

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

United States Department of Veterans Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service

National Council on Independent Living

Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living

America's service-members, Guard and Reserve members, all stand vigilant and prepared to place themselves in harm's way to protect our Nation. The fruits of their commitment and courage are found in the rights and freedoms Americans have enjoyed for 228 years. Such selfless service and sacrifice earn our Nation's defenders the honored title "Veteran."

We recognize that America's veterans bring to our Nation's workforce a rich resource of diverse and talented workers. They are as eager and capable of contributing to our Nation's prosperity as civilians during peace as they were to our Nation's security during war.

The Department of Veterans Affairs' Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (VR&E) Service, the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) and the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL) are mutually committed to ensuring these brave men and women are able, to the maximum extent possible, to live independently and participate in family and community life, to increase their potential to return to work, and to have access to both challenging and rewarding employment opportunities. This is in keeping with President Abraham Lincoln's 1865 promise "...to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan."

The Department of Veterans Affairs' VR&E program helps veterans with service-connected disabilities achieve maximum independence in daily living, become employable, and obtain and maintain suitable employment.

The Department of Veterans Affairs' VR&E program, based in Washington, DC, is the longest-running national cross-disability, grassroots organization run by and for people with disabilities. Founded in 1982, NCIL represents thousands of organizations and individuals including: Centers for Independent Living (CILs), Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs), individuals with disabilities, and other organizations that advocate for the human and civil rights of people with disabilities throughout the United States.

The Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL) is also a national grass roots, consumer controlled, nonprofit membership organization consisting of centers for independent living, their satellites and branch offices, statewide independent

living councils, other organizations and individuals concerned with the independent living issues of people with disabilities living in rural America. APRIL has membership in 42 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

The Department of Veterans Affairs' VR&E Service, the National Council on Independent Living, and the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living wish to afford Veterans with service-connected disabilities opportunities to live independently, seek employment, career advancement, job mobility, family economic well being, and greater financial security with this mutually beneficial agreement.

THEREFORE, the Department of Veterans Affairs' VR&E Service, the National Council on Independent Living, and the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living agree to:

- Create greater awareness among Veterans about resources for service-disabled Veterans related to community-based center for independent living-related resources for Veterans with service-connected disabilities;
- Develop training materials to ensure that staff in both VA regional offices and Centers for Independent Living, their Associations, and Statewide Independent Living Councils are fully aware of the services and benefits that each may provide;
- Discuss and encourage possible partnership between local Centers for Independent Living, their Associations, and Statewide Independent Living Councils and VA offices;
- Share our Mutual cooperation throughout the Department of Veterans Affairs, VR&E Service and Centers for Independent Living their Associations, and Statewide Independent Living Councils;
- Promote and assist state-level collaboration efforts and collaboration of services between State Centers for Independent Living Associations and / or Statewide Independent Living Councils, and local VR&E offices;
- Promote and assist local collaboration efforts and coordination of services between Centers for Independent Living and local VR&E offices for Veterans with service-connected disabilities, and;
- Collect and analyze data annually to be used for future planning purposes.

This agreement does not in itself authorize the expenditure or reimbursement of any funds. Nothing in this agreement shall obligate to expend appropriations or other monies, or enter into any contract or other obligation.

This agreement shall not be interpreted to limit, supersede, or otherwise affect either party's normal operations or decisions in carrying out its mission, or its statutory or regulatory duties.

Dated February 24, 2011

Signed by:

R.A. Fanning

Director, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service, Department of Veterans Affairs

Kelly Buckland, Executive Director, National Council on Independent Living
1710 Rhode Island Avenue NW, Fifth Floor
Washington, DC 20036

Billy Altom, Executive Director, Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL)
2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 200
North Little Rock, AR 72114

Supplemental Documents

How Centers for Independent Living (CILs) Can Assist VR&E and Veterans

Background

The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) and The Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL) have collaborated with the Department of Veteran Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) Service to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This MOU will assist CILs and Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors (VRC) to collaboratively address Veteran needs. Information on NCIL and APRIL is on the back side of this information sheet.

Services

CILs provide services to the community as well as individuals. All CILs can provide:

- Information and Referral
- Peer Counseling
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Individual and Systems Change Advocacy

Staff at CILs can work with Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors (VRC) to collaboratively address Veteran needs. For Veterans receiving VR&E services under an independent living or vocationally-oriented rehabilitation plan, staff at a CIL may help by:

- problem solving and removing obstacles to completing the plan of services
- advocating for the Veteran
- teaching self-advocacy skills to increase Veteran empowerment
- finding a volunteer placement opportunity in the community
- informing the VRC about unmet needs that require further investigation
- coordinating activities not specifically in the Veteran's rehabilitation plan that will help the Veteran achieve plan goals
- advocating on a Veteran's behalf with a landlord for home modifications, especially if the housing is publicly subsidized (HUD, MSHDA, etc.)
- providing computer literacy training in the Veteran's home, under some circumstances
- reporting concerns that need attention to the VRC as soon as possible (via email or telephone, depending on the VRC's preference)
- maintaining contact with the Veteran to encourage participation in VR&E services
- helping coordinate other VA services through the VRC

Staff at the CIL will also help any consumer who is a Veteran contact the appropriate VA source for assistance.

Contact Information

Contact your local CIL to discuss other services that may be provided. To find a CIL near you, access: <http://www.ncil.org/directory.html>

About NCIL and APRIL

The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL), based in Washington, DC, is the longest-running national cross-disability, grassroots organization run by and for people with disabilities. Founded in 1982, NCIL represents thousands of organizations and individuals including: Centers for Independent Living (CILs), Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs), individuals with disabilities, and other organizations that advocate for the human and civil rights of people with disabilities throughout the United States. www.ncil.org

The Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL) is also a national grassroots consumer controlled, nonprofit membership organization consisting of Centers for Independent Living, their satellites and branch offices, Statewide Independent Living Councils, other organizations and individuals concerned with the independent living issues of people with disabilities living in rural America. APRIL has membership in 42 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. www.april-rural.org

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) Regional Office Information

Station Name Updated: 02/21/2012	VREO	AVREO/CIC	RO Address
Chicago, IL	Mr. Evan Lewis 312-980-4441	Kelly Rodriguez 312-980-4442	2122 W. Taylor Street Chicago, IL 60612
Des Moines, IA	Mr. Beyer, Randal 515-323-7557 515-323-7550	N/A	210 Walnut Street Des Moines, Iowa 50309
Fargo, ND	Ms. Shannon Farha 701-451-4652 (Office) 701-451-4653 (Direct) 605-333-6845	N/A	2101 Elm Street Fargo, ND 58102
Houston, TX	Ms. Kelly Shupak 713-383-1982 (Direct) 713-383-1985 (Office)	Ms. Seketha Wilson-Cook 713- 383-1979 (Direct) 713-383-1985 (Office)	6900 Almeda Rd. Houston, TX 77030
Lincoln, NE	Mr. Rodney Hackney 402-420-4134 (Direct) 402-420-4342 (Office)	N/A	3800 Village Drive Lincoln Nebraska 68501
Little Rock, AR	Mr. Grant Swanson 501-370-3779 (Direct) 501-370-3780 (Office)	N/A	2200 Fort Roots Drive, Bldg 65 North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114
Milwaukee, WI	Ms. Nicole Navigato 414-902-5120 (Office) 414-902-5116 (Direct)	N/A	5400 West National Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53214

Muskogee, OK	Ms. Kathy Wentzel 918-781-7548 (Office) 918-781-7540 (Direct)	Mr. Herbert Morris 918-781-7534 (Direct)	125 South Main Street Muskogee, OK 74401
New Orleans, LA	Ms. Carolyn Seymour-Pannell 504-619-4361 (Direct) 504-619-4360 (Office)	N/A	1250 Poydras Street, Suite 200 New Orleans, Louisiana 70113
Sioux Falls, SD	Ms. Shannon Farha (contact at Fargo) 701-451-4652	N/A	2501 West 22nd Street Sioux Falls, SD 57105
St. Louis, MO	Ms. Corliss Strathearn 314-552-9353 (Direct) 314-552-9881 (Office)	N/A	400 S. 18th Street St. Louis, MO 63103
St. Paul, MN	Mr. Douglas Smith 612-970-5440	N/A	VA Regional Office 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling St. Paul, MN 55111-4050
Waco, TX	VACANT 254-299-9800 (Office) 254-299-9816 (Direct)	VACANT 254-299-9800 (Office) 254-299-9801 (Direct)	701 Clay Avenue Waco, Texas 76799
Wichita, KS	Ms. Linda Steffensmeier 316-688-6842	N/A	5500 E. KELLOGG WICHITA, KS 67218
Baltimore, MD	Ms. Gina Klaus 410-230-4551 (Direct)	N/A	31 Hopkins Plaza Baltimore, MD 21201
Boston, MA	Ms. Jennifer Hersey 617-303-5533 (Direct)	N/A	JFK Federal Building 15 New Sudbury Street Boston, MA 02203
Buffalo, NY	Ms. Susan Fitzgibbons 716-857-3370 (Direct) 716-857-3405 (Office)	N/A	130 South Elmwood Avenue Buffalo, NY 14202

Cleveland, OH	Mr. Jim Jacobs (216) 522-3535 - x3850 216-522-3535 (Office)	Mr. John McCarthy (216) 522-3535 - x3849 216-522- 3535 (Office)	1240 East 9th Street Cleveland, OH 44199
Detroit, MI	Mr. Dave Van Allen 313-471-3812 (Direct) 313-471-3800 (Office)	Ms. Cheryl Formell 313-471-3805 (Direct) 313-471-3800 (Office)	Patrick V. McNamara Federal Bldg 477 Michigan Ave Detroit, MI 48226
Hartford, CT	Mr. Mel Wilson 860- 666-7387 (Direct) 860-666-7379 (Office)	N/A	555 Willard Avenue, Building 2E Newington, CT 06111
Indianapolis, IN	VACANT 317-916- 3740 (Office) 317-916-3750 (Direct)	Mr. Michael Buescher 317-916-3740 (Office) 317-916- 3485 (Direct)	New Temporary: 7525 East 39th Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46226 Old: 575 N Pennsylvania St. Indianapolis, IN 46204
Manchester, NH	Ms. Ruth Comeau 603-222-5751 (Office) 603-222-5752 (Direct)	N/A	Norris Cotton Federal Building 275 Chestnut Street Manchester, NH 03101
New York, NY	Mr. Steven Sribnick 212-807-3030 (Office) 212-807-3135 (Direct)	N/A	245 W. Houston Street New York, NY 10014
Newark, NJ	Mr. Daniel Umlauf 973-297-3201 (Direct)	N/A	20 Washington Place Newark, New Jersey 07102-3174
Philadelphia, PA	Ms. Kristine Kuehnle 215-842-2000 x4107 215-381-3028 (Office)	Ms. Geralyn Mushinski 215-842-2000 x4117 215-381-3028 (Office)	5000 Wissahickon Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19144
Pittsburgh, PA	Mr. Ben Butler 412- 395-6070 (Office) 412-395-6067 (Direct)	N/A	1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Providence, RI	Mr. Kim Wennermark 401-223-3611 (Direct) 401-223-3607 (Office)	N/A	380 Westminster Street Providence, RI 02903
Togus, ME	Mr. Jeff Jones 207-626-4788 ext. 4871	N/A	1 VA Center Augusta, ME 04330
White River Junction, VT	Ms. Ruth Comeau 603-222-5751	N/A	215 North Main Street White River Junction, VT 05009
Wilimington, DE	Ms. Kristine Kuehnle 215-842-2000 x4107	Ms. Geralyn Mushinski 215-842-2000 x4117	1601 Kirkwood Highway Wilmington, DE 19805
Atlanta, GA	Ms. Amy Thompson 404-929-3176 (Direct) 404-929-3152 (Office)	Ms. Ladina Upshaw 404-929-5512 (Direct) 404-929-3152 (Office)	1700 Clairmont Road Decatur, GA 30033 or PO Box 100024 Decatur, GA 30031-7024
Columbia, SC	Mr. Stan Oliver 803-647-2399 (Direct) 803-647-2400 (Office)	Mr. Paul Knight 803-647-2398 (Direct) 803-647-2400 (Office)	6437 Garners Ferry Road Columbia, SC 29209
Huntington, WV	VACANT 304-399-9300 (Office) 304-399-9376 (Direct)	N/A	640 4TH Avenue Huntington, WV 25701
Jackson, MS	Mr. Don Taylor 601-364-7165 (Office) 601-364-7164 (Direct)	N/A	1600 E. Woodrow Wilson Ave. Jackson, MS 39216
Louisville, KY	Ms. Jan LeClerc 502-566-4453 (Office) 502-566-4444 (Direct)	Ms. Tameel Benders 502-566-4453 (Office) 502-566-4451(Direct)	321 West Main Street, Suite 390 Louisville, KY 40202 - 6200
Montgomery, AL	Mr. Tom Ruzicka 334-396-1986 (Office) Ext - 11 (Direct)	Ms. Charma Haskins 334-396-1986 (Office) Ext - 12 (Direct)	345 Perry Hill Rd Montgomery, AL 36109

Nashville, TN	Ms. Bettye Porcceeddu 615-695-6372 (Office) 615-695-6150 (Direct)	Ms. Trena Hyde 615-695-6372 (Office) 615-695-6156 (Direct)	110 9th Avenue South Nashville, TN 37075
Roanoke, VA	Ms. Karen DeSeguirant 540-597-1670 (Direct)	Ms. Trina Brown 757-441-6760	210 Franklin Road, S.W. Roanoke, VA 24011
San Juan, PR	Mr. Lathe Bragg 787-772-7344 (Direct) 787-772-7341 (Office)	N/A	150 Carlos Chardon Ave Ste 232 San Juan, PR 00918-1703
St. Petersburg, FL	Ms. Maria Rodriquez 727-319-7934 (Direct) 727-319-7902 (Office)	Ms. Kim Lloyd 727-319-7935 (Direct) 727-319-7902 (Office)	9500 Bay Pines Blvd St Petersburg, FL 33708
Washington, DC - AMC	Jamie Bozeman	Ms. Chantile Stovall 202-530-9121 (Office) 202-530-9153 (Direct)	1722 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20421
Winston-Salem, NC	Ms. Carolyn Lightfoot 336-714-0857 336-714-6099	Mr. Don Barnett 336-714-0803	251 N. Main Street Winston-Salem, NC 27155
Albuquerque, NM	Ms. Kathryn Nelsen 505-346-4860 (Direct) 505-346-3780 (Office)	N/A	500 Gold Ave. SW Albuquerque, NM 87102
Anchorage, AK	Terry Jackson 907-257-4770 (Direct) 907-257-4764 (Office)	N/A	1201 N Muldoon Road Anchorage, AK 99504
Boise, ID	Ms. Linda Parker 801-326-2424 (Direct) 208-429-2228 (Office)	N/A	444 W. Fort Street Boise, Idaho 83702-4531

Denver, CO	Mr. Jim Ziruolo 303-914-5540 (Direct) 303-914-5550 (Office)	Ms. Ann Cederle 303-914-5542 (Direct) 303-914-5550 (Office)	155 Van Gordon Street Lakewood, CO 80228
Ft. Harrison, MT	Mr. Aaron Pugh 406-495-2010 (Direct) 406-495-2011 (Office)	N/A	3633 Veterans Drive Fort Harrison, MT 59636
Honolulu, HI	VACANT 808-433-0560 or 808-433-0561	N/A	459 Patterson Road, E- Wing Honolulu, HI 96819-1522
Los Angeles, CA	Mr. Tim Johnston 310-235-6122 (Direct)	Mr. Garry Monji 310-235-6117 (Direct)	Federal Building 11000 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90024
Manila, PI	N/A	Ms. Phebe Pendon (CIC) 011-632- 301-2650	PSC 501, DPO AP 96515 OR US Embassy - Seafront Compound 1501 Roxas Boulevard Pasay City, Philippines
Oakland, CA	Mr. Joe Warner 510-637-6215 (Direct) 510-637-6128 (Office)	Mr. Norm Corson 916-364-6718 (Direct)	1301 Clay Street Oakland, CA 94612
Phoenix, AZ	Mr. Walter Strong 602-627-2800 (Office) 602-627-2777 (Direct)	Ms. Tammy Tanner 602-627-2800 (Office) 602-627-2778 (Direct)	3333 N Central Ave Phoenix, AZ 85012
Portland, OR	Mr. Chris Olson 503-412-4577 (Direct) 503-412-4563 (Office)	Mr. Frederick Coelyn 503-412-4559 (Direct)	100 SW Main Street, Floor 2 Portland, Oregon 97204- 2998
Reno, NV	Ms. Jean Chadwick 775-321-4821 (Office) 702-258-0877 x643	N/A	5460 Reno Corporate Drive Reno, NV 89511

Salt Lake City, UT	Ms. Linda Parker 801-326-2424 (Direct) 801-326-2431 (Office)		550 Foothill Drive Salt Lake City, Utah 84113
San Diego, CA	Ms. Linda Raffignone 619-400-5479 (Direct) 619-400-5381 (Office)	Ms. Cecilia Lomas 619-400-5480 (Direct) 619-400-5381 (Office)	8810 Rio San Diego Drive San Diego, CA 92108
Seattle, WA	Mr. David Boyd 206-220-6128 x3461	Ms. Karolyn Barnes 206-220-6128 x3460	915 Second Ave Seattle WA 98174

VetSuccess Contractor Information

RO Name	Contractor Name	Contractor Email
Boston	VR&E Services for Veterans, LLC.	amos.martinez@vre4vets.com fred.steier@vre4vets.com george.moore@vre4vets.com connie.hounshell@vre4vets.com
Providence	VR&E Services for Veterans, LLC.	amos.martinez@vre4vets.com fred.steier@vre4vets.com george.moore@vre4vets.com connie.hounshell@vre4vets.com
New York	ICD - Internation Center for the Disabled	mjacobsen@icdnyc.org
Buffalo	Sterling Medical Associates	rblatt@sterlingmedcorp.com
Hartford	CRC Services, LLC.	david.soja@crc-s.com
Newark	Sterling Medical Associates	rblatt@sterlingmedcorp.com
Philadelphia	Goodwill Industries of Central PA, Inc.	lmealia@yourgoodwill.org ssoderberg@yourgoodwill.com
Pittsburgh	David A. Zak & Associates, LLC.	zakrehab@comcast.net
Pittsburgh-Foreign	Sterling Medical Associates	rblatt@sterlingmedcorp.com

Baltimore	Yano Rehabilitation	yanorehab@aol.com
Roanoke	Rehabilitative Services & Vocational Placement, Inc.	erice@rsvprehab.com
Huntington	George Moore & Associates, Inc.	connieh@gmaservices.com
Atlanta	Pioneer Rehabilitation, Inc.	aoshea@pioneerrehabilitation.com
St. Petersburg	Voyager Rehabilitation	jalbert@momentumhc.com
St. Petersburg	Rosengren/Reid LLC.	garrosengren@gmail.com bettyreidrn@earthlink.net
St. Petersburg	VR&E Services for Veterans, LLC.	amos.martinez@vre4vets.com fred.steier@vre4vets.com george.moore@vre4vets.com connie.hounshell@vre4vets.com
Winston-Salem	George Moore & Associates, Inc.	connieh@gmaservices.com
Columbia	Sterling Medical Associates	rblatt@sterlingmedcorp.com
Nashville	AllPro Staffnet	louis.tapia@allprostaffnet.com
Montgomery	AllPro Staffnet	louis.tapia@allprostaffnet.com
Jackson	AllPro Staffnet	louis.tapia@allprostaffnet.com
Cleveland	Veterans Transition Services	sghthauser@veterantransitionservices.com
Louisville	Eckman/Freeman Associates	tlcain@eckmanfreeman.com
Detroit	Rehabilitation Team Associates	bruce@rehabteam.com sandy@rehabteam.com rtainc@rehabteam.com
Milwaukee	ALARIS - Robert Otis	rob.otos@alarisgroup.com
St. Louis	MERS/Missouri Goodwill Industries	jcartnal@mersgoodwill.org lchartock@mersgoodwill.org
Des Moines	ALARIS - Robert Otis	rob.otos@alarisgroup.com
Lincoln	Stubbe & Associates	sschlottach@stubbe.com
St Paul	ALARIS - Robert Otis	rob.otos@alarisgroup.com

Denver	Sterling Medical Associates	rblatt@sterlingmedcorp.com
Albuquerque	Human Services Outcomes, Inc.	hso@mindspring.com
Salt Lake City	Life Work Consulting, Inc.	lifeworkconsulting@comcast.net
Oakland	Veterans Transition Services	sguthauser@veterantransitionservices.com
Los Angeles	Veterans Transition Services	sguthauser@veterantransitionservices.com
Los Angeles	David Anderson	dcaphd@gmail.com estherwpc@gmail.com
Phoenix	Karen Gardner/Focus Employment Services	kareng@msn.com
Seattle	Floyd & Associates, LLC.	steflo2005@comcast.net
Portland	Career Associates, LLC.	Jaye@RegionalRehab.net
Waco	CJ Turner	Calvin@capcityrehabgroup.com
Little Rock	Sterling Medical Associates	rblatt@sterlingmedcorp.com
Reno	Baumann Associates	drbaumann@baumannassoc.com
San Juan	Rosa Brown Consultants, Inc.	rosab@ahora.net
Houston	CJ Turner	Calvin@capcityrehabgroup.com
Washington D.C.	George Moore & Associates, Inc.	connieh@gmaservices.com
Manchester	VR&E Services for Veterans, LLC.	amos.martinez@vre4vets.com fred.steier@vre4vets.com george.moore@vre4vets.com connie.hounshell@vre4vets.com
San Diego	Advanced Careers	Lizet@advancing-careers.com
San Diego	Certified Career Consultants	peter@certifiedcareerconsultants.com
San Diego	Veterans Transition Services	sguthauser@veterantransitionservices.com
Togus	Sterling Medical Associates	rblatt@sterlingmedcorp.com

White River Junction	VR&E Services for Veterans, LLC.	amos.martinez@vre4vets.com fred.steier@vre4vets.com george.moore@vre4vets.com connie.hounshell@vre4vets.com
Fargo	Stubbe & Associates	sschlottach@stubbe.com
Souix Falls	Stubbe & Associates	sschlottach@stubbe.com
Anchorage	Sterling Medical Associates	rblatt@sterlingmedcorp.com