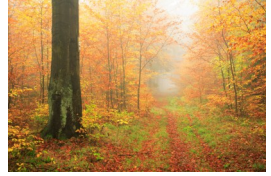




Self Advocates in Leadership

# SAIL UPDATE

November 2012



Hope everyone had a very nice Thanksgiving!

## Representative Elect Roger Freeman Visits SAIL

It was great to welcome Representative Elect Roger Freeman to SAIL. He will be one of the Representatives for the 30th District (Federal Way) So glad to have the opportunity to tell a brand new legislator what is important to us. Hopefully it will be the beginning of a long relationship. Thanks for coming Roger! Thanks also to Cheryl Monk for inviting Roger!

The group finalized the 2013 Legislative Agenda. The agenda can be found on the back of this page for your reference. If you need more copies just ask Emily.



Members of the group commented on each of SAIL's Legislative Agenda priorities to come up with a document to be included in the CAC Legislative Notebook. Thank you to each person who spoke up!

Each year SAIL decides on a button design. This is the one for this year. Emily has already started making them so that they are done early, before session even starts.

## Betty from DRW came to SAIL to talk about the Abuse Response Report from DRW

Abuse is an issue that has impacted countless numbers of people with disabilities. At the conclusion of Betty's comments it became clear that the group felt very strongly about including Stop Abuse and Neglect as the highest priority for this session.

The most recent recipient of the Chris Purnell Advocacy Award has been chosen. She has been invited to the next meeting. Please come to celebrate!

## A Note from the Chair



November 2012

Hello!

I would like to encourage you to contact your legislators early! There are going to be so many new legislators and they need to know what is important to us and the values that are important to our community. Be sure to make appointments early, their calendars get filled up fast!

Sincerely, Corinna Fale, Chair of SAIL

# 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.*

## Concern about Federal Issues



Right now there are a number of federal issues that could negatively impact our quality of life.

- The outcome of the sequester and the possibility of significant cuts across the board.
- The potential elimination of DD Act funding.

We will be continuing to monitor these issues.



# Priorities of SAIL

## Stop Abuse and Neglect

We support efforts to stop abuse and neglect in our state, improve response and make sure DSHS does its job appropriately and in a timely manner.



## 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.

- 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.

## Tax Reform/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.

## Protect Self Advocacy Organizations



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 Supports



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!

## Availability of Transit Services



Transit is a critical community service particularly since the large majority of people with developmental disabilities are not able to drive. Transit services provide access to employment, family, friends, and enables greater participation in the local community.