

Statewide Independent Living Council

Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Activities Report

Goal 1 – Enhance the impact of the Independent Living network

- Adopted the Council's first Policies and Procedures Manual (March 2026) as a living document, now posted publicly, covering financial procedures, member roles, and liability protections; continued review of the Council's legislative establishment.
- Grew the Council: welcomed Roy Corpus, Lehua Chang, and Leticia Zuno; seated Lea Dias as ex-officio for the Designated State Entity; extended four member terms from two to three years; maintained regular contact with the Governor's Boards and Commissions office on appointments.
- Operated seven active committees, including the newly constituted Survey and Policies and Procedures committees.
- Recruited members and promoted the network at community events statewide – Developmental Disabilities legislative forums on every island, the Lāna'i Health Fair, the White Cane Walk, and the Capitol resource fair – distributing SILC one-pagers, plain-language SPIL summaries, and brailled member business cards.
- Quarterly Independent Living Reports from both Centers and a written inventory of support groups, contacts, and access points.
- Sent four representatives to the National Council on Independent Living Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., with congressional visits to Representatives Case and Tokuda and Senators Schatz and Hirono; held the June quarterly meeting in Kailua-Kona, bringing the Council to Hawai'i Island.

Goal 2 – Inform and guide response to emerging disability issues

- Advanced the Community Needs Assessment through committee, incorporating external editorial review, for full Council vote.
- Collected community survey data at legislative forums, health fairs, and Capitol events across the islands.
- Received Administration for Community Living approval to proceed with substantive SPIL amendments, and convened the SPIL Committee with both Centers to review amendments and begin planning the successor plan.
- Began compiling a network-wide evaluation against the current SPIL, with updates submitted by both Centers for Independent Living.

- Received partner reports at quarterly meetings from partner organizations and agencies.

Goal 3 – Enhance systems change for inclusive and accessible communities

- Hosted quarterly Citizens for a Fair ADA Ride meetings and continued the effort to reconstitute the Honolulu Mayor’s Committee on People with Disabilities.
- Expanded resource development: joint application with the Hawaii Disability Rights Center to the Disability Inclusion Fund for statewide community power-mapping; shared Independent Living and community needs information with granting entities and disability philanthropy partners.
- **Goal 4 – Equal access to community resources during disasters**
- Participated in Kāne’ohe–Kahalu’u Community Emergency Response Team monthly meetings, the Ko’olau Resilience Hub Symposium, and emergency preparedness training; attended bi-monthly No Wrong Door meetings.
- Met with a Federal Emergency Management Agency representative on Maui on lessons learned, and advocated to restore funding for the Hawai’i Emergency Management Agency disability integration specialist.
- Invited emergency management and community resilience partners to present to the Council, including Vibrant Hawai’i on the statewide resilience hub network.

Council operations

- Public participation at quarterly meetings rose over the year, from 10 partners and guests in March to 19 in June – progress toward SPIL Indicator 1.3.2.
- Held all meetings in hybrid, publicly noticed format with American Sign Language interpretation, materials in accessible formats, and public comment at every meeting.
- Reported an available balance of \$188,042 in August, with the Finance Committee developing a revised budget aligned to Council activities and exploring an interest-bearing account.