



Rosie Cooper

KACIL Executive Director

Testimony to House Children and Seniors Committee

Member Agencies:

February 19, 2013

Coalition for Independence

Kansas City, KS
913/321-5140 Voice/TT

Independent Living Resource Center

Wichita, KS
316/942-6300 Voice/TT

Independence, Inc.

Lawrence, KS
785/841-0333 Voice
785/841-1046 TT

Independent Connection/ OCK

Salina, KS
785/827-9383 Voice/TT

LINK, Inc.

Hays, KS
785/625-6942 Voice/TT

Prairie Independent Living Resource Center

Hutchinson, KS
620/663-3989 Voice

Resource Center for Independent Living, Inc.

Osage City, KS
785/528-3105 Voice
785/528-3106 TT

Southeast Kansas Independent Living, Inc.

Parsons, KS
620/421-5502 Voice
620/421-6551 TT

The Whole Person, Inc.

Kansas City, MO
816/561-0304 Voice
816/627-2201 TT

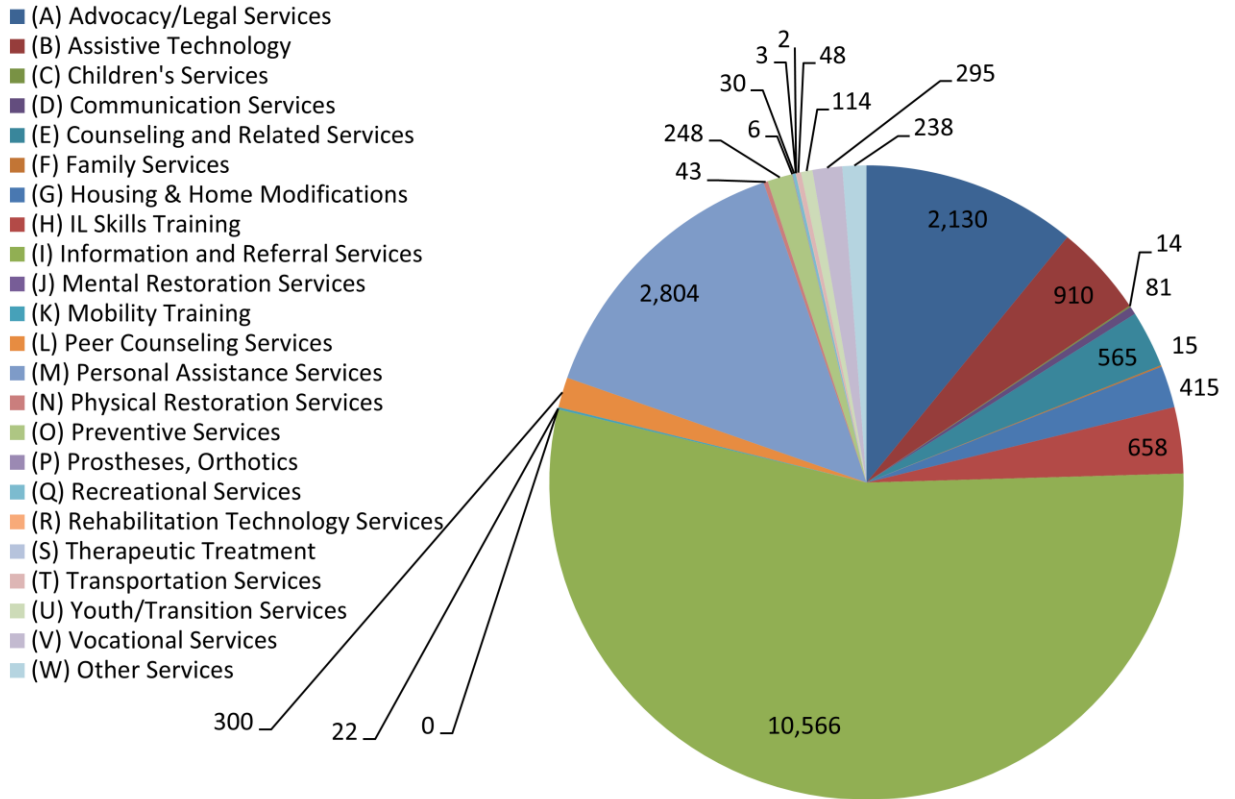
Three Rivers ILC

Wamego, KS
785/456-9915 Voice

Madam Chair and members of the Committee, my name is Rosie Cooper, I am the Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Centers for Independent Living (KACIL). Thank you for affording KACIL the opportunity to give you information regarding Centers for Independent Living (CILS). To fully understand the workings of a CIL, we have to look at our history. It all started when the California Department of Rehabilitation told Ed Roberts that he was to disabled to work. Ed Roberts went public and within a week he was enrolled at Berkley. One problem, due to having polio at age 14, Ed needed an iron lung to sleep. Consequently the hospital (the only place that could accommodate his iron lung) became his dorm room. With a hospital comes visiting hours and soon people with disabilities were congregating in Ed's room sharing and teaching one another. That group became known as the "Rolling Quads." Ultimately Ed became the Director of the California Department of Rehabilitation. He helped create the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 where CILS are defined and regulated. This is where our passion was born.

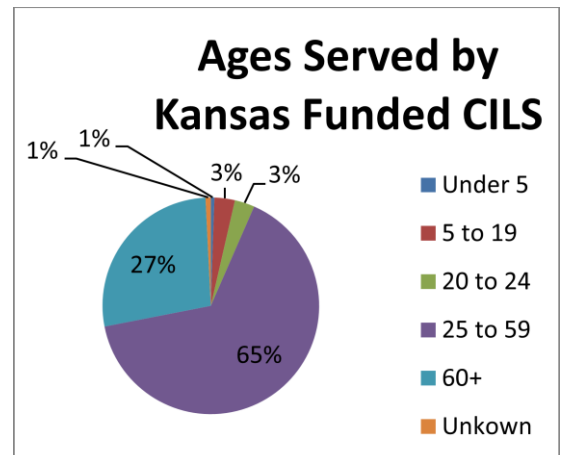
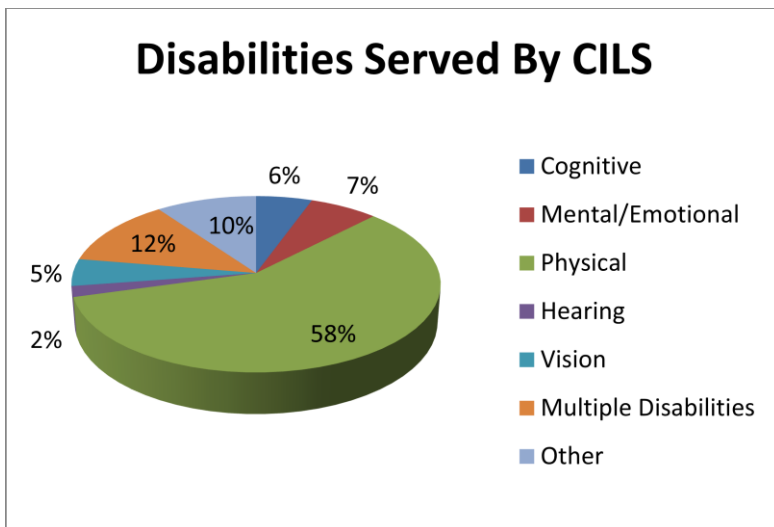
However, in today's economy passion will not help legislators make decisions but statistics will. The following information is taken from the report: RSA-704 Part I for IL program for Kansas - H169A120023 FY2012. It represents cumulative data reported from the following Kansas funded CILS: Coalition for Independence of Kansas City, Independence Inc. of Lawrence, Three Rivers Independent Living Resource Center of Wamego, Independent Connection of Salina, LINK, Inc. of Hays, Prairie Independent Living Resource Center of Hutchinson, Independent Living Resource Center of Wichita, Resource Center for Independent Living of Osage City, and Southeast Kansas Independent Living Center of Parsons. Together they provide services to all 105 Kansas counties. It is important to note that Topeka Independent Resource Center and The Whole Person are Kansas CILS but they receive federal funds and their numbers are not represented in this report.

Kansas CILS provided 19,507 individuals in FY 2012

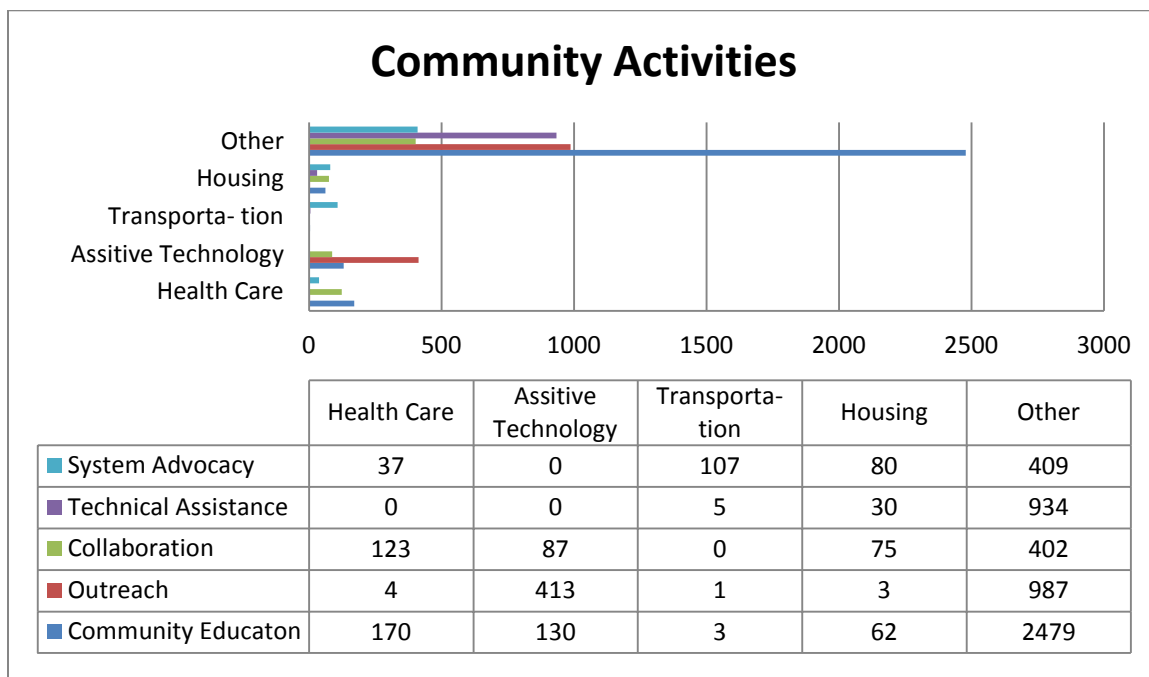


Note: Information and Referral Services are delivered to individuals with a disability, family members, community providers, or any Kansan requesting information.

Kansas CILS deliver services FREE of charge to people across all disabilities and ages. All services are delivered with the IL Philosophy of choice and the freedom to learn from ones mistakes.



During FY 2012, KACIL CILS spent a total of 9,151 hours providing Community Activities in the issue areas housing, transportation, assistive technology, health care and other. "Other" represents CIL work such as Disability Mentoring Day, Disability History and Awareness trainings at schools. Sometimes disputes between youth with disabilities, their families and educators can be resolved with CIL training.



Economic conditions along with systemic changes within the state of Kansas have dramatically reduced the capacity of Kansas CILS.

| <u>KS CILS</u> | <u>Decision Makers</u> | <u>Decision Makers with a Disability</u> |
|----------------|------------------------|--|
| FY 2011 | 70 FTE | 53 FTE |
| FY 2012 | 28 FTE | 20 FTE |

| <u>KS CILS</u> | <u>Other Staff</u> | <u>Other Staff with a Disability</u> |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| FY 2011 | 300 FTE | 180 FTE |
| FY 2012 | 104 FTE | 60 FTE |

KACIL is very proud to report that Kansas CILS managed to maintain and in some cases increased the number of people with disabilities served in FY 2012.

It is important during this particular economic climate to demonstrate a return on the state of Kansas FY 2012 investment of \$1,485,345 in Kansas CILS. Last year, KACIL CILS delivered one on one supports and services to 637 individuals with disabilities who set vocational goals. When the reporting period ended 219 people had achieved their goal with the remaining 379 continuing to pursue their employment goals. From the Kansas Rehabilitation Stakeholder Meetings 2012 on Vocational Rehabilitation & Independent Living:

\$21.5 million

During their first full year of work, the 1,619 Kansans with disabilities who achieved employment through VR services in FFY 2012 will generate approximately \$21.5 million in new wages, a substantial contribution to the Kansas economy.

To the left, is Kansas Rehabilitation Services return on investment report. To calculate Kansas funded CILS return on investment. KACIL divided the KRS \$21.5 by the 1,619 achieving employment to get a per person amount of \$13,280.

KACIL CILS Return on Investment:

$$\text{\$13,280} \times 219 = \text{\$2,908,277.00}$$

The 219 individuals with disabilities who achieved their goal with Kansas CIL vocational services will generate approximately \$2,908,277 in new wages their first year of employment or \$1.5 million over Kansas original investment.

Thank you for the opportunity to tell the Kansas CIL story.

Respectfully,
Rosie Cooper
KACIL Executive Director
785-215-8048
Rosie@kacil.org