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# Centers for Independent Living Programs (CIL) Program Performance Report for FY 2018

Access 2 Independence of the Eastern Iowa Corridor  
1556 S 1st Ave Ste B  
Iowa City, IA, 522406035

Grant Number: 1803IAILCL

# Agency Information

\* - Required input

**Fiscal Year:**

2018-2019

**Grant #:**

1803IALCL-00

**Name of Center:**

Access 2 Independence of the Eastern Iowa Corridor

**Acronym for Center (if applicable):**

A2I

**Counties Served:**

Benton, Cedar, Jones, Johnson, Linn, Henry, Iowa, Washington

# Section 1. General Funding Information

Section 725(c)(8)(D) of the Act

## 1.1 Sources and Amounts of Funds and Resources \* - Required field

### 1.1.1 All Federal Funds Received

Federal Funds	Current Year
Title VII, Ch. 1, Part B*	19851
Title VII, Ch. 1, Part C*	247503
Title VII, Ch. 2*	0
Other Federal Funds*	0
<b>Subtotal – All Federal Funds</b>	<b>267354</b>

### 1.1.2 Other Government Funds

Government Funds	Current Year
State Government Funds*	14410
Local Government Funds*	5260

<b>Government Funds</b>	<b>Current Year</b>
<b>Subtotal – State and Local Government Funds</b>	19670

1.1.3 Private Resources

<b>Private Resources</b>	<b>Current Year</b>
<b>Foundations, Corporations, or Trust Grants*</b>	600
<b>Donations from Individuals*</b>	838
<b>Membership Fees*</b>	0
<b>Investment Income/Endowment*</b>	0
<b>Fees for Service (program income, etc.)*</b>	1232
<b>Other Resources (in-kind, fundraising, etc.)*</b>	1707
<b>Subtotal – Private Resources</b>	4377

1.1.4 Total Income

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>Current Year</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	291401

1.1.5 Pass Through Funds

Pass Through Funds	Current Year
<b>Amount of other government funds received as pass through funds to consumers (include funds, received on behalf of consumers, that are subsequently passed on to consumers, e.g., personal assistance services, representative payee funds, or Medicaid funds)*</b>	0

1.1.6 Net Operating Resources

Net Operating Resources	Current Year
<b>Net Operating Resources</b>	291401

## 1.2 Resource Development Activities

\* - Required field

Briefly describe the CIL's resource development activities conducted during the reporting year to expand funding from sources other than chapter 1 of Title VII of the Act. \*

A2I experienced staffing changes in our Supported Employment FFS program prior to our executive director change in April 2019. Additional staff were trained to provide Supported Employment Services after April and we finished FY18 with \$1,232 compared to FY17 with \$1,430. We wrote one grant through our local community foundation related to further develop this FFS program but were not awarded. We are conducting fundraising efforts at this time to hire and train dedicated Supported Employment staff to increase our capacity and income from these services.

A2I ended our contract with ADEN as an employer network in August 2019. While contracting with ADEN, we did not have a single ticket assigned to us. In evaluating whether to continue the contract or not, we determined we did not have the capacity to market and recruit for the program nor take on the ticket cases.

We have utilized our social media to increase the number of individuals making contributions through our Amazon Smile account.

We were awarded the Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant from the City of Iowa City for \$5260 for our VisAbility program: photography for self-advocacy.

We were awarded a \$600 grant through the Iowa City Pilot Club for our Second Saturday Social peer group for teens and 20s on the Autism Spectrum.

A2I continues to receive individual payroll contributions from Benevity and United Way this FY.

## Section 2. Compliance Indicator 1: Philosophy

### 2.1 Board Member Composition

\* - Required field

**(A) Number of board members**

5

**(B) Number of board members with significant disabilities**

2

**(C) Percentage of board members with significant disabilities**

40

**2.1.1 If the percentage of board members with significant disabilities is equal to or less than 50%, briefly describe activities being undertaken to achieve compliance.\***

With the change in executive director A2I experienced Spring 2019, there has also been turnover with our board. In April when Sarah Martinez was appointed ED, there were 5 board members, 4 of which identified as persons with significant disabilities. 2 board members unexpectedly resigned and the board appointed 2 new members in August resulting in the statistics seen above. A2I is actively recruiting board members from our network during this transition period to regain compliance. ED is also working with Paula McElwee, ILRU, in new ED calls to work on CIL compliance/risk management.

## 2.2 Staff Composition

\* - Required field

### Staff Composition

Staff	Total FTEs	FTEs filled by individuals with disabilities	FTE's filled by individuals from minority populations
Decisionmaking staff*	1	1	1
Other Staff*	3.5	3.5	1
Total number of employees	4.5	4.5	2

### 2.2.1 Percentage of Staff with Disabilities

100



## Section 3. Individuals Receiving Services

Section 704(m)(4)(D) of the Act; Section 725(b)(2) of the Act; Section 725(c)(8)(B) of the Act

### 3.1 Number of Consumers Served During the Reporting Year

\* - Required field

Number of Consumers Served During the Reporting Year

Consumer Type	# of CSRs
Enter the number of active CSRs carried over from September 30 of the preceding reporting year*	20
Enter the number of new CSRs opened since October 1 of the reporting year*	26
Total number of consumers served	46

### 3.2 Independent Living Plans and Waivers

\* - Required field

Independent Living Plans and Waivers

Consumer Type	Number of Consumers
Number of consumers who signed a waiver*	3
Number of consumers with whom an ILP was developed*	43
Total number of consumers served during the reporting year	46

### 3.3 Number of Consumer Service Records Closed by September 30 of the Reporting Year

\* - Required field

Number of Consumer Service Records Closed by September 30 of the Reporting Year

Record Type	# of CSRs
Moved*	1
Withdrawn*	6
Died*	1

Record Type	# of CSRs
Completed all goals set*	5
Other*	5
Total number of CSRs closed	18

### 3.4 Age

\* - Required field

Age

Age Period	# of Consumers
Under 5 years old*	0
Ages 5-19*	0
Ages 20-24*	4
Ages 25-59*	28
Age 60 and Older*	14

Age Period	# of Consumers
Age unavailable*	0
<b>Total numbers of consumers by age</b>	46

### 3.5 Sex

\* - Required field

Sex

Sex	# of Consumers
Number of Females served*	24
Number of Males served*	22
<b>Total number of consumers by gender</b>	46

### 3.6 Race and Ethnicity

\* - Required field

Race and Ethnicity

<b>Race</b>	<b># of Consumers</b>
<b>American Indian or Alaska Native *</b>	0
<b>Asian *</b>	1
<b>Black or African American *</b>	7
<b>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander *</b>	1
<b>White *</b>	28
<b>Hispanic/Latino of any race or Hispanic/ Latino only *</b>	4
<b>Two or more races *</b>	5
<b>Race and ethnicity unknown *</b>	0
<b>Total number of consumers served by race/ethnicity</b>	46

### **3.7 Disability**

**\* - Required field**

Disability

Disability Type	# of Consumers
Cognitive*	4
Mental/Emotional*	9
Physical*	5
Hearing*	1
Vision*	1
Multiple Disabilities*	25
Other*	0

### 3.8 Individuals Served by County During the Reporting Year

\* - Required field

List each county within the CIL's service area, as indicated in the CIL's application for Part C funds and the approved SPIL. Add additional rows as necessary. For each county, indicate how many individuals residing in that county were served by the CIL during the reporting year.

3.8.1 Individuals Served by County During the Reporting Year

<b>County Name</b>	<b>Number of County Residents Served</b>
Cedar	2
Iowa	2
Johnson	24
Linn	14
Washington	5
Benton	0
Henry	0
Jones	0

## Section 4. Individual Services and Achievements

### 4.1 Individual Services

\* - Required field

Individual Services

Other IL Services	Consumers Requesting Services	Consumers Receiving Services
<b>Advocacy/Legal Services *</b>	26	26
<b>Assistive Technology *</b>	4	4
<b>Children's Services *</b>	0	0
<b>Communication Services *</b>	24	23
<b>Counseling and Related Services *</b>	0	0
<b>Family Services *</b>	0	0
<b>Housing, Home Modifications, and Shelter Services *</b>	12	6



<b>Other IL Services</b>	<b>Consumers Requesting Services</b>	<b>Consumers Receiving Services</b>
<b>IL Skills Training and Life Skills Training *</b>	20	14
<b>Information and Referral Services *</b>	708	681
<b>Mental Restoration Services *</b>	0	0
<b>Mobility Training *</b>	1	0
<b>Peer Counseling Services *</b>	20	17
<b>Personal Assistance Services *</b>	7	7
<b>Physical Restoration Services *</b>	0	0
<b>Preventive Services *</b>	1	1
<b>Prostheses, Orthotics, and Other Appliances *</b>	1	0
<b>Recreational Services *</b>	5	4
<b>Rehabilitation Technology Services *</b>	0	0

Other IL Services	Consumers Requesting Services	Consumers Receiving Services
Therapeutic Treatment *	0	0
Transportation Services *	5	3
Youth/Transition Services *	10	10
Vocational Services *	5	4
Other Services *	0	0

## 4.2 I&R Information

\* - Required field

To inform ACL how many service providers engage in I&R follow-up contacts regarding access to transportation, health care services or assistive technology, please indicate the following:

**The service provider did engage in follow-up contacts with I&R recipients to document access gained to previously unavailable transportation, health care or assistive technology**

No

**Describe how information and referral services and the other IL core and other IL services are provided to those who request such services in formats accessible to the individual requesting the services. Describe any innovative practices (not mentioned elsewhere in this report) to enhance the availability and effectiveness of IL services. \***

A2I strives to bring information to consumers in the most accessible way. Consumers are always welcome to meet with A2I staff in the environment they are most comfortable with and of their choosing, whether it be in our office, in the community or in their own home. Staff utilize email, office landline phones, and cell phones with texting abilities to provide alternative methods of communication to consumers. A2I utilizes Hands Up Communication services for in-person and online video conferencing ASL interpreting as well as online foreign language translation on-demand. Our CIL owns a braille printer and can provide large print if requested. Our brochure and intake paperwork is available in Spanish.

## 4.3 Peer Relationships and Peer Role Models

\* - Required field

**Briefly describe how, during the reporting year, the CIL promoted the development of peer relationships and peer role models among individuals with significant disabilities. \***

A2I promoted peer relationships this FY by continuing to focus on growing our peer support groups.

We continued our Second Saturday Social peer group for teens and twenties on the Autism Spectrum, started in April 2018 to address the social isolation that was reported by many of consumers on the spectrum. This group utilizes recreational activities, crafts, and social outings to establish and foster authentic peer relationships. 73 individuals participated over the 10 group sessions that were offered in FY18.

Our craft peer groups expanded to a third county this FY for a total of 4 groups. We collaborate with different agencies to host them in accessible sites. 126 individuals participated over the 29 group sessions that were offered in FY18.

We continued to host university interns this year and promote our organization as welcoming to students who experience disability.

## 4.4 Increased Independence and Community Integration

\* - Required field

Increased Independence and Community Integration

Significant Life Area	Goals Set	Goals Achieved	In Progress
Self-Advocacy/Self-Empowerment*	5	2	3
Communication*	4	2	0
Mobility/Transportation*	2	0	2
Community-Based Living*	18	5	8
Educational*	1	0	1
Vocational*	5	1	3
Self-care*	7	2	4
Information Access/Technology*	1	1	0
Personal Resource Management*	17	7	9

Significant Life Area	Goals Set	Goals Achieved	In Progress
Relocation from a Nursing Home or Institution to Community-Based LivingCommunity/Social Participation *	9	2	3
Community/Social Participation *	5	2	2
Other *	5	2	2

## 4.5 Improved Access To Transportation, Health Care Services, and Assistive Technology \* - Required field

In column one, indicate the number of consumers who required access to previously unavailable transportation, health care services, or assistive technology during the reporting year. Of the consumers listed in column one, indicate in column two, the number of consumers who, as a result of the provision of IL services (including the four core services), achieved access to previously unavailable transportation, health care services, or assistive technology during the reporting year. In column three, list the number of consumers whose access to transportation, health care services or assistive technology is still in progress at the end of the reporting year.

Improved Access To Transportation, Health Care Services, and Assistive Technology

Areas	# of Consumers Requiring Access	# of Consumers Achieving Access	# of Consumers Whose Access is in Progress
Transportation *	6	5	1
Health Care Services *	29	26	3
Assistive Technology *	9	8	1

Note: For most IL services, a consumer's access to previously unavailable transportation, health care and assistive technology is documented through his or her CSR. In some instances, consumers may achieve an outcome solely through information and referral (I&R) services. To document these instances as successful outcomes, providers are not required to create CSRs for these consumers but must be able to report that follow-up contacts with these consumers showed access to previously unavailable transportation, health care and assistive technology.

## 4.6 Self-Help and Self-Advocacy

\* - Required field

Briefly describe how the CIL has promoted self-help and self-advocacy among individuals with significant disabilities during the reporting year. \*

A2I continued our self-advocacy peer group, created September 2018, specifically geared towards self help and self-advocacy training. In partnership with our local NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Health) chapter, this group meets once a month at NAMI's drop-in center to discuss relevant and practical ways to promote self help and advocacy skills. This group allows consumers to engage in mock scenarios preparing those who need practice speaking with: healthcare providers, MCO representatives, landlords, and any and all other public or private providers. This reporting year the group met 10 times with a total of 73 participants consisting of CSRs and I&Rs collectively. Topics included but aren't limited to advocating with your healthcare providers, knowing your personal rights, effective communication, developing a personal advocacy plan, and photography for self-advocacy. In keeping true to our IL philosophy, the key concepts of choice, control, freedom and equality were embedded in the programming.

A2I expanded the number of self-advocacy presentations delivered to transition-age student groups in partnership with our local vocational rehabilitation offices from 2 in FY17 to 4 in FY18, reaching a total of 43 students.

A2I wrote for and was awarded \$5,260 from the Iowa City Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant for a new self-advocacy program, VisAbility: a photovoice inspired program. This is a creative program that empowers people with disabilities to advocate for increased equity and inclusion in and around Iowa City through photography. This grant allowed us to purchase cameras, accessibility equipment, and the materials to exhibit participants' photographs highlighting the disability experience in Iowa City. At the end of the program, we will use data collected from the program and the community exhibits to provide a one-page document with policy recommendations for the City of Iowa City to highlight or increase accessibility and inclusion. Furthermore, A2I will provide the community a program guide so that other agencies could replicate this program in different settings.

## **4.7 Additional Information Concerning Individual Services or Achievements**

**\* - Required field**

**Please provide any additional description or explanation concerning individual services or achievements, including outstanding success stories and/or major obstacles encountered. \***

A2I successfully transitioned a woman from a nursing home into the community after being there for four years. Staff advocated for her when the nursing facility staff and doctors said it was not possible for her to be out of the facility and in the community. Staff helped her complete applications for housing and for Medicaid waiver services. A2I collaborated with other agencies to make sure funding was in place so that the consumer would have the proper medical equipment she needed outside the facility. Lastly, staff found resources that would allow her to live in the community that were both safe and allowed her to make her own choices.

Staff assisted a home-bound consumer in obtaining in-home services for light housekeeping and bathing and the funding for them through county public health. This helped him live a higher quality of life, maintain independence, and provide a break to his father/caregiver for emotional/mental health.

A2I connected a woman with Iowa Legal Aide to have a will made. Staff ensured she understood what the lawyer was saying and the process. Staff assisted her in filing a complaint when the lawyer stopped responding to her and then assisted her in finding a new lawyer that ultimately took the time to help her through the process of making the will. Staff helped the lawyer understand her disability made it difficult to retain information to help facilitate the process.

Staff advocated for a woman that lost her Medicaid waiver services and had them successfully reinstated. During the appeal hearing, staff made sure that the judge and the state worker from Iowa Medicaid Enterprises understood that the consumer's case manager should have helped her through the paperwork process to maintain services as her disability interfered with her ability to maintain organization and comprehend the paperwork. With waiver reinstatement, she was able to continue living independently in her home.

Staff assisted a consumer in applying for and obtaining the Elderly waiver and also helped her get Habilitation services. Staff provided information and support so that she could make informed decisions about her services. We were also able to help advocate for her when she felt like the agencies were not listening to her.

Staff assisted a consumer in understanding the questions and filing a complaint with the Iowa Civil Rights Commission after he felt like he had been wrongly fired from his job due to discrimination. No other provider in the area would assist the consumer with this request. We also assisted him in updating his resume so that he could pursue new employment.



A2I supported five consumers in filing applications for SSDI, SSI, completing a SSDI medical review, and appealing SSDI decision.

## Section 5. Provision of Services

### 5.1 Compliance Indicator 2: Provision of Services on a Cross-Disability Basis \* - Required field

**Briefly describe how, during the reporting year, the CIL has ensured that IL services are provided to eligible individuals with a diversity of significant disabilities and individuals who are members of populations that are unserved or underserved, without restrictions based on the particular type or types of significant disability and in a manner that is neither targeted nor limited to a particular type of significant disability. \***

A2I participated in a variety of outreach opportunities to get our materials out into the community and engage potential consumers throughout FY18 in accordance with our work plan and SPIL goals. Outreach and engagement activities included but are not limited to:

- inter-agency provider meetings in Washington, Iowa, Benton, Cedar, and Henry Counties
- committee work and cross agency collaboration with state partners - AAA, vocational rehabilitation
- collaboration with community providers and organizations (examples: National Alliance for Mental Illness, supported community living providers, Brain Injury Alliance, health care providers, Iowa City Autism Community)
- sharing our information with businesses
- presentations and transition fairs in five schools and University of Iowa REACH program for teachers, parents, and transition-age youth
- committee work and collaboration with University of Iowa Center for Disabilities and Development and UCEDD
- tabling at health fairs, rural county fairs, and community college resource fairs
- host social work students and maintain relationships with University of Iowa, Coe College, and Mount Mercy College

- developing relationships with long-term care ombudsman and social workers serving nursing homes
- partner with Iowa State University Extension Office to serve rural Cedar County
- maintain our website and Facebook page for accuracy

A2I services are for anyone with a disability and we do not turn anyone away that could use our services based on any identifiable characteristics. We continue to work hard to ensure that every person who qualifies for our services receives the help they are seeking.

## 5.2 Alternative Formats

\* - Required field

**Briefly describe how, during the reporting year, the CIL has ensured the availability in alternative formats of all of its written policies and materials and IL services, as appropriate. \***

A2I makes written policies, materials, and IL services available in alternative formats as appropriate.

- Consumers are always welcome to meet with A2I staff in the environment they are most comfortable with and of their choosing, whether it be in our office, in the community or in their own home.
- Staff utilize email, office landline phones, and cell phones with texting abilities to provide alternative methods of communication to consumers.
- A2I utilizes Hands Up Communication services for in-person and online video conferencing ASL interpreting as well as online foreign language translation on-demand.
- Our CIL owns a braille printer and can provide large print if requested.

- Our brochure and intake paperwork are available in Spanish.
- A2I collaborates with Iowa Department for the Blind and other supportive agencies to provide alternate formats and services to ensure consumers needs are met.

## 5.3 Equal Access

\* - Required field

**Briefly describe how, during the reporting year, the CIL has ensured equal access of individuals with significant disabilities, including communication and physical access, to the center's services, programs, activities, resources, and facilities, whether publicly or privately funded. Equal access, for the purposes of this indicator, means that the same access is provided to any individual with a significant disability regardless of the individual's type of significant disability. \***

A2I ensures equal access, both communication and physical, to all aspects of our Center for our consumers regardless of disability type.

- Consumers are always welcome to meet with A2I staff in the environment they are most comfortable with and of their choosing, whether it be in our office, in the community (public library, coffee shop) or in their own home. We have a main office in Iowa City and satellite office in Cedar Rapids to provide wider office access among the 8 counties we serve.
- Events hosted by A2I outside the office are held in accessible spaces
- Staff utilize email, office landline phones, and cell phones with texting abilities to provide alternative methods of communication to consumers.
- A2I utilizes Hands Up Communication services for in-person and online video conferencing ASL interpreting as well as online foreign language translation on-demand. We can coordinate CART or other communication accommodations for events by request.
- Our CIL owns a braille printer and can provide large print if requested.

- Our brochure and intake paperwork are available in Spanish.
- A2I collaborates with Iowa Department for the Blind and other supportive agencies to provide alternate formats and services to ensure consumers needs are met.

**Briefly describe how, during the reporting year, the CIL has advocated for and conducted activities that promote the equal access to all services, programs, activities, resources, and facilities in society, whether public or private, and regardless of funding source, for individuals with significant disabilities. Equal access, for the purposes of this indicator, means that the same access provided to individuals without disabilities is provided in the center's service area to individuals with significant disabilities. \***

A2I staff travel to a total of eight counties promoting equal access to all consumers. Both our Iowa City and Cedar Rapids offices are accessible via the local city bus or paratransit systems. A2I participated in task forces, committees, county provider meetings, and legislative activities to advocate for various reoccurring barriers that still exist and affect our communities; transportation, health care, and affordable and accessible housing. A2I advocated for these needs to better incorporate inclusiveness for the consumers we serve in the communities they live.

## **5.4 Consumer Information**

**\* - Required field**

**Briefly describe how, during the reporting year, the CIL has ensured that consumers have the opportunity to develop and achieve their goals (either with or without an ILP) and that the consumer has the opportunity to express satisfaction with the center and such consumer satisfaction results are evaluated by the center. \***

Per A2I's Service Delivery Procedures, anyone calling requesting services or referred to us is contacted by staff to discuss services offered. If they feel the wish to pursue services further, staff meets with the consumer to discuss options. The staff person discusses with consumer desired goals from A2I's services requested. They are given the opportunity to develop an IL Plan or waive the plan.

A2I intake paperwork includes phrasing within the Service Commitment Agreement that consumers have the "right to voice your concerns" and written grievance procedures, including progressive contact information to provide feedback to the Executive Director and Board of Directors. Additionally, the intake process includes information on contacting the Iowa Client Assistance Program through the Iowa Department of Human Rights.

Moving forward, we are working on providing additional opportunities for consumers to provide feedback through a physical feedback box in our waiting room and an online Google Form that can be accessed through our website and social media.

## 5.5 Consumer Service Record Requirements

\* - Required field

**Briefly describe how, during the reporting year, the CIL ensured that each consumer's CSR contains all of the required information \***

A2I regularly conducts in-house documentation reviews to ensure compliance with CSR requirements. A2I documentation was reviewed by DSE administrator in September 2018 with no concerns reported in findings.

## 5.6 Community Activities

\* - Required field

Issue Area	Activity Type	Hours Spent	Objective(s)	Outcome(s)
Community Advocacy	Networking & Advocacy	127	Attend community meetings and events	A2I participated in collaborative committees, task forces, and action effort related to systems advocacy in our region
Healthcare	Education & Advocacy	27	Promote access to healthcare	A2I participated in activities to reduce barriers to healthcare for people with disabilities
Transportation	Education & Advocacy	7	Promote access to transportation	A2I participated in activities to reduce barriers to transportation for people with disabilities
Housing	Education & Advocacy	28	Promote access to housing	A2I participated in activities to reduce barriers to affordable and accessible housing for people with disabilities

<b>Issue Area</b>	<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>Hours Spent</b>	<b>Objective(s)</b>	<b>Outcome(s)</b>
Assistive Tech	Education & Advocacy	5.75	Promote access to assistive technology	A2I participated in activities to reduce barriers/increase access to assistive technology for people with disabilities
Updates & Advocacy	Outreach & education	160.75	Attend community meetings and events	A2I participated in meetings and events to stay informed and provide service information to community partners
Advocacy	TA	15.5	Assistance for staff to better engage in advocacy	A2I participated in trainings and meetings to orient to new programming

## **5.7 Description of Community Activities**

**\* - Required field**

**For the community activities mentioned above, provide additional details such as the role of the CIL staff board members and/or consumers, names of any partner organizations and further descriptions of the specific activities, services and benefits. \***



A2I provided a number of presentations this FY to educate on various topics and inform of IL and our Center's services. These included presentations to:

- Iowa City School District Transition Center (32 I&Rs)
- local Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services office
- Residents of Ecumenical Towers (age 62+ income based housing in Johnson County) (6 I&Rs)
- Disability sensitivity training to City of North Liberty employees (30 I&Rs)
- University of Iowa REACH program students (17 I&Rs)
- North Linn High School Self-Advocacy Training (Linn County) (12 I&Rs)
- State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council (25 I&Rs)
  - presentation on disability civil rights laws and the disability social model
- North Cedar High School Self-Advocacy Training (Cedar County) (15 I&Rs)
- Vocational Rehabilitation Summer programming presentations
  - Washington County self-advocacy presentation (5 I&Rs)
  - Johnson County self-advocacy presentation (12 I&Rs)
- Emergency Preparedness Training
  - Coordinated with PADS (Peer Action Disability Support Cedar Rapids, IA) to present on emergency preparedness for people with disabilities (8 I&Rs)
- Voter Education with ID Action

A2I participates in multiple community activities for the purpose of outreach and partnership. These include:

- University of Iowa Center for Disabilities and Development Community Partnership Advisory Council (CPAC)
  - CPAC members share a commitment to increasing the independence, productivity and community participation of people with disabilities and building the capacity of Iowa's service system to support them.
- Interagency/Provider Meetings in the following counties
  - Benton, Iowa, Washington, Cedar
- Washington County Task Force on Aging
  - A2I is a member and actively participates in this task force
- Johnson County Task Force on Aging

- A2I is a member and actively participates in this task force. Additional activities through the task force include:
  - Legislative Forum - ED participated in forum hosted by task force bringing together four local legislators to review legislative session
  - Elder Rights Focus Group
- Johnson County Community Transportation Committee
- Annual ADA celebration
  - A2I participated in the planning and promoting of this event in Johnson County. Staff shared information about our services to 45 I&Rs during tabling.
  - A2I tabled at Linn County ADA event (32 I&Rs)
- Heritage Agency for Aging Advisory Committee
- Johnson County Livable Community Housing Task Force
  - The Livable Community Housing Action Team leads collaborative efforts to ensure affordability, accessibility, safety, universal design, and availability of adequate housing options remain available for older residents of Johnson County. A2I provides a disability perspective to these initiatives and participates in presentations and meetings.
  - Staff collaborated with task force member to present on Communication must haves for aging in place (40 I&Rs)
- MHDS of the East Central Region
- Johnson County Affordable Housing Coalition
  - A2I became a member this FY and participates in meetings and events to advocate for affordable housing. A2I brings a disability perspective to the organization to help keep accessibility in the forefront of advocacy efforts. This year we helped support efforts to advocate for mobile home parks in our region that were being purchased by predatory equity firms, affecting disproportionately low-income and disabled individuals.
- Older Iowans Legislature
  - A2I is a member of this organization and participated in their annual meeting
- Children's Mental Health Summit
  - Staff learned about changes to Iowa's children's mental health system and networked with providers in attendance
- Choices Drop-In Center in Washington County
  - A2I facilitates a monthly peer group at this community mental health center and also meets with consumers 1:1 at the center as requested

- Choices Drop-In Center in Henry County
  - New this FY18, A2I facilitates a monthly peer group at this community mental health center
- R-Place Drop-In Center in Johnson County
  - A2I facilitates a monthly self-advocacy workshop/peer group at this NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Health) community mental health center and also meets with consumers 1:1 at the center as requested
- Provider Training
  - A2I staff delivered Provider Training and information about A2I services to University of Iowa College of Nursing Students in collaboration with NAMI (30 I&Rs)
- Violent Incident Training
  - Staff participated in Violent Incident Training (ex. active shooter) being tested by the University of Iowa Police to provide insight and perspective on disability (10 I&Rs)
- UIHC M.E.R.F
  - Coordinated through University of Iowa's Center for Disabilities and Development, staff attend medical school small group trainings to discuss disability issues in obtaining medical care
- Business Development Training with Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services
  - Staff participated in business development training with VR staff to support our fee for service program and consumers seeking assistance with employment
- Staff met with Randy's Flooring (business) to talk about mobility aids they could provide their customers to make their large showroom more accessible

Fairs and tabling events A2I participated in:

- Cedar County Fair (71 I&Rs)
- Cedar County Health & Wellness Fair (50 I&Rs)
- Liberty High School Transition Fair (Johnson County) (30 I&Rs)
- Health & Wellness Fair at Kirkwood Community College (35 I&Rs)
- Epilepsy Foundation Seizure Conference (30 I&Rs)
- Tipton High School Transition Night (Cedar County) (11 I&Rs)
- Iowa County Roll & Read (30 I&Rs)

- Autism Expo (80 I&Rs)
- NAMI fundraiser walk (Johnson County) (40 I&Rs)

## Section 6. Annual Program and Financial Objectives \* - Required field

### 6.1 Work Plan for the Reporting Year

\* - Required field

#### 6.1.1 Achievements

**Discuss the work plan's proposed goals and objectives and the progress made in achieving them during the reporting year. \***

Access 2 Independence of the Eastern Iowa Corridor: FY 2018-2019 Goals and Objectives consistent with October 1, 2016 Iowa SPIL

#### **Goal 1: Increased Collaboration and Accountability**

1. Objective: A2I staff and board will recruit additional diverse board members to expand our network

Activities:

- Create and post recruitment ads
- Attend local networking opportunities

Expected Outcome Measures : Increase membership by 3 board members by November 2019

Result: A2I oriented 3 new board members in FY18 and had 3 unexpected resignations from the board

2. Objective: A2I staff will collaborate with other Iowa CILs

Activities: Attend SILC meetings and participate in activities and events

Expected Outcome Measures : Enhanced Iowa CIL communication and partnerships

Result: ED attended all SILC meetings this year. ISAIL was reunified December 2019 (FY19) and has been reflected in FY19 work plan.

3. Objective: A2I will collaborate with local IVRS office

Activities: Explore opportunities to provide youth-transition support

Expected Outcome Measures : Provide in-school group trainings to 6 high schools

Result:

- A2I provided self-advocacy trainings to 4 high schools reaching a total of 43 students
- Attended 5 transition fairs/teacher outreach events to share our information with transition age youth
- ED attended beginning of the school year August 2019 planning meeting with IVRS and CRP for transition services planning throughout the school year

### **Goal 2: Strengthen Resource Development**

1. Objective: A2I staff will research additional/diverse funding streams

Activities:

- Regularly review grants websites and resources
- Meet with MCOs about contracting opportunities

Expected Outcome Measures :

- Apply for grants
- Secure new fee-for-service contract

Result:

- A2I applied for a Community Foundation of Johnson County grant and was not awarded
- Was awarded \$600 grant from Iowa City Pilot Club for Second Saturday Social peer group

- Was awarded \$5260 from the City of Iowa City Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant for VisAbility: Photography for Self-Advocacy program
- Executive Director met with Iowa Total Care (MCO) regarding contract for transition services December 2018 - did not move forward with contract due to turnover in Iowa MCOs

2. Objective: A2I will seek to increase development opportunities

Activities: Attend local non-profit development groups in our region

Expected Outcome Measures : Increase staff and board knowledge of potential contracting possibilities

Result:

- ED met with Cedar County Case Management Director about need for Supported Community Living services and learned about Medicaid contracting
- MHDS region meetings offered contract opportunities information
- ED has meeting with IVRS regarding pre-employment transition services contracting opportunities January 2020

**Goal 3: Conduct Systems Change Advocacy and Outreach Education**

1. Objective: A2I will engage in systems change advocacy actions to promote independence for people with disabilities

Activities:

- Regularly attending local provider meetings and disability action groups to stay informed
- Provide regular outreach activities to increase awareness of our services

Expected Outcome Measures : Provide outreach and education on IL and information on our services

Result: A2I engaged in 371 hours of community activities and provided I&R to 2835 people in our region - 399 more than FY17.

### 6.1.2 Challenges

**Describe any substantial challenges or problems encountered by the CIL, and the resolutions/attempted resolutions. \***

A2I experienced turnover in FY18 between board and staff. Previous Executive Director Leah Donald resigned effective March 29th and new ED Sarah Martinez started April 15th. Our Cedar Rapids satellite office staff Chanel Prince resigned effective September 26th and her replacement was not hired until November 14th (FY19). We oriented 3 new board members in FY18 but also had 3 unexpected resignations.

### 6.1.3 Comparison with Prior Reporting Year

**As appropriate, compare the CIL's activities in the reporting year with its activities in prior years, e.g., recent trends. \***

While staff turnover/employee orientation could affect our reporting, our activities still appear consistent with previous years. We strive to strengthen and grow while exploring contracting and other resource development opportunities that align with our mission to bolster those efforts.

## 6.2 Work Plan for the Year Following the Reporting Year

**\* - Required field**

### 6.2.1 Annual Work Plan

**List the CIL's annual work plan goals, objectives and action steps planned for the year following the reporting year. \***



Access 2 Independence of the Eastern Iowa Corridor: FY 2018-2019 Goals and Objectives consistent with extended October 1, 2016 Iowa SPIL

**Goal 1: Increased Collaboration and Accountability**

1. Objective: A2I staff and board will recruit additional diverse board members to expand our network

Activities:

- Create and post recruitment ads
- Attend local networking opportunities

Expected Outcome Measures : Increase membership by 3 board members by November 2020

2. Objective: A2I staff will collaborate with other Iowa CILs

Activities: Attend SILC and ISAIL meetings and participate in activities and events

Expected Outcome Measures : Enhanced Iowa CIL communication and partnerships

3. Objective: A2I will collaborate with local IVRS office

Activities:

- Explore opportunities to provide youth-transition support
- Attend IVRS meetings and trainings

Expected Outcome Measures :

- Provide in-school group trainings to 6 high schools
- Increase IL services to IVRS referrals by 10% over last FY

**Goal 2: Strengthen Resource Development**

1. Objective: A2I staff will research additional/diverse funding streams

Activities:

- Regularly review grants websites and resources
- Meet with MCOs about contracting opportunities
- Meet with IVRS about contracting opportunities

Expected Outcome Measures :

- Apply for grants
- Secure new fee-for-service contract

2. Objective: A2I will seek to increase development opportunities

Activities: Attend local non-profit development groups in our region

Expected Outcome Measures : Increase staff and board knowledge of potential contracting possibilities

**Goal 3: Conduct Systems Change Advocacy and Outreach Education**

1. Objective: A2I will engage in systems change advocacy actions to promote independence for people with disabilities

Activities:

- Regularly attending local provider meetings and disability action groups to stay informed
- Provide regular outreach activities to increase awareness of our services

Expected Outcome Measures : Provide outreach and education on IL and information on our services

6.2.2 SPIL Consistency

**Explain how these work plan goals, objectives and action steps are consistent with the approved SPIL. \***

These goals are consistent with the Iowa SPIL goals of: Collaboration/Accountability, Resource Development, Systems Change Advocacy, and Outreach Education.

## Section 7. Other Accomplishments, Activities and Challenges

\* - Required field

**Describe any additional significant accomplishments, activities and/or challenges not included elsewhere in the report, e.g. brief summaries of innovative practices, improved service delivery to consumers, etc. \***

Our commitment to peer support continued this year as we expanded one of our peer groups into a new county growing to 5 peer groups in total. Additionally, we partnered with NAMI to conduct a Provider Training to students at the University of Iowa College of Nursing.

This year we were incredibly proud of launching our VisAbility program to Iowa City residents after being awarded \$5,260 from the City of Iowa City's Social Justice and Racial Equity Grant. VisAbility is a Photovoice-inspired program designed to empower and enable Iowa City residents with disabilities to advocate for local change through photography and community discussion. VisAbility is an annual program where participants will learn to take photographs around their community that represent their disability experience in and around Iowa City. Throughout the time people are taking photographs and after the photographs are developed, A2I plans to hold both peer and community discussion events to empower participants and bring additional importance to their photographic work. We hope to coordinate a traveling exhibit of the photographs around Iowa City and hold exhibit opening celebrations at each location for community discussion opportunities. From the discussions, we plan to collaborate with local policy professionals to develop Iowa City policy recommendations to continue creating a more equitable community for all abilities. This will result in a one-page policy recommendation to the City of Iowa City. As of November 2019 we have completed our first offering of VisAbility with 4 participants and will be working on going live with community exhibits Spring 2020.

A2I continues to work closely with our region's Area Agency on Aging. We participated for the second time this year with the non-partisan Older Iowan's Legislature meeting that advocated to address workforce shortages in the state.

During staff transition, A2I has reflected on our resource development endeavors and chose to end our contract with the American Dream Employment Network due to lack of referrals and decreased capacity to market the program. We shifted our efforts to increasing our referrals for Supported Employment Services contracted with IVRS and are currently fundraising to hire two-dedicated part-time staff to increase our capacity.

## Section 8. Training and Technical Assistance

### 8.1 Training and Technical Assistance Needs

\* - Required field

Training And Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs - Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
<b>Advocacy/Leadership Development</b>	
General Overview	
Community/Grassroots Organizing	
Individual Empowerment	
Systems Advocacy	
Legislative Process	
<b>Applicable Laws</b>	
General overview and promulgation of various disability laws	
Americans with Disabilities Act	
Air-Carrier's Access Act	

<b>Training And Technical Assistance Needs</b>	<b>Choose up to 10 Priority Needs - Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important</b>
<b>Fair Housing Act</b>	
<b>Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act</b>	
<b>Medicaid/Medicare/PAS/waivers/long-term care</b>	
<b>Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended</b>	
<b>Social Security Act</b>	
<b>Workforce Investment Act of 1998</b>	
<b>Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999</b>	
<b>Government Performance Results Act of 1993</b>	
<b>Assistive Technologies</b>	
<b>General Overview</b>	
<b>Data Collecting and Reporting</b>	
<b>General Overview</b>	
<b>704 Reports</b>	
<b>Performance Measures contained in 704 Report</b>	10
<b>Dual Reporting Requirements</b>	

Training And Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs - Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
Case Service Record Documentation	
Disability Awareness and Information	
Specific Issues	
Evaluation	
General Overview	
CIL Standards and Indicators	8
Community Needs Assessment	
Consumer Satisfaction Surveys	9
Focus Groups	
Outcome Measures	
Financial: Grant Management	
General Overview	
Federal Regulations	
Budgeting	
Fund Accounting	5
Financial: Resource Development	

Training And Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs - Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
General Overview	
Diversification of Funding Base	1
Fee-for-Service Approaches	
For Profit Subsidiaries	
Fund-Raising Events of Statewide Campaigns	2
Grant Writing	
Independent Living Philosophy	
General Overview	
Innovative Programs	
Best Practices	3
Specific Examples	
Management Information Systems	
Computer Skills	
Software	
Networking Strategies	
General Overview	



Training And Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs - Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
Electronic	
Among CILs & SILCs	4
Community Partners	
Program Planning	
General Overview of Program Management and Staff Development	7
CIL Executive Directorship Skills Building	
Conflict Management and Alternative Dispute Resolution	
First-Line CIL Supervisor Skills Building	
IL Skills Modules	
Peer Mentoring	
Program Design	
Time Management	
Team Building	
Outreach to Unserved/Underserved Populations	
General Overview	

<b>Training And Technical Assistance Needs</b>	<b>Choose up to 10 Priority Needs - Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important</b>
<b>Disability</b>	
<b>Minority</b>	
<b>Institutionalized Potential Consumers</b>	
<b>Rural</b>	
<b>Urban</b>	
<b>SILC Roles/Relationship to CILs</b>	
<b>General Overview</b>	
<b>Development of State Plan for Independent Living</b>	
<b>Implementation (monitor &amp; review) of SPIL</b>	
<b>Public Meetings</b>	
<b>Role and Responsibilities of Executive Board</b>	
<b>Role and Responsibilities of General Members</b>	
<b>Collaborations with In-State Stakeholders</b>	6
<b>CIL Board of Directors</b>	
<b>General Overview</b>	
<b>Roles and Responsibilities</b>	
<b>Policy Development</b>	

Training And Technical Assistance Needs	Choose up to 10 Priority Needs - Rate items 1-10 with 1 being most important
Recruiting/Increasing Involvement	
Volunteer Programs	
General Overview	
Optional Areas and/or Comments (write-in)	

## 8.2 Additional Information

\* - Required field

Provide additional information, comments, explanations or suggestions not included elsewhere in the report \*

### More information for 4.1 - Individual Services

Youth Transition: 1 consumer requesting services 1 received

Nursing Home Transition: 9 consumers requesting services 9 received

### Addressing diversion services

During FY18, A2I provided diversion services in a few different ways as part of our mandated core services. First, when A2I was made aware an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) Home in our region was being purchased by another company and there were potential house closures, staff attended the transition meeting to advocate for the families and make sure all provider information was being disclosed about the transition and

what options individuals had. Staff provided information about our services and offered assistance to individuals and their families if they chose to pursue other housing options to prevent institutionalization. Second, if consumers requesting services were identified by staff/self-identified at risk for institutionalization, staff offered assistance connecting them to wrap around services that would prevent institutionalization. This included assistance with housing, connecting to Medicaid waiver services, healthcare, financial services, or any additional services they might need to maintain stability and independence.

It is with great pleasure and gratitude on behalf of A2I staff and board, we thank you for the opportunity to continue the Independent Living philosophy and mission through our service in the Eastern Iowa Corridor.

## Section 9. Signatures

\* - Required input

**NAME OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR\***

**I certify that the information provided in this report is true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. :**

**As the Executive Director, I certify that the Board has reviewed and given approval for submission of this report. :**