APRIL Advocacy Subcommittee Descriptions

Stand Alone Issues: IL funding, reauthorization of the Rehabilitation Act, and other authorizing legislation affecting the rural IL world (ADA, Section 504, etc…) will remain the purview of the full APRIL Advocacy Committee, staff and Board. Other subcommittees and task forces may be formed on emerging issues.

Farm Bill: The issue subcommittee will seek to learn and then identify aspects of the proposed 2012 Farm Bill important to rural Americans of all ages with disabilities, specifically the rural development and employment titles. The subcommittee will identify and implement strategies to influence adoption of policies to improve access to all aspects of life in rural America.

Complete Community Care (C3): Two permanent task forces: Health Care, and Community Based Services; will be created to focus on the interrelated issues of access to and availability of acute and primary care in rural communities, and the availability and access to integrated community based services and support to complement the accrued benefit of access to quality, holistic health care.

- Health Care: The primary focus of the group should be on the series of issues that will have the most impact on the health and well-being of rural communities through implementation of Patient Protections and Affordable Care Act, including the role and use of ADRCs as the portal to access medical and community-based services and supports.

- Community-Based Services: Task Force will work cooperatively with other national advocacy efforts to eliminate the institutional bias in federal and state law and in their regulations.

Transportation: The existing committee will focus on the implementation of MAP21 consistent with APRIL’s policy paper, other materials and partnerships with transportation advocacy groups.