

# ACL PROGRAMS: POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS OR REFERRALS

Let the excitement begin.



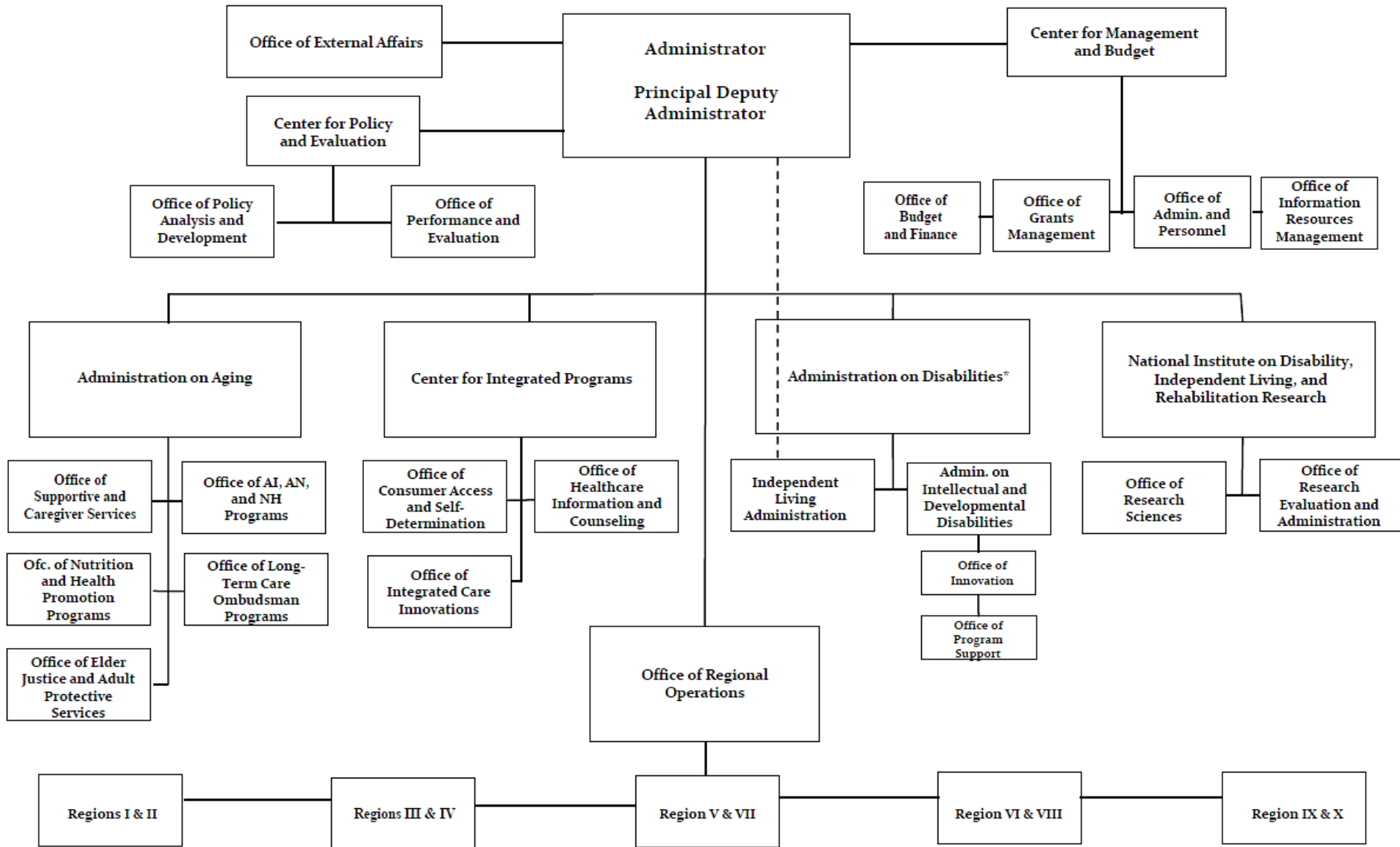
# Building Partnerships and Relationships

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- A fire hose of opportunity



## ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



\*The Administration on Disabilities is headed by a Commissioner, who reports directly to the Administrator, and a Deputy Commissioner/Director of Independent Living. In this dual role, the Deputy Commissioner/Director of Independent Living serves as a member of the Administrator's senior leadership and reports directly to the Administrator in carrying out the functions of the Director of Independent Living consistent with Section 701A of the Rehabilitation Act.

# Recent ACL Growth

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- FY 2014 and FY 2015 appropriations transfers:
  - ▣ State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
  - ▣ Paralysis Resource Center
  - ▣ Limb Loss Resource Center
  
- The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, transferred the following programs to ACL from Department of Education:
  - ▣ Independent Living Programs
  - ▣ Assistive Technology Program
  - ▣ National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR)
  
- HHS Secretary transferred HRSA's Traumatic Brain Injury programs to ACL in October 2015

# Administration on Disabilities

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- Administers programs operated under: the Developmental Disabilities Act; Rehabilitation Act; Help America Vote Act; Assistive Technology Act; and Public Health Service Act
  
- Administration on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities
  - State Councils on Developmental Disabilities
  - State Protection and Advocacy Systems
  - University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.
  - Projects of National Significance
  
- Independent Living Administration (ILA)
  - Independent Living Programs
  - Paralysis Resource Center
  - The National Limb Loss Resource Center
  - Traumatic Brain Injury Programs

# National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR)

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- Administers research grant programs authorized under Sections 202 and 204 of the Rehabilitation Act
- Sponsors grantees to generate new disability and rehabilitation knowledge and promote its use and adoption
  - ▣ Improve ability of people with disabilities to perform activities of their choice in the community
  - ▣ Expand society's capacity to provide full opportunities and accommodations for its citizens with disabilities
- Two Offices:
  - ▣ Research Sciences
  - ▣ Research Evaluation and Administration

# Assistive Technology Act Program

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- **Purpose** – To support State efforts to improve the provision of assistive technology devices and services to individuals with disabilities of all ages through comprehensive statewide programs of technology-related assistance.
  
- **What is it?** – The Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as Amended (Public Law 108-364) provides States with financial assistance that supports programs designed to maximize the ability of individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives to obtain assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.
  
- **FY 2014 AT Data Highlights** –
  - 68,070 individuals were served by AT device demonstration programs.
  - 47,669 devices were loaned on a short-term basis to individuals with disabilities or agencies.
  - AT Programs saved consumers \$25.2 million providing 57,745 reused AT devices.
  - AT Programs leveraged \$13.1 million beyond their AT Act funding to provide AT services.

# Assistive Technology Act Program

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- **That's great and all, but why do I care?**
  - Ever have a client who needs a piece of technology to continue living in their homes and don't know where to turn?
    - They might want to know what their options are.
    - They might want to try it out.
    - They might need to pay for it out of pocket and would like financing options.
  - Ever have a client (or family) who would like to donate DME after they've completed their need for it?
  
- **So this is the greatest thing since sliced bread, where do I find out more?**
  - <http://www.resnaprojects.org/allcontacts/statewidecontacts.html>
  - <http://www.catada.info/content/state-program-information>
  - <http://www.acl.gov/Programs/CIP/OCASD/AT/index.aspx>



# Assistive Technology Act Program

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[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwK\\_W4qmQgk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwK_W4qmQgk)

# Legal Service Delivery

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## □ **Legal Assistance Program:**

- **Purpose and Goal:** Legal advice and representation provided by an attorney to older individuals with economic and social needs
- **Title III-B Legal Assistance Providers**
  - Number of Providers: More than 800 / \$26,889,000

## □ **National Center on Law and Elder Rights**

- **Purpose and Goal:** Comprehensive and accessible National Legal Assistance Support System for aging and legal networks to access resource support on priority legal issues and legal delivery systems development.
- **Center Functions:**
  - Case consultation to legal services providers on priority legal issues
  - Training on how to handle priority legal issues
  - Technical assistance on legal assistance delivery systems
  - Technical assistance on performance and accountability

# Legal Service Delivery

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- **That's great and all, but why do I care?**
  - Ever need to refer a beneficiary to a lawyer or need to consult on whether something is a legal issue or not?
  
- **I love it, how do I find them?**
  - <https://nlrc.acl.gov/index.aspx>
  - <http://www.legalhotlines.org/legal-assistance-resources.html>

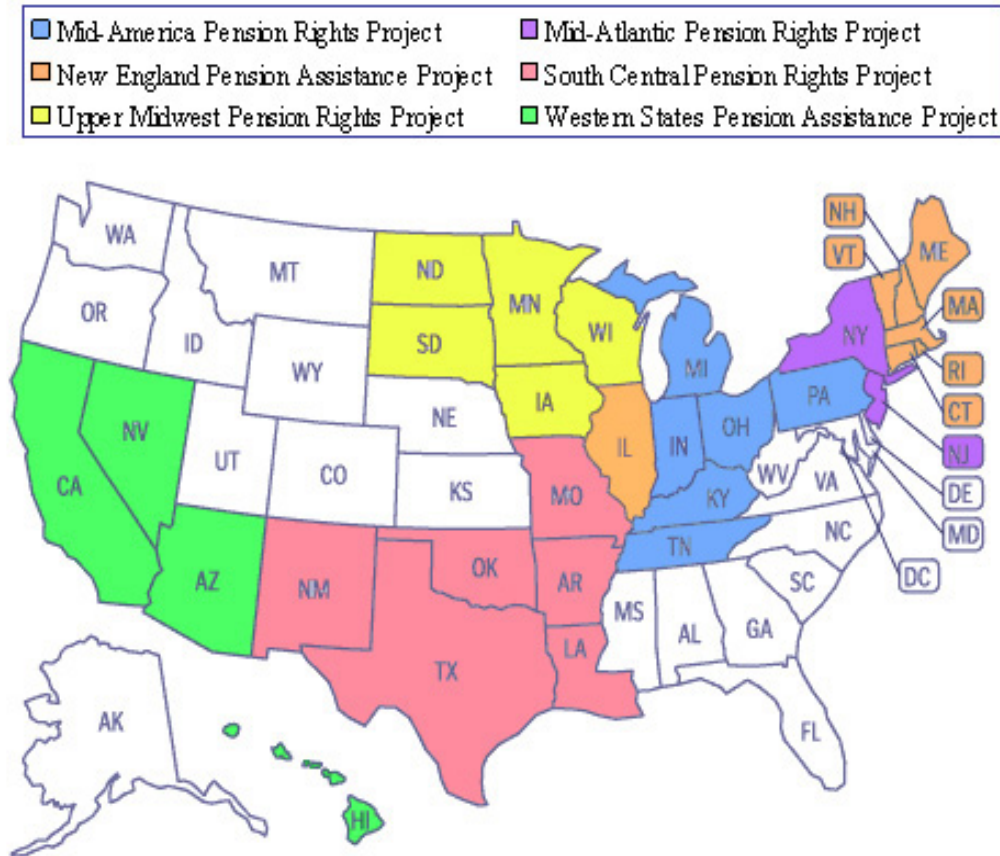
# Pension Counseling and Information Program

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- **Purpose and Goal:** To provide free, personalized pension assistance by:
  - Answering questions about complicated pension laws and how they affect your retirement;
  - Obtaining and explaining hard-to-find retirement plan publications, forms and other documents;
  - Correcting pension miscalculations and claiming retirement benefits that have been denied
  - Tracking down benefits from past employers; and
  - Providing referrals to lawyers, actuaries, and other pension professionals as appropriate.

# Pension Counseling and Information Program

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- Currently active in 30 states
- Covers people who live in the state, who worked in the state or who worked for a company headquartered in the state.
- **I love it, how do I find them?**
  - <http://www.pensionrights.org/>
  - <https://www.pensionhelp.org/>
    - Pension Help is also the place of last resort for people not covered by the current projects.

# Pension Counseling and Information Program

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=is0c6P5b5Vc>

# Independent Living Programs

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- Centers for Independent Living (CILs)
  - 356 CILs across the nation and territories
  - Consumer-controlled, community-based, cross-disability, nonresidential private nonprofit agencies that receive federal funding to provide independent living services to individuals with significant disabilities
  - Required Core Services:
    - information and referral services;
    - independent living skills training;
    - peer counseling (including cross-disability peer counseling);
    - individual and systems advocacy; and
    - Transition and diversion
- Independent Living Services (ILS)
  - 77 grants to States for the purpose of supporting and expanding the independent living network in a state

# Independent Living Programs

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- **I get why this is important but why should I care?**
  - 12.6%<sup>1</sup> of the country has a disability but that number is different within our population
    - 25.8% of people 65-74
    - 50.7% of people over the age of 75
  - ~18% of beneficiaries are under the age of 65
  - People with disabilities are aging into Medicare
  - People are living longer than ever before and developing a disability
  
- **This is stupendous. Where do I begin?**
  - <http://acl.gov/Programs/AoD/ILA/Index.aspx>
  - <http://www.ilru.org/>
  - <http://www.ilru.org/projects/cil-net/cil-center-and-association-directory>
  - <http://www.ncil.org/>



# Independent Living Programs

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[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G-5Q\\_ojls8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G-5Q_ojls8)

# Each Other

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My shameless plug to work together!