Ongoing funding request for Programs for Independent Living

Economic and Community Development

Requester Information

Legislator Name: Watkins, Christine F.

Created Date: January 26th 2026 **Submitted Date:** January 26th 2026

Section 1: Requester Details

Description:

The six Centers for Independent Living (CILs) are requesting $450,000 in ongoing pass-through funding to maintain and restore staffing and essential services in communities across the state. This funding will support the continuation of critical Independent Living programs, including Assistive Technology, Nursing Home Transition and Diversion, Independent Living and Life Skills, Advocacy, Peer Mentoring, Information and Referral, and Community Integration services. These programs assist individuals with disabilities to live independently in the community and avoid unnecessary institutionalization. Funds would be divided evenly among the six CILs to ensure equitable statewide impact. Without this funding, CILs may lose up to 6 FTEs in FY27.

Legislative designee contact information:

Name: Andy Curry

Organization: Roads to Independence

Position: Executive Director

Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Personnel Services	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$292,000.00
In-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$8,000.00

Category	One-time		Ongoing
Out-of-State Travel	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Supplies and Equipment	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$20,000.00
Technology Purchases	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$5,000.00
Infrastructure/Capital Investments	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2026: 2027:	$0.00 $0.00	$125,000.00

Expenditure Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$0.00	**$0.00**	**$450,000.00**

Funding Sources:

General Fund

Amount Requested:

2026 (One-time)	$0.00
2027 (One-time)	$0.00
2027 (Ongoing)	$450,000.00

Revenue Total

One-time 2026	One-time 2027	Ongoing 2027
$0.00	**$0.00**	**$450,000.00**

Is this a multi-year project?

No

Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled?

This project can be scaled by providing ongoing baseline funding that allows Centers for Independent Living to maintain current staffing and service levels in the face of rising costs. The requested funding represents the minimum necessary to offset inflation and prevent reductions in staff and services that directly support people with disabilities. Without this funding, CILs risk losing up to six FTE positions in FY 2027, resulting in higher caseloads and reduced service availability statewide. Maintaining stable funding preserves program capacity and ensures continuity of critical Independent Living services across all regions.

Section 3: Agency Information

Subjects:

Health and Wellbeing

01938

Agency:

600 / Workforce Services

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding:

Private for Profit

Grant recipient

No

Requested Direct Award Grant Recipient

Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement

Who would benefit the most from this request (who is the target audience)?

Nearly 12,000 people with disabilities statewide would benefit from continued access to Independent Living services. CILs would be able to maintain staffing and service capacity in every region. Without this funding, up to six FTE positions could be lost, leading to higher caseloads, poorer outcomes, and increased reliance on state services.

What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

This project is intended to maintain and strengthen Independent Living services statewide by ensuring the six Centers for Independent Living have the staffing capacity needed to serve people with disabilities effectively. The program supports individuals with disabilities in living independently through advocacy, skills training, assistive technology, transition and diversion from institutional settings, and community integration. By sustaining these services, the project helps reduce reliance on institutional and state-funded systems while improving individual outcomes and quality of life.

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

The Legislature will be able to assess success through clearly defined performance outcomes and data reporting requirements established in the DWS/CIL contracts. In the short term, success will be measured by Centers meeting SMART goals tied to service delivery, staffing stability, and participant outcomes, which are tailored to each CIL's geography and capacity. At a minimum, all CILs are required each fiscal year to ensure that 25% or more Case Service Records (CSRs) are new and that 70% of closed CSRs are closed with all goals completed. With this funding, the six CILs will continue providing services and supports to nearly 12,000 people with disabilities in FY 2027, ensuring statewide access to effective Independent Living services.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language Documents

Previous Funding Documents

Full Time Employees

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