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Comments Received:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Centers for Independent Living Program Performance Report (CIL PPR) (0985-0061). The following pertain to enhancing the quality, utility, and clarity of information:

- The current PPR should be revised to better capture outcomes for 5th core transition services that CILs are now required to provide transition from institutions to community-based living, avoiding institutionalization and remaining in community-based living, and post-K12 youth transition into adulthood. Subpart III Section B, Item 1 of the instrument contains a "goals achieved" metric for institutional transition (J- Relocation from a Nursing Home or Institution to Community-Based Living) but does not contain similarly precise outcome metrics for avoiding institutionalization (i.e. diversion) and youth transition. It would be helpful to add two additional areas specifically for diversion and youth transition to capture goals achieved. This would likely increase the clarity of reporting on 5th core outcomes.
- Consideration should be given to expanding the demographic reporting information options in Subpart II, specifically with regard to Section F ("Sex") and Section G ("Race and Ethnicity"). With regard to Section F, the "male" & "female" reporting options seem inadequate to capture the identities of many consumers that CILs serve. Expanding reporting categories to include additional options in this section would provide more precise information about demographics and about how well CILs are reaching communities that may be un/underserved. Similarly, Section G, which essentially requires that a consumer be counted under only one racial or ethnic category seems inadequate and imprecise in capturing multiple ways that consumers identify. Allowing consumers to be counted under multiple categories would again provide more precise information about demographics and about how well CILs are reaching communities that may be un/underserved. Expanding options in these categories also seems to be in keeping with the notion of consumer control as defined in 45CFR1329 "Consumer control, with respect to an individual, means that the individual with a disability asserts control over his or her personal life choices, and in addition, has control over his or her independent living plan (ILP), making informed choices about content, goals and implementation." More accurately capturing consumers' identities in Consumer Information Files would create an additional opportunity to increase consumers' empowerment, ownership, and voice in the ILP development process.