Insurance
- **Accessible Parking**
  - o Will update Ohio's laws around accessible parking
  - o [House Bill 31](#) Passed House, Sponsor testimony in Senate Transportation 9/22/21
- **Telehealth Services**
  - o Creates requirements and regulations around continued telehealth services
  - o [House Bill 122](#) Passed House, 2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing 9/29/21 in Senate Health
- **Prohibit income discrimination in rental housing**
  - o Will prohibit landlords from using source of income as a means to deny housing

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- [House Bill 182](#) Second hearing 4/27/21 in House Civil Justice
  
- **Open Meetings Act**
  - **Amend Open Meetings Act to allow public bodies to meet via video and teleconference**
  - [House Bill 43](#) Sponsor testimony 2/11/21
  
- **Prescription Drug Readers**
  - **Requires availability of prescription drug readers for individuals blind or visually impaired**
  - [House Bill 448](#) Introduced 10/12/21

### Not Introduced

- **Work is going on around a bill to fix issues in nursing home discharges.**

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