**Objective 1.1**

**Systems Change:** Individuals with disabilities are represented on boards, commissions, advisory committees, and other planning bodies with jurisdiction over services that impact individuals with disabilities.

**Activities:**

* Identify the boards and commissions that have disabilities represented
* Encourage boards and commissions to place individuals with disabilities on their boards
* Create an outreach toolkit for boards/commissions to bring awareness to disability types and their influence
* Create an outreach toolkit and training protocol for advocates
* Bring awareness of accessibility issues of public meetings

**Objective 1.2**

**Personal Care Attendants**: Individuals with disabilities have access to a strong network of quality Personal Care Attendants to assist them in gaining and retaining as much independence as they choose.

**Activities:**

* Increase awareness of consumer directed services to consumers
* Advocate for retention activities, strategies including increasing wages for Personal Care Attendants
* Support the consumer in addressing issues with their personal care attendant; creation of a toolkit

**Objective 1.3**

**Emergency Preparedness:**  State and local emergency officials include individuals with disabilities and their unique needs in their emergency planning processes.

**Activities:**

* Increase awareness in the disability community of emergency preparedness; foster opportunities for tools and techniques for communicating with individuals with disabilities before and during disasters/emergencies
* Advocate at the state level to require individuals with disabilities to be included in disability planning
* Encourage participation of individuals with disabilities and Centers for Independent Living at the local level

**Objective 1.4**

**Transportation**:  Individuals with disabilities advocate for and utilize accessible public and private transportation.

**Activities:**

* Advocate for accessible transportation with the Texas Legislature on specific recommendations for policy changes
* Train consumers/general public to be transportation advocates
* Advocate for expansion of accessible transportation
* Advocate for additional Center for Independent Living activities with local transportation planning commissions, boards

**Objective 1.5**

**Housing**: Individuals with disabilities have access to integrated, affordable, and accessible housing within the community of their choice.

**Activities**

* Advocate for accessible housing
* Create awareness of housing accessibility issues to businesses, housing providers, developers, etc.
* Create additional housing coalitions that work toward increasing housing opportunities

**Objective 2.1**

**IL Transition**:  The network of Centers for Independent Living have adequate resources and capacity to provide Independent Living Services for Texans with disabilities.

**Activities**

* Encourage Centers for Independent Living to utilize private funding to support their efforts to provide Independent Living Services in their communities
* Create opportunities for Center for Independent Living peer support during IL transition issues
* Coordinate appropriate technical assistance for the Independent Living Services program outsourcing process
* Encourage community awareness of Center for Independent Living and Independent Living Services and philosophy of choice/consumer direction

**Objective 2.2**

**Coordinating Funding for the Network**:  The network of Centers for Independent Living receives funding to provide current, additional, and expanded services to underserved and unserved areas of Texas.

**Activities**

* Advocate for more secure funding stream at the state level by including Center for Independent Living base funding in statute or biennial appropriations bills
* Encourage mobile services for Centers or other virtual ways of providing services (mobile outreach station)
* Outreach to community partners to use office space, locations on a regular basis
* Obtain feedback from individuals with disabilities on the use of Part B dollars in Texas by surveying consumers through public forums, townhalls, public comment sessions, workshops, etc.

**Objective 2.3**

**Reporting Consistency/Information Shared to Policymakers**:  The Independent Living Network reports accurate and consistent outcomes-based information to policymakers, grantors, and decision-makers.

**Activities**:

* Highlight and share success stories from Center for Independent Living’s/agency programs and highlight specific impacts of outcomes on a regular basis—newsletters, Texas State Independent Living Council website, social media push
* Provide outreach to Texas Legislature on success of Center for Independent Living and Independent Living Services on a regular basis
* Report outcomes as agreed to in the FY14-16 State Plan for Independent Living Goal 4 project
* Advocate for a single reporting tool and process for federal and state funded Centers for Independent Living

**Objective 3.1**

**Youth Transition:**  Youth with disabilities access and utilize transition services provided by Centers for Independent Living and other providers.

**Activities**

* Reach out to school systems regarding participating in Admission, Review and Dismissal meetings , reach out to education service centers
* Attend Transition fairs
* Make connections with transition specialists at region education service centers and at local schools
* Target outreach activities to youth with disabilities in underserved counties, populations, races
* Seek data on youth with disabilities preparing for transition for activity and outreach planning purposes

**Objective 3.2**

**Relocation:**  Individuals with disabilities residing in institutions or nursing homes are aware of and access relocation services provided by Centers for Independent Living.

**Activities**

* Conduct outreach/resources activities to nursing facilities, institutions
* Coordinate efforts with the ombudsman
* Report on relocation contract activities
* Work with Texas Health and Human Services Commission on future relocation contracts and advocate for additional funding after the expiration of Money Follows the Person
* Coordinate with managed care organizations on relocation activities

**Objective 3.3**

**Diversion:** Individuals with disabilities who are at risk for entering institutions or nursing homes access to diversion services provided by Centers for Independent Living.

**Activities**

* Provide youth transition activities/services to reduce chance of institutionalization
* Provide education for parents and consumers on accessing waiting lists for Medicaid Long Term Services and Supports or waiver services
* Advocate for additional community-based services
* Use of an assessment process/tool by Centers for Independent Living for determining risk
* Reaching out to those typically underserved such as those with age-related disabilities, mental illness, substance abuse