
Issue Brief – Independent Living Centers

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – OFFICE OF REHABILITATION

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SUMMARY

Utah's Independent Living Centers (ILCs) enable citizens with disabilities to live more independent lives. The ILCs work with the various divisions of the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation and the Utah Statewide Independent Living Council to coordinate services. Currently, six ILCs and four satellite centers operate throughout the state.

Each ILC is a private non-profit organization operating with both the assistance of state and federal funding. The ILCs have contractual agreement with the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation to provide services for people with disabilities.

OBJECTIVE

This brief highlights the services that Centers for Independent Living provide. This year Utah State Office of Education is asking for an additional \$150,000 to maintain existing services for Independent Living Center clientele and expand services new clients.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Independent Living Center- \$150,000

The Independent Living Centers serve a population that predominately in rural areas. Five of the six Independent Living Centers are located in rural parts of the state. This request would help ILC maintain their current level of service in these areas. There has been an increase in cost to service in these areas.

An additional factor facing the ILC in rural areas is transportation. There is a lack of public transportation which then requires that the ILC provide transportation. This money would allow the ILC to continue their current level of transportation service.

Recommendation: The subcommittee may wish to evaluate the request for \$150,000 to provide each of the six Independent Living Centers and prioritize this request with the others before the subcommittee.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

This section provides a guide of what actions might be taken if the Legislature wishes to adopt the recommendations presented in this brief.

1. Consider the request from the ILCs for \$150,000 in ongoing Uniform School Fund revenue appropriated to the Division of Rehabilitation Services to provide for increased need in rural continued services at each of the six independent living centers. These funds would be passed through by the division to the local Independent Living Centers.