

# **Executive Summary**

## **Statistics Describing the Population with Disabilities in Indiana**

The report discusses the size, composition and social participation of the population with disabilities within Indiana. Data are reported for the catchment areas of the eight existing Indiana Center for Independent Living (CIL), and the five areas of the state that have been targeted for a new CIL.

## Highlights: Prevalence

- Data show that Indiana has a higher proportion of people with disabilities than found in the United States as a whole.
- Indiana also has a higher proportion of people with disabilities ages 5 through 17, ages 8 through 34, ages 35 through 64, and ages 65 through 74.

## **Highlights: Type of Disability**

As compared to national data, Indiana has a higher rate of people who have difficulty with hearing, cognitive, and ambulatory functioning.

## Highlights: Unemployment and Poverty

People with disabilities in Indiana are unemployed and live in poverty at a much higher rate than those without disabilities.

- People with disabilities are more than two and a half times more likely to live in poverty than those without disabilities,
- more than three and a half times more likely to receive food stamps,
- and are employed at only half the rate as those without disabilities.

## **Areas with no access to CIL services**

Some of the most significant findings of this study relate to the large geographic areas of the state and the total number of people with disabilities in Indiana that have no access to CIL services.

## **Areas with no access to CIL services**

- Thirty-five of Indiana's 92 counties (or 38%) are currently not served by a CIL, and 232,323 people with disabilities (or 29.4% of the state's total population of people with disabilities) who live in these counties have no access to CIL services.
- In addition, 28 of the 35 unserved counties are in rural areas that typically lack other types of disability related service providers.

## Conclusion

- Indiana faces a significant challenge as to how it will improve conditions for its citizens with disabilities, but it will take a particularly strong effort to make sure that those in unserved areas of the state begin to have access to the CIL services that are already available to their peers in other regions of the state.

## **Contact Information**

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