



Self Advocates in Leadership

SAIL UPDATE

November 2011



SAIL Welcomed DSHS Secretary Susan Dreyfus and DDD Assistant Director Don Clintsman to our November Meeting

Susan Dreyfus had been giving community forums around the State and this was an opportunity for her to interact with people with disabilities. She went through a PowerPoint that she brought. If you would like to see the PowerPoint please let Emily know. Susan talked about the affects of the recession on the Department and how we needed to look broader than our own advocacy to find ways to get the services we need. On the whole it was a good chance for members to ask questions and really hear the situation from a couple of people who are in positions of power in our State. Thank you Susan and Don for coming!

Legislative Agenda Discussion

The group worked for a short time on narrowing the Legislative Priorities for this year. Here is what was decided on:

- Low or No Cuts to Services
- Closing of DD Institutions and Increase and Improve Community Sevices
- Maintain Funding for Self-Advocacy
- Revenue Enhancements
- Endangered Person Alert— members were interested in a name change as well as additional language about respect and dignity.

The Special Session just is going to focus on budget related items, so the Endangered Person Alert has been left off until we begin the 2012 Legislative Session. At the December meeting we will revisit each of these priorities.

We Need To Advocating Now!

Three PROPOSED CUTS that are particularly concerning:

- Core Medicaid programs will be changed so that only people with higher levels of physical and/or developmental disabilities will be served. Those currently receiving services who do not meet those higher thresholds will lose them and only persons with higher level of need will enter remaining services.
- Suspension of Individual and Family Services and all contracts associated with it.
- Suspend the Adult Pharmacy Benefit. Termination of all non-emergency dental coverage for adults.

Please Come to the Rally on November 28, 2011!



A Note from the Chair



November 2011

Hi Everyone!

Thank you for coming to the November's SAIL meeting and we had a great conversation about the proposed budget cuts. Thank you for the opportunity to be your Chair of SAIL.

Sincerely,

Heather Harper

Chair, Self Advocates in Leadership (SAIL)

Thanks to Jessica Renner for Speaking on Behalf of SAIL at the November 28, 2011 Rally!!

The First Day of the Special Session is November 28, 2011!

On that day, there are several events planned. Please see the flyer on the back of the December Meeting Announcement. (Enclosed) Please try to come, your voice makes a difference in these very hard times. Hope to see you there!

**Self-Advocates in Leadership
SAIL'S 100 MESSAGE CHALLENGE!!
We Want YOUR Messages!!**

SAIL wants to give YOU the opportunity to make your voice heard! SAIL is still collecting 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!

Guidelines about YOUR MESSAGE:

- Write clearly or ask someone to help you.
 - Keep your message short and to the point.
 - If you are e-mailing your message please write "100 Message Challenge" in the Subject Line and e-mail emily@arcwa.org
 - Please take the time to gather as a group and send your messages to Emily at 2638 State Ave NE, Olympia WA 98506
- Looking forward to hearing from **YOU!**

We want to gather 100 messages to give to Legislators during the Special Session and the 2012 Regular Session!