



DO YOU WANT TO ADVOCATE FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS?

JOIN THE SOUTH CAROLINA SILC!



26.3% of adults in SC have a disability. (Higher than the national average.)



There are 3 Independent Living Centers providing IL services across the state.



The SCSILC is an integral part of ensuring people with disabilities live independently in their communities.

ABOUT US

Every state has an Independent Living Council. The South Carolina Statewide Independent Living Council (SCSILC) is a non-profit dedicated to promoting independent living for people with disabilities throughout the state. SCSILC functions like a board and members are appointed by the Governor. At least 51% of SCSILC members must be people with disabilities.

WHAT DOES "INDEPENDENT LIVING" MEAN?

- All South Carolinians with disabilities have the civil right to:
- be accepted, respected, valued members of society;
 - have equal opportunities to live, work and participate in their communities; and
 - be expected to be productive, active and responsible citizens.

SCSILC MEMBER'S RESPONSIBILITIES



Participate in quarterly meetings (remotely or in-person)



Help to develop and advance the goals of the State Plan for Independent Living



Represent the ideals of independent living — that ALL people with and without disabilities have the right to lead an independent, integrated life.

WWW.SCSILC.ORG

What is an Independent Living Center?

No one *lives* at Independent Living Centers (ILCs). ILCs provide supports and services to people with disabilities, focused on community integration. There are three ILCs in South Carolina serving most every county. Their core services are defined by federal law and detailed in the State Plan for Independent Living.

What is a State Plan for Independent Living?

To receive federal funds for independent living services, all states are required to issue a State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) every three years. The focus of South Carolina's SPIL is to strengthen the state's Independent Living Network while advancing disability rights.

The SCSILC approves the SPIL.

WE NEED YOU!



Do I have to have a disability to be a member of the SCSILC?

No. By law, the SCSILC must be at least 51% people with disabilities. We are an organization *for* people with disabilities, *by* people disabilities. However, we welcome all advocates — with and without disabilities.

Is it a big time commitment?

No. The SCSILC meets four times per year by computer/phone. Meetings are fully accessible. In addition, members are required to participate in a committee (e.g. Accessibility Committee) of their choosing.

I don't want to waste my time sitting on a do-nothing board. Does the SCSILC actually help people with disabilities?

Yes! The SCSILC is a small council with BIG responsibilities. The SCSILC helps to direct the vision for the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL), which guides the activities for the state's Independent Living Centers.

Do I need to be an expert or professional in disability rights?

No. The SCSILC values different perspectives and council members include people with disabilities, people who work (or worked) in disability services, family members, and even people who simply want to help fight for disability rights. The **ONLY** requirement is that you agree with the independent living model of full integration and inclusion.

Can I attend an SCSILC meeting to learn more and decide if I want to join?

Yes! SCSILC meetings are open to the public and we would love to have you attend a meeting to learn more. We are a welcoming, positive team.

Ok, I may want to join the SCSILC. What do I next?

Simply send an email to scsilc@scsilc.org or call (803) 217-3209 and we will help every step of the way. You can also find a lot of helpful information online at www.scsilc.org.