



Fiscal Year
2023 - 2024

Annual Report

Independent Living Center of Kern County



AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT

ANNUAL Report

**Fiscal Year
2023-2024**

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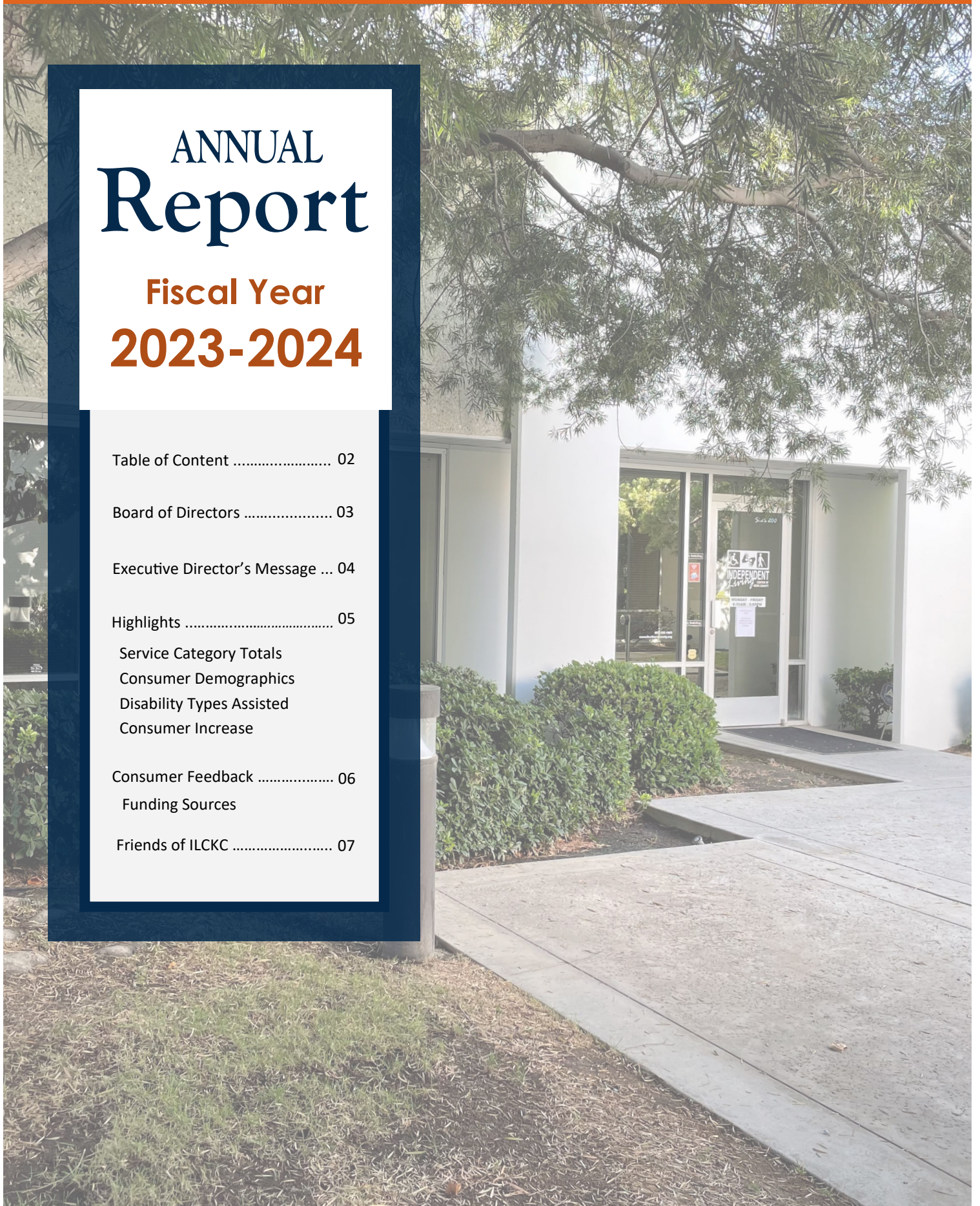
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Board of Directors

Shawn Kennemer, Board President
Bakersfield ARC President

Penny L. Valdovinos, Board Vice President
Kern County Department of Human Services, Retired

Robert D. Ruiz, Board Treasurer
Certified Public Accountant, Retired

Dr. Jason Watkins, Board Secretary
Director of Basic Needs and Lectures in the Psychology Department at CSU-Bakersfield

Nathan Gutierrez, Board Member
City of Bakersfield Management Assistant and ADA / Title VI Coordinator

Lito Morillo, Board Member
Kern County Department of Human Services Director

Donna Thrasher, Board Member
Jaco Oil Human Resources Director

Brittany Christensen, Board Member
KGET Account Executive

**Our vision is to promote positive change in society
leading to the integration and acceptance of
persons with disabilities within our community.**

Executive Director's Message

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on another year of progress, I am filled with gratitude for our dedicated staff, board members, and community partners who make our mission a reality. At the Independent Living Center of Kern County, we are committed to empowering people with disabilities, fostering collaboration, and ensuring that everyone with a disability has the opportunity to reach their full potential.



This year, we have grown to a team of 26 employees, with at least 51% of our board and staff identifying as persons with disabilities—ensuring that the voices of those we serve are at the heart of our work. Our staff remains the core of our agency, driving our mission forward with passion.

We are also excited to share that we recently received a Home Modification grant through HUD, which will allow us to enhance accessibility and independence for individuals with disabilities in Kern County. Stay tuned for more details of this new three year program.

“Collaboration remains a cornerstone of our approach, and we look forward to strengthening partnerships...”

Looking ahead, we invite you to join us for our 2025 ADA Conference on July 24, 2025—a great opportunity to engage with advocates, professionals, and community members as we work together to advance disability rights and accessibility.

Collaboration remains a cornerstone of our approach, and we look forward to strengthening partnerships with other organizations that share our vision. Together, we can make Kern County a more inclusive and accessible place for all.

Thank you for your unwavering support. We are proud of what we have accomplished and look forward to another year of progress and empowerment.

With gratitude,
Jimmie Soto
Executive Director
Independent Living Center of Kern County

Service Category Totals

ADVOCACY - 212
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY - 164
PERSONAL ASSISTANCE - 113
VOCATIONAL SERVICES - 71
COMMUNICATION SERVICES - 2
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES - 74
YOUTH/TRANSITION SERVICES - 29
INFORMATION & REFERRAL - 1,643
INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS TRAINING - 132
PREVENTATIVE SERVICES - 106
HOUSING & RELATED SERVICES - 260
PEER COUNSELING - 64
OTHER SERVICES - 3

**TOTAL INDIVIDUAL SERVICES
 OFFERED IN 2023 - 2024 = 2,873**

Consumer Demographics

2 % American Indian, Alaskan Native
> 1 % Asian
15 % Black / African American
> 1 % Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander
46 % White
32 % Hispanic / Latino
> 1 % Two or more races
3 % Race and Ethnicity Unknown

Consumer Increase

■ **New Consumers**
■ **Active Consumers**

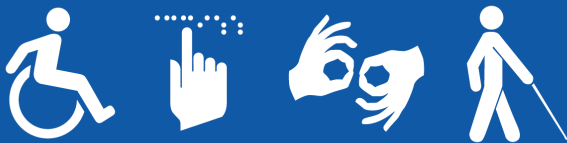
152

190

342

Disability Types Assisted

3% Cognitive **3% Vision**
15% Mental Health **3% Hearing**
36% Physical **40% Multiple**



According to Consumer Feedback

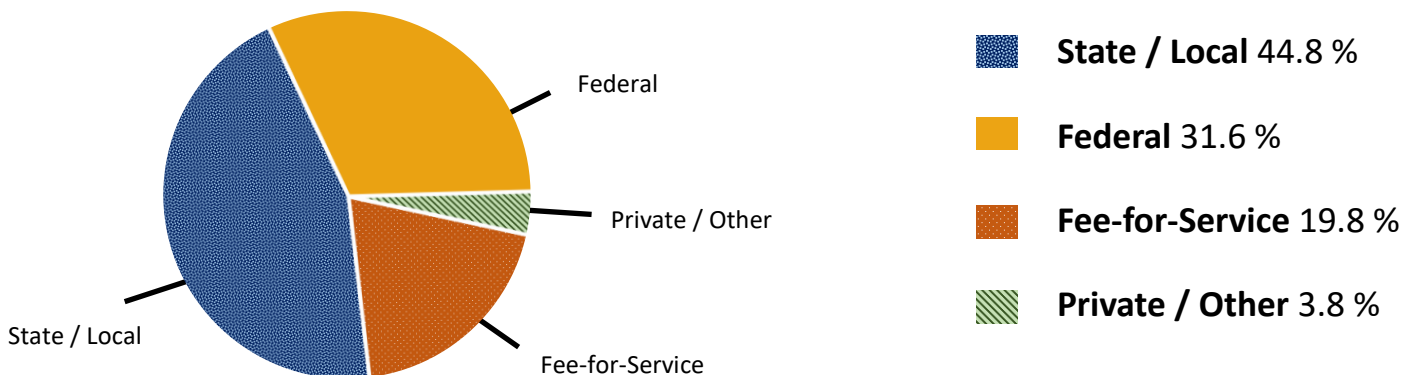
- 71 % of consumers who responded to the survey strongly agree the services were useful.
- 100 % of consumers strongly agree that staff have been kind, sensitive, and courteous.
- 77 % of consumers strongly agree being encouraged to develop their Independent Living Plan (ILP).
- 59 % of consumers strongly agree that most of their needs were met.
- 59 % of consumers strongly agree that their overall quality of life has improved.
- 71 % of consumers strongly agree that calls are returned promptly.
- 82 % of consumers strongly agree that staff are knowledgeable about agency services.
- 71 % of consumers strongly agree that staff were knowledgeable about community resources and services.
- 71 % of consumers felt very satisfied with services.

Funding Sources

Social Security Administration
 CA Department of Rehabilitation
 Administration for Community Living
 Pacific ADA Center
 Kern County Housing Authority

CA Department of Health Care Services
 Pacific Gas & Electric / Southern California Edison
 CA Department of Aging
 Fee-for-Service / Fundraising

2023 – 2024 Fiscal Year Expenses



Kern County

Independent Living Center of Kern County



ILCKC serves all 8,163 miles of Kern County.

100% of every dollar donated stays in Kern County.

63% of ILCKC Board Members live with a disability.

54% of ILCKC Staff live with a disability.

Friends of ILCKC

Donations and financial support is always appreciated.

Independent Living Center of Kern County 🌟

Visit Online: www.ilcofkerncounty.org/donations/


OR scan the code!



Become a frequent donor! (optional)



Make this a monthly donation

 Donate with PayPal

Donate with Debit or Credit Card





The mission of Independent Living Center of Kern County is to empower people with disabilities to grow creatively, professionally, and personally; and to educate the community about disability related issues. The vision of Independent Living Center of Kern County is to promote positive change in society leading to the integration and acceptance of persons with disabilities within our community.



Scan to visit the website!

Office (661) 325 - 1063 | Toll-Free 1(800) 529 - 9541 | Video Phone (661) 369 - 8966 | Fax (661) 325 - 6702

Email info@ilcofkerncounty.org | Website www.ilcofkerncounty.org