



**Self Advocates in Leadership**

*A statewide coalition on developmental disabilities*

**2012**

# Legislative Agenda

A Coalition of people with developmental disabilities interested in shaping public policy.



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# It's Only FAIR For Everyone!

## Freedom

It's only fair for everyone to have FREEDOM to make decisions in their own lives.

## Access

It's only fair for everyone to have equal ACCESS to full and satisfying lives.

## Independence

It's only fair for everyone to have INDEPENDENCE to choose a life that they want with people who value them.

## Respect

It's only fair for everyone to be treated with RESPECT as individuals.

*It is only fair that all people have the chance to live the fullest possible life in the community.*



# Priorities of SAIL

## Low/No Cuts to Services

The services we receive are essential for our lives! If we don't get the services we need and we still live in the community there is a possibility of our safety being in jeopardy. Our lives fit together like pieces of a puzzle and without all of the services our lives cannot be the same.



- Maintain Eligibility many of us require less assistance, so we do not receive as many services. This **DOES NOT MEAN** that we do not **NEED** those services. Providing the lower cost services means that we are less likely to need the higher cost alternatives in the future.
- Medicaid Personal Care is critical for us to get the assistance we need to live successfully in the community.
- Dental Medicaid state plan services provide needed dental services that prevent more critical problems.

## Revenue Enhancements



We are supportive of ideas that increase revenue to the state. We rely on the state for support in many areas of our lives. Without increased revenue it means that our basic needs will not be met.

## Maintain Funding for Self-Advocacy



People First of Washington, Self-Advocates of Washington (SAW) along with other self-advocacy organizations work together to help individuals learn the skills to speak up for themselves. With all of the cuts in the future, we need a group of people to gather with to figure out the next steps in advocacy.

## Closing of the DD Institutions and Increase and Improve Community Services

Support the closure of state institutions for people with developmental disabilities and create the best living environment for people. Many other states have made the bold step of closing institutions and supporting people in their local communities. We believe Washington should do the same!

