# **Maryland SILC Universal Needs Assessment Survey**

Maryland Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and the Maryland Statewide Independent Living Council (Maryland SILC) are excited to announce the launch of a critical survey aimed at shaping the future of independent living for people with disabilities across the state of Maryland. As we embark on the journey to develop a comprehensive, three-year Statewide Plan for Independent Living (SPIL), we recognize the invaluable insights and perspectives of our community members. This survey is a key component of our efforts to ensure that the plan is truly inclusive and reflective of the diverse needs and aspirations of individuals with disabilities in Maryland. Your input is vital in guiding us towards the most effective strategies and solutions to enhance the quality of life for our fellow Marylanders with disabilities. We invite all community members to participate and make their voices heard, as together we work towards a more inclusive and supportive future. Your participation is instrumental in fostering a brighter, more inclusive Maryland for all.

**Instructions**

Please complete the survey questions to the best of your ability and return via mail before **December 31, 2023,** to:

Maryland Statewide Independent Living Council  
1890 N Market St Ste 203  
Frederick, MD 21701-3032

You may also scan and email the form to [spil.silcmaryland@gmail.com](mailto:spil.silcmaryland@gmail.com)

**Contact**

For questions regarding this survey, contact:

Dave Drezner  
Email: [ddrezner@thefreedomcenter-md.org](mailto:ddrezner@thefreedomcenter-md.org)  
Phone: 301-447-0164

**Partnerships/Outreach and Engagement**

1. Who are additional partners within the disability community the SILC/CILs should engage with more?

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1. Who are additional partners external to the disability community in key areas such as housing that the SILC/CILs should engage with more?

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1. How would you prefer to receive information about the work the SILC/CILs are doing? (Check all that apply)  
   * Webinars
   * In person meetings
   * Website
   * Facebook or other social media
   * Email
   * Other, please list:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What would make the information most accessible to you?   
   * Communications in other languages, please specify:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * ASL at webinars or in-person meetings
   * Increased use of Plain Language
   * Large Print
   * Posts on social media or website
   * Email
   * Other, please list: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Youth and Diversity**

1. What better ways could the SILC/CILs reach a broad range of disability communities?

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1. Please check any of the populations below that need prioritization for outreach and services with the SILC/CILs:   
   * Youth with disabilities
   * College Students with disabilities
   * Unhoused individuals with disabilities
   * Returning citizens with disabilities
   * New Americans with disabilities
   * Individuals with disabilities living in rural areas of the state
   * Minorities with disabilities, specify: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   * Individuals with disabilities who are members of the LGBTQ+ community
2. How can SILC/CILs increase the leadership opportunities for the groups in the previous question?

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1. How can SILC/CILs increase the self-advocacy of youth with disabilities?

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**Independent Living Services**

1. How can the Independent Living Network improve independent living services?

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1. What are the biggest barriers facing Marylanders with disabilities in being independent? Please prioritize your top 5 with 1 being the most important:

\_\_\_ Difficult process for receiving services

\_\_\_ Assistive Technology

\_\_\_ Waitlists or Service delays

\_\_\_ Segregated settings or institutional bias

\_\_\_ Architectural barriers

\_\_\_ Affordable/Accessible Housing

\_\_\_ Transportation

\_\_\_ Access to Healthcare and health services

\_\_\_ Employment

\_\_\_ Direct Support Staffing

Other: Please explain:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Please provide any strategies or activities for these priorities that the SILC/CILs should consider.

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**Other**

1. Is there anything the CIL you work with is doing really well?

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1. Is there anything else that the SILC/CILs should consider as activities under the new State Plan for Independent Living?

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