



NCIL

National Council
on Independent Living

ANNUAL REPORT 2022 + 2023



About NCIL

The National Council on Independent Living is the longest-running national cross-disability, grassroots organization run by and for people with disabilities.

NCIL represents people with disabilities, Centers for Independent Living (CILs), Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs), and other organizations that advocate for the human and civil rights of people with disabilities throughout the United States.

NCIL’s mission is to advance the disability-led Independent Living Movement to expand the capacity of Independent Living Programs to enhance the human and civil rights of all people with disabilities.

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A Message from the Executive Director

As an individual who has lived with a disability since the age of 15, I bring a wealth of personal experience in navigating a world not built or designed for people with disabilities.

Throughout my adult life, I've been dedicated to the relentless pursuit of equality and justice. My advocacy aims for the empowerment of all who face ableism. From my perspective, ableism is one of the most oppressive forces we contend with.

Though my tenure has been brief, having joined NCIL in February 2023, I'd like to share some valuable insights:

Within NCIL, I've discovered a committed core staff diligently working to serve our membership. We are constantly exploring avenues to craft improved policies, secure more funding, and expand opportunities for both NCIL members and the broader disability community.

The strength of NCIL lies in the dedication of our volunteers, board members, and committees, which enable us to extend our influence and reach. We fully understand that our mission can only thrive through this unwavering support.

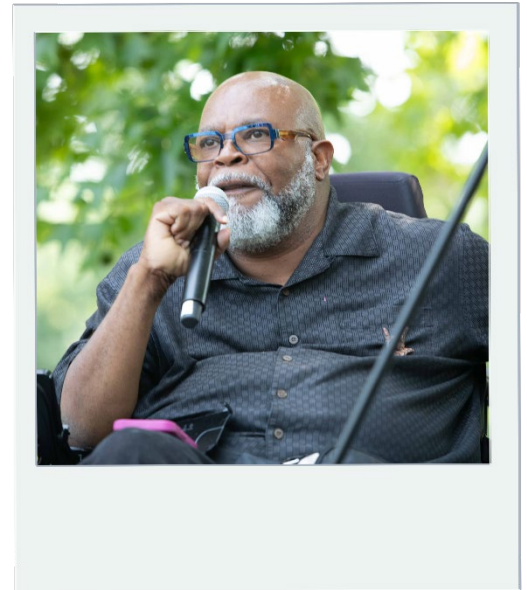
Acknowledging that past mistakes have been made, NCIL is actively committed to rectifying our history by ensuring that all voices from diverse groups and identities are both included and heard. The newly reinvigorated Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion Committee now plays a vital role in shaping every facet of NCIL's operations, both internally and externally.

NCIL understands that our strength lies in unity and is open to engaging in conversations with allies who share our vision for social justice.

We are aware that we are only in the initial stages of re-establishing ourselves as the leading national cross-disability grassroots organization run by and for people with disabilities.

In my role as Executive Director, I am eager to propel NCIL to even greater heights. I encourage you to take a fresh look at NCIL, starting with this annual report. Join us on this journey, as much work is ahead of us. Together, we can make a profound impact.

Theo Braddy
Executive Director
National Council on Independent Living





NCIL Staff

- Theo Braddy, Executive Director
- Sylena Campbell, Administrative Coordinator / Bookkeeper
- Eleanor Canter, Communications Director
- Denise Law, Member Services Coordinator
- Jessica Podesva, Director of Advocacy and Public Policy
- Jenny Sichel, Operations Director
- Angelia White, Agency Bookkeeper
- Mary-Kate Wells, Program Director

NCIL also thanks outgoing 2022 and 2023 staff members: Lindsay Baran, Sarah Blahovec, Tim Fuchs, Darrell Jones, Rie Terashima, and Cara Liebowitz.

In Memoriam

The disability community mourned the loss and celebrated the lives of Bobby Silverstein, Lois Curtis, Paul Spooner, Mary Margaret Moore, and Sheryl Grossman in 2022; and Lillibeth Navarro, Sandi Weber, Andrés Gallegos, and Judy Heumann in 2023.

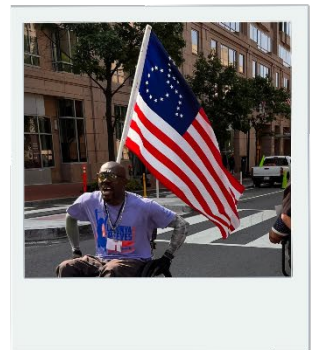
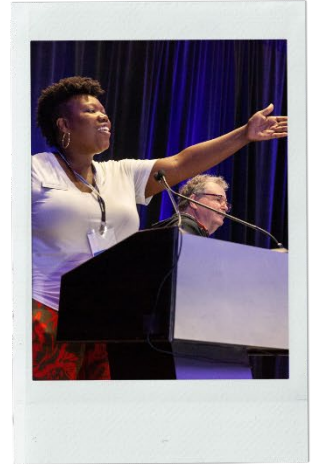
Governing Board

- Kent Crenshaw, President
- Jeff Hughes, Vice President
- Jeremy Morris, Treasurer
- Marty Musser, Secretary
- Theo Braddy, Executive Director
- Larissa Martin, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, Inclusion (DEAI) Committee Chair
- Kimberly Meck, Regional Representative Committee Chair

Regional Representatives: Steve Higgins, Aaron Baier, Vicki Landers, John Herring, Samantha Moreno, Shelly Osgood, Lisa Hayes, and Kimberly Meck.

Members At Large: Latricia Seye, Suzanna Gamez, Amy Tweedle, Thomas Earle, Jason Beloungy, and Brittany Boyd-Chisholm.

NCIL also thanks 2022 Board Members: Karen Michalski-Karney, Joel Peden, and Kendra Burgess.



NCIL Accomplishments

NCIL Member Center

In 2023, NCIL launched its Member Center (members.ncil.org). The Member Centers provides a dedicated space for NCIL member individuals and organizations to view and update their membership; vote in NCIL elections; access members-only content; join NCIL committees; and view contact information for their fellow NCIL members. The Member Center also provides free NCIL membership at the associate level to all staff and board members of member organizations.

Barrier Removal Fund

NCIL and the Centene Corporation are committed to providing equal access to healthcare that is accessible by increasing the percentage of providers that meet federal and state disability access standards. Since 2018, the Barrier Removal Fund has provided over \$1 million in grants to fund accessibility improvements at healthcare providers in fourteen states.

In 2022 and 2023, the Barrier Removal fund provided over \$600,000 in grants to remove access barriers in healthcare provider offices in New Mexico, Nebraska, Delaware, Georgia, Michigan, and Texas. We also worked with the CILs to complete accessibility site reviews at over 145 provider offices.

Community Living and Home Usability Projects

NCIL expanded its work with the University of Kansas Research and Training Center on Promoting Interventions for Community Living (RTC/PICL) on home usability and community living. In 2022, NCIL hosted a Community Living Summit to provide information about Community Living Programs and how CILs can use them. In 2023, NCIL kicked off a peer support network to build the capacity of CILs to implement home usability and modification programs to support consumers' community living goals.

Partnerships

Throughout 2022 and 2023, NCIL partnered with multiple organizations to highlight programs, provide feedback on technology, and serve on advisory boards, including AAHD, University of Kansas, Advancing States, RAISE Center, National Disability Institute, Verizon, Centene, Lurie Institute for Disability Policy, United Health Care, USAging, Brandis University, Amazon, United Spinal Association, Walmart, Cruise, CareSource, Lotus, and Elevance Health.



Advocacy Highlights

2022: NCIL solicited comments from the public about whether the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services should cover power seat elevation systems for beneficiaries.

2022: NCIL issued a statement on face masks in education settings, which clarified that schools have a legal obligation to students with disabilities regarding protection from COVID.

In 2022 and 2023, NCIL hosted the 16th and 17th Advocacy and Legislative Agenda Briefing for the Independent Living community.

2023: NCIL launched 5 for 5 Campaign and held the first 5 for 5 Advocacy Day in DC along with the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL) and the National Association of Statewide Independent Living Councils (NASILC).

2023: NCIL held two listening sessions with invited guests from the Administration for Community Living (ACL) on the end of COVID Federal state of emergency.

2023: NCIL submitted comments to the Senate on the direct care workforce crisis; and guardianships, conservatorships, protective arrangements, and alternatives.

2023: NCIL hosted an online Rally to Protect Medicaid.

2023: NCIL submitted comments in response to the Notice of Proposed Rule Making on Older Americans Act Regulations.



FUND CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
500 MILLION ★ 5 CORE SERVICES



Independent Living Training and Events

In 2022 and 2023, NCIL hosted a racial justice training Series; a series on campaigning with a disability; a 5 for 5 Campaign launch; and three regional showcases.

NCIL coordinated numerous activities for the IL-NET. The IL-NET provides training and technical assistance to CILs and SILCs throughout the country. Through IL-NET, NCIL presented 11 webinars in 2022 and 2023, reaching over 1000 people.

- Know Your Resources
- Being Invited In: Understanding and Respecting Native Disability Culture
- CILs Use of Self and Peer Monitoring as a Management Tool
- The Independent Living Plan: Assisting Consumers in Making an IL plan
- Evolving Core Services: Independent Living Skills Training
- A learning collaborative on business development
- The first bi-annual Independent Living Institute, focused on consumer control.
- Creating a Culture in Your CIL to Guide Mental Health Transition
- Innovative Transition for Individuals with Mental Health Disabilities
- Transition of School-Age Youth to Post-Secondary Life
- Intergenerational Peer Support
- Serving Cross-Disability Populations
- Non-Traditional Transitions

IL-NET

Annual Conference on Independent Living

In 2022, NCIL hosted the first onsite Annual Conference on Independent Living since 2019. Titled “Forging Justice,” the 2022 conference was offered in hybrid format, with 400 onsite attendees and 300 virtual participants.

NCIL’s 2023 Annual Conference was titled “Indivisible”. Over 500 attendees participated onsite in Washington, DC and NCIL provided archived virtual access to all conference events to every NCIL member free of charge. The 2023 Annual Conference featured 18 exhibitors, 15 sponsors, and 25 workshops focused on Independent Living in order to provide education and peer support to NCIL’s network.

Members participated in the first March to and Rally at the US Capitol since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Hundreds of people with disabilities marched through the streets of DC carrying signs and chanting for disability rights. After an empowering rally, Independent Living advocates met with their elected Senators and Representatives to advocate for disability rights and America’s Independent Living Program.



Conference Sponsors

NCL thanks our 2022 and 2023 conference sponsors: Centene; CareSource; Verizon; Airbnb; Microsoft; Waymo; Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation; Emily's List; United Healthcare; Ability360; PhRMA; Tusk Philanthropies; Elevance; Cruise; CapitalOne; National Disability Institute / LEAD Center; Altarum; Anthem, Inc.; Humana Healthy Horizons; the Boston Foundation; and the Disability Resource Center.

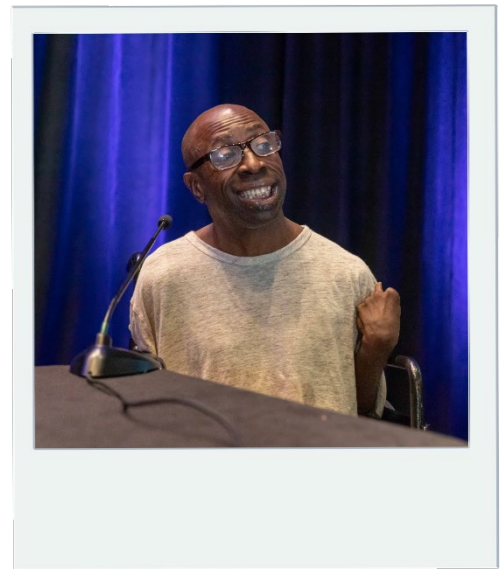


Advocacy Award Recipients

- President's Award: Lou Ann Kibbee (2022) and Darrell Jones (2023)
- Frank Harkin Memorial Award: Senator Bob Casey (2022; 2023)
- Max Starkloff Lifetime Achievement Award: Kelly Buckland (2022); Keith Jones and Ann McDaniel (2023)
- Corey Rowley National Advocacy Award: Mark and Jan Derry (2022); Anita Cameron, Beth Larson-Steckler, and Kristi McGarity (2023)
- Region 1 Advocacy Award: Peter Johnke, Congressman Jim Langevin
- Region 2 Advocacy Award: Todd Vaarwerk
- Region 3 Advocacy Award: Brenda Dasher
- Region 4 Advocacy Award: ABLE SC
- Region 5 Advocacy Award: Eric Brown



- Region 6 Advocacy Award: Lillian DeJean, Veronica Tess Meyers
- Region 7 Advocacy Award: Greg York
- Region 8 Advocacy Award: Michael Mayer
- Region 9 Advocacy Award: Christina Mills
- Region 10 Advocacy Award: Shelly Emery
- Judy Heumann Advocacy Award: Alan Holdsworth (2023)
- Champion for Justice Award: Centene Corporation and Elevance Health (2022); CareSource (2023)



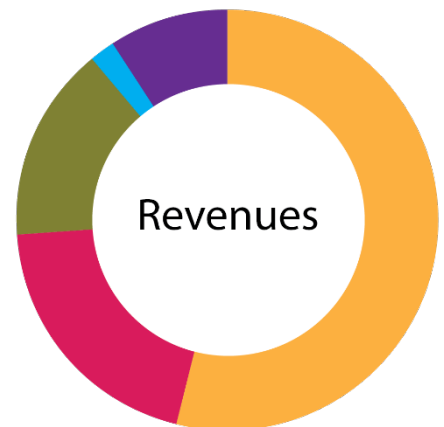
Statement of Financial Position*

2022

Revenues

Total 2022 Income: \$1,748,124

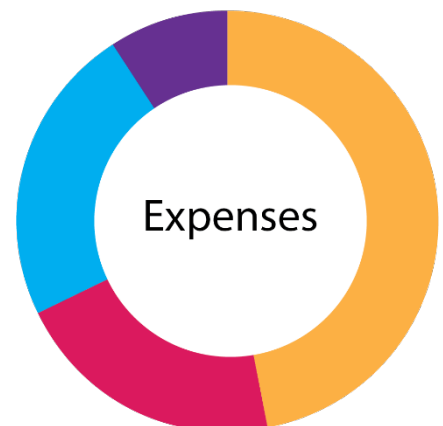
- Grants & Programs: \$938,134 (54%)
- Annual Conference: \$352,543 (20%)
- Membership Dues: \$260,556 (15%)
- Donations: \$34,080 (2%)
- Other Income: \$162,811 (9%)



Expenses

Total 2022 Expenses: \$1,821,345

- Project & Grants: \$859,545 (47%)
- Annual Conference: \$378,762 (21%)
- Advocacy & Programs: \$421,344 (23%)
- Administration & Finance: \$161,694 (9%)



2023

Revenues

Total 2023 Revenues: \$1,300,626

- Grants & Projects: \$699,604 (53%)
- Annual Conference: \$362,497 (27%)
- Membership Dues: \$214,186 (16%)
- Donations: \$8,652 (1%)
- Other Income: \$45,687 (3%)

Expenses

Total 2023 Expenses: \$1,509,407

- Programs & Projects: \$636,638 (42%)
- Annual Conference: \$386,817 (26%)
- Advocacy: \$273,535 (18%)
- Administration: \$212,418 (14%)

*All figures represented in this statement of financial position are unaudited. Final numbers may vary slightly.

What's Next

Join us for the 2024 Annual Conference on Independent Living!

