



Self Advocates in Leadership

# SAIL UPDATE

December 2011



# Thanks Heather!



We have had the pleasure of knowing Heather as a good advocate and critical part of our SAIL team for many years. Over the past year Heather has served as the Chair of SAIL. Thanks so much Heather! She will be moving on to new opportunities and is not sure what her work schedule will be. We honored her at the meeting with a star paperweight. Come back anytime you have the chance, Heather! We can always use the help of someone who already knows the ropes!

There was a lively discussion about some future planning ideas for SAIL including what the group wants to do about the Chris Purnell Award.

## Legislative Agenda

The group decided that the most important things to focus on for the upcoming session are the cuts to Medicaid and Self-Advocacy funding. We have to continue to let legislators know how critical these services are in our lives!

## The Statewide Legislative Reception is Coming!

The annual Statewide Legislative Reception is almost here! Please plan on coming if you can!

**Wednesday, January 18, 2012**

**Briefing: 2:00-4:00 pm**

The United Churches  
110 Eleventh Ave SE  
Olympia, WA 98501

**Reception: 5:30-7:30 pm**

Columbia Room  
Legislative Building



This is usually a very busy evening so plan to bring some money for dinner!! Looking forward to seeing you!



## A Note from the Chair



Hi everyone!

Thank you for coming to the December SAIL meeting. We had a great discussion on the budget items and we also talked about the Legislative Agenda. I would like to thank everyone for letting me be the Chair of Self-Advocates in Leadership. I will miss all of you and thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Harper,

Out-Going Chair of Self-Advocates in Leadership (SAIL)

### Make Plans Now to Attend Advocacy Day!

#### January

25 Self-Advocates/  
Budget Overview

Check The Arc of Washington website to double check the location before you leave. [www.arcwa.org](http://www.arcwa.org) Most of the Advocacy Days are at the United Churches beginning at 10 am.

#### February

1 Medicaid State Plan  
Services/Cuts

8 Employment

15 Autism

22 Independent Living  
Day Rally

29 Legislative Budgets

#### March

7 Session Wrap Up

Advocacy Day is a wonderful way to hear about what is going on at the Capitol and get involved in making your message heard! Come and get involved! Everyone is welcome!

### The Chris Purnell Award Nominations are being taken now!

If you know someone who has done an outstanding job advocating and deserves the recognition of this award please call Emily at 888-754-8798. Next spring the group will begin work on new criteria for the award, as we begin to broaden the audience for the award. Keep those names coming!

### Self-Advocates in Leadership

### SAIL'S 100 MESSAGE CHALLENGE!!

If you have something to say, we can get it to Legislators!

**SAIL wants to give YOU the opportunity to make your voice heard!**

SAIL continues to collect your messages to help make sure that the legislators know how the proposed cuts affect you. You could also write a message about why the services you receive are critical for your life. Tell your story! Include a picture if you have one!

Please send them in as soon as possible by e-mailing Emily at [emily@arcwa.org](mailto:emily@arcwa.org). Please write "100 Message Challenge" in the Subject line. Thank you!