

1993-94 SESSION
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

Committee Name:

Joint Committee on
Finance (JC-Fi)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01a
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01b
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤ **

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

➤ **

➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤ **

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ **

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤ **

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

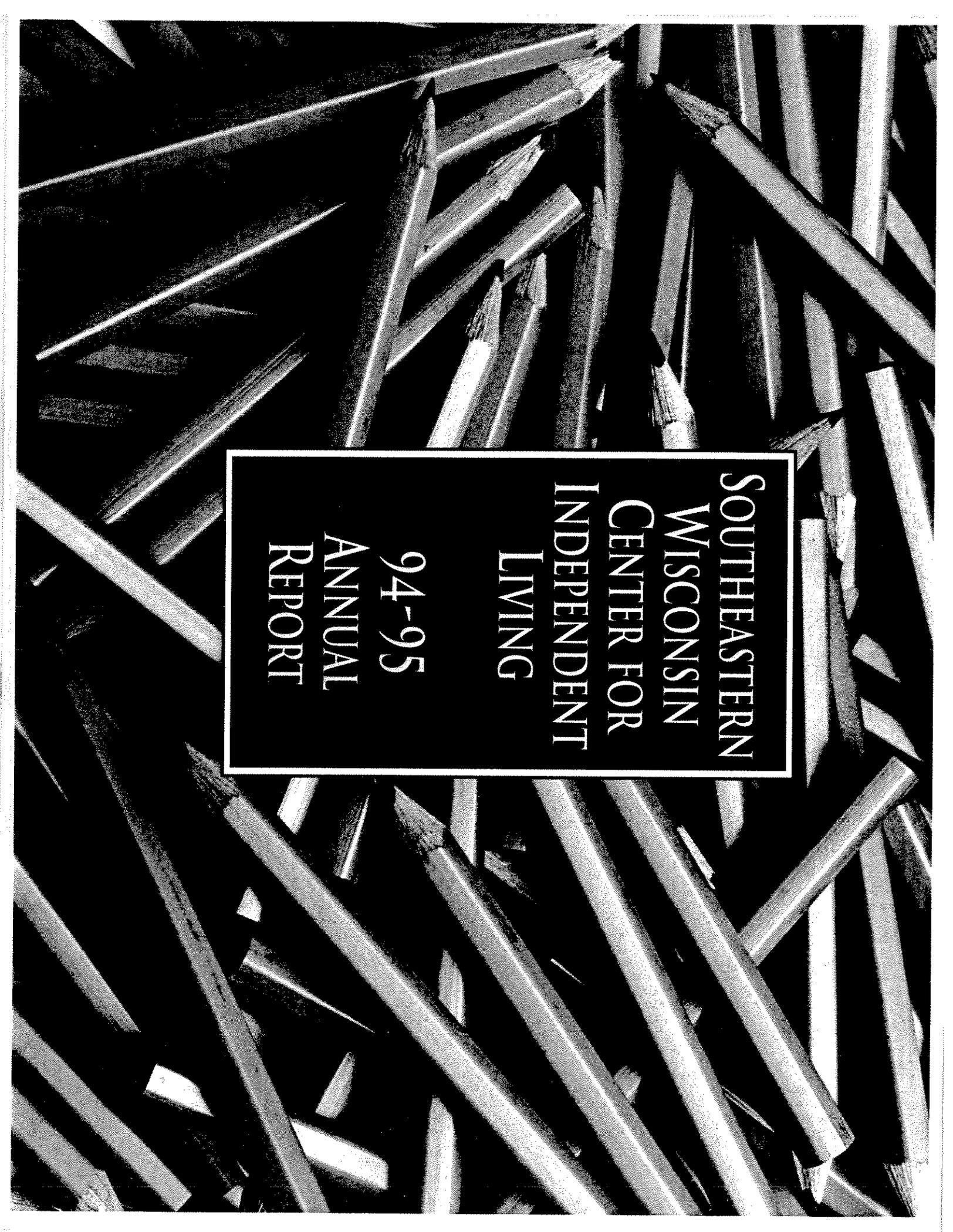
➤ **

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ 93hrJC-Fi_Misc_pt73

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

➤ **



SOUTHEASTERN
WISCONSIN
CENTER FOR
INDEPENDENT
LIVING
94-95
ANNUAL
REPORT



IndependenceFirst

The Resource For People With Disabilities

January 30, 1996

Dear Colleague;

I am pleased to enclose a copy of our 1994-95 Annual Report. As you may well know, this will be the last year in which you receive a report from the Southeastern Wisconsin Center for Independent Living. In August, 1995 we changed our name to IndependenceFirst to more accurately reflect our organization's goals, mission and consumer focus.

Best wishes for a prosperous and exciting new year.

Sincerely,

Lee Schulz
Executive Director

LAS/dr
Encl.

Formerly SEWCIL

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Voice 414 291-7520



SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, CHAIR'S REPORT

As Chair of SEWCIL's Board of Directors the past two years I have watched the Board and organization grow mature. We have added diversity at the Board and organization level.

Our treasurer's and auditor's reports indicate a strong foundation for our disability related advocacy efforts, coalition building and direct services.

This year, our Board and staff spent a great deal of time on our strategic plan's marketing and publicity activities. Those activities led to our organizational name change and an August

fundraising event that will be reported on in our next Annual Report. I mention this as it consumed a lot of time and energy but created great excitement.

SEWCIL became the first Independent Living Center in Wisconsin to hire a chemical dependency counselor and to offer related community support services. In addition, staff will work to create public awareness of dependency issues with disabilities and to educate current chemical dependency providers on the unique needs of persons with disabilities.

Board and staff worked very hard to preserve the Personal Care Attendant services currently covered by Medicaid. Many of SEWCIL's consumers depend on this service and their community living situation was jeopardized by the proposed state budget. Happily, I can report that we won that battle but we again face danger with the proposed community caps on Medicaid and the Community Options Program.

The two federally funded transitional projects have had remarkable service demands and

success. The Board and staff must now work to preserve the projects when federal funds phase out in November of 1996 and 1997.

I believe that with Board and staff commitment, along with the support of our many friends like you, we will successfully overcome new challenges before us.



Sebastian Gomez

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

SEWICIL's 15th year has been one of excitement and growth and new challenges. The Board and staff have worked to increase our visibility in the community and expand our services to underserved persons with disabilities.

SEWCIL has maintained collaborative activities with the Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers, Wisconsin Coalition for Advocacy, State Independent

Living Council, Goodwill Industries, Interfaith Program for the Elderly and many other organizations serving persons with disabilities. These collaborative efforts have proven both cost efficient and effective for consumers.

Volunteers have again been important to the success of our Adventures for Independent Living Camp, Peer Support services, fundraising and many community presentations.

The challenges have been many as we serve persons with more severe disabilities and/or multiple disabilities. Federal, state and local funding is constantly changing — often decreasing. Program and service eligibility is tightening and persons with disabilities are left without direction and support. The Americans with Disabilities Act and Medicaid have been under attack and our staff are busy protecting these rights and services.

We are working to meet the community's needs. As always, we value your support and advice. We hope that you continue to actively participate in our organization's development.

Lee Schulz



Executive Director

YEAR IN REVIEW

Change, growth and challenges were all evident during this past year as services and programs expanded, changed or were threatened with discontinuation. Yet, significant progress in serving the needs of persons with disabilities was noted.

The commitment of volunteers to SEWCIL was evidenced by over 6,000 hours of service at all levels, including Board, Advisory Committee and program and fundraising support. This level of volunteerism marked a new record for this organization.

In turn, staff shared their time and talents with more than 40 planning, funding and advisory bodies which impacted services to persons with disabilities and continued collaborative work with broad based coalitions of other organizations and individuals. Such collaborative advocacy work led to a successful challenge to the threatened discontinuation of Personal Attendant Services throughout Wisconsin and the development of a quality improvement program for state independent living centers, a national first. Program changes led the way to

innovative responses. The Interpreter Coordination Service provided record amounts of service while developing 24-hour emergency response capabilities in designated areas. And, despite discontinuation of city and county funding for housing searches, essential program parts were absorbed into core operations.

New initiatives brought excitement and vitality to the organization. Our Adventures in Independent Living Camp moved to new, more accessible quarters and hosted 26 youth for a challenge-filled week. A new career exploration and development project was begun with the University of Wisconsin and consumer testing of assistive devices was initiated with the University of New York at Buffalo. Likewise, a Rehabilitation Services Administration project for adults who are Deaf or Deaf/Blind began operation as we assisted them in transition to employment with collaborative partners.

News of future collaborative projects also reached us during the year. A youth mentoring project with the Dartmouth School of Medicine and a substance

abuse intervention project with a national model spinal cord injury center at the Medical College of Wisconsin will become operational during the next year. This latter project keyed off a new service begun in late 1994 for persons with disabilities who are in recovery from abusive substances.

Other services continue to fill community needs. Over 7,000 hours of individual and group services were provided to consumers seeking assistance with a broad range of independent living issues. More than 1,300 information and referral requests were successfully completed; the three most frequent request areas were equipment, housing and benefits. And more than 700 consumers also participated in over 100 recreation or social/leisure events.

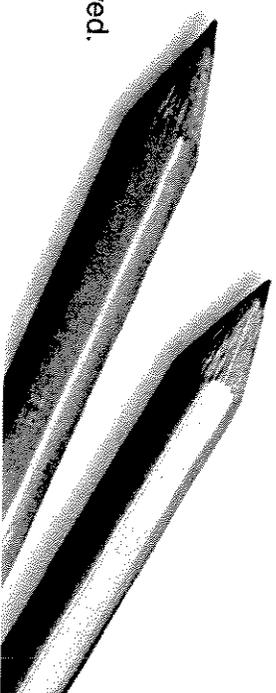
Our HOME program provided nearly \$56,000 in grants to homeowners who required accessibility improvements but could not do so for financial reasons.

And, the agency began aggressive outreach to persons who were traditionally unserved or underserved.

Capping the year were several new initiatives designed to enhance agency operations. Plans were under way to change the name of our agency and reestablish its identity among the public, consumers and service providers. To that end, the Board increased the number of Directors to provide a greater wealth of community talent and changed the agency's fiscal year to reduce the current complexity of financial accounting for multiple funding sources.

A final crown to the year was SEWCIL's hosting of a multi-state independent living conference with nearly 350 attendees. The conference became a major educational event for consumers, advocates and professionals from the Midwest.

The year will be remembered for change, challenge and growth but also as a precursor of exciting times ahead.



1994-95 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES

(FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1995)

Sebastian Gomez, Chair	Leo Goebel
Mary Stewart, Vice-Chair	Joan Hansen
Fred Greasby, Secretary	George Hilliard
Leland Baum, Treasurer	David Hoover
Constance Beck	Kenneth Klauk, PhD
Charles Benner	Scott Luber
Frank Broder	Tim Ochnikowski
Jessie Cruz	Roxan Perez
Bonnie Faust	Charles Severson
Sue Garcia	Barbara Tylanda

PERSONS SERVED *

Primary Disability	10	This document is available in alternative formats upon request. Comments or questions may be directed to SEWCIL at 600 W. Virginia St., Milwaukee, WI 53204 (414) 291-7520 (Voice) or (414) 291-7525 (TTY).
Blind or Visual Impairment	106	
Deaf or Hard of Hearing	84	
Orthopedic or Amputee	65	
Other Disability	4	
Psychiatric	3	
Not Disclosed	3	
Age		
Under 6 years	3	
6 - 22	48	
23 - 40	115	
41 - 64	78	
Over 65	28	

*Consumers served in Personal Attendant, Recreation or Interpreter Coordination Programs are not included.

PUBLIC SUPPORT		
Milwaukee County CDBG	\$4,966	
City of Milwaukee CDBG	26,961	
State of Wisconsin-		
HOME Program	55,850	
State Division of Vocational Rehab.		
Part A	5,475	
Part C	85,259	
ICS/OHI	624,620	
WisTech Program	53,800	
Rehabilitation Services Admin.		
Part C	150,975	
Transitional Youth	160,846	
Deaf/Blind	90,405	
United Way		
Milwaukee	21,618	
Ozaukee	800	
Donations	12,760	
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT	\$1,294,335	
REVENUE		
WI Medical Assistance Program	\$2,107,420	
Independent Living Camp	11,892	
Interest Income	5,444	
ADA Evaluations	3,780	
Fund Raising	118,462	
Fund Development	21,192	
Miscellaneous	19,219	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,287,409	
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$3,581,744	
EXPENSES		
Salaries and Wages	\$2,291,866	
Payroll Taxes	331,047	
Employee Benefits	116,544	
Advertising	10,511	
Professional Fees	163,274	
Books and Subscriptions	7,798	
Insurance	7,319	
Prize Money	62,048	
Licenses and Fees	28,518	
Federal Housing Expenses	13,895	
Postage	14,200	
Printing	23,107	
Repairs/Maintenance of Equipment & Utilities	12,987	
Supplies	44,415	
Telephone	25,926	
Travel	58,033	
Workshops	12,483	
Equipment Rental	7,444	
Rent Expense	67,267	
Interest Expense	2,667	
Depreciation & Amortization		
Bad Debts Expense	33,318	
Miscellaneous Expenses	4,525	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,377,441	
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$204,303	