

## Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council

### **Core Values**

The AZSILC Board of Directors and Staff believe in the following values which guide decision making, policy, and practice on a daily basis:

- Every person has potential, innate talents and abilities
- Promoting the dignity, value and inclusion of everyone
- Acknowledging, respecting and celebrating differences in people
- Families can be effective advocates for adults and children with disabilities
- Every person has a fundamental right to make their own choices in all aspects of life
- Opportunity for independent living is essential to the well-being of people with disabilities
- Involvement of people with disabilities in the decision making process of community programs and services

### **AZSILC Duties**

Included among the primary duties of the SILC are

- Jointly developing and signing the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) and the annual U.S. Department of Education 704 report with the Arizona Rehabilitation Services Administration (AZRSA)
- Monitoring, reviewing, and evaluating the implementation of the SPIL
- Ensuring that all regularly scheduled meetings of the AZSILC are open to the public and sufficient advanced notice is provided
- Coordinating activities with the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) and other Councils addressing the needs of specific disability populations and issues under other Federal law
- Holding any hearings and forums that the AZSILC determines necessary to carry out its duties

### **Council Membership**

The AZSILC is a governor's advisory council. All members are appointed by the Governor and must reflect the age, disability, ethnic, geographic, and gender diversity of the state.

### **AZSILC members include:**

- People with disabilities
- One director of a Center for Independent Living (CIL) chosen by the directors of CILS within the State.
- Parents and legal guardians of individuals with disabilities
- Advocates of and for individuals with disabilities
- Representatives from private businesses

- Other appropriate individuals

### **Mission**

The mission of the AZSILC is to promote the quality, inclusion, and choice for people with disabilities through collaboration and public policy change

### **Vision**

The vision of the AZSILC is inclusive, accessible communities that value differences

### **Statewide Independent Living Councils**

Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs) are consumer – controlled councils promoting programs, resources and services empowering people with disabilities to live independently.

Every state in the union is mandated to have a SILC under Title VII, section 705 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended in 1998. The Arizona Governor’s executive Order number 2007-15, amending and superseding Executive Order number 1998-10, documents the general provisions of the AZSILC.

AZSILC received its non-profit status in 2002. Subsequent to that date, AZSILC has consistently advocated for people with disabilities to live fully integrated lives within their respective communities, whether in metropolitan areas, rural districts, or reservations serving Native American tribes located in Arizona.

### **Contact Information:**

Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council

5025 E. Washington Street #214

Phoenix, AZ. 85034

Voice: 602-262-2900

Fax: 602-271-4100

[www.azsilc.org](http://www.azsilc.org)