



# WASILC REPORT



Volume Two, Number Two. June 2010

## SILC Hosts Public Forums

### This Issue

- SILC hosts public forums to gather input for the 2011-2013 State Plan for Independent Living. We are still soliciting ideas and input until June 29, 2010.
- SPIL submission due July 1st
- ADA 20th year anniversary celebrations

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The Washington State Independent Living Council has been extremely busy in the last three months gathering input and finalizing the 2011-2013 State Plan for Independent Living. The primary source of the input was through the Public Forums process in April and May of this year.

The following forums were held:

- **April 1.** Seattle. Held at the Hearing Speech Center, this forum was designed primarily for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf Blind participants, but others were welcome as well. Approximately 25 individuals attended this forum and many issues revolving around communications access issues were

brought to the SILC.

- **April 21.** Tacoma. Hosted by the Center for Independence, this forum was held at TACID. There were 47 individuals present and 25 commented about issues that impacted their lives. Some examples of the discussion included: addressing homelessness, expand attendant care training, and addressing recreational access.
- **April 22.** Seattle. The second Seattle public forum was held at the Department of Services for the Blind and was co-hosted with the Alliance of People with Disabilities. There were about 20 (cont. on top of next page)

**COMING SOON:**

**PHOTOS FROM THE SILC PUBLIC FORUMS! PLEASE LOOK ON THE WEBSITE NEXT WEEK.**

## State Independent Living Plan (SPIL) to be submitted

With the assistance from people with disabilities, family members, agencies, support staff, CILs, ACIL-WA, and of course SILC members, the 2011-2013 SPIL is nearly complete and ready for submission to Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA).

There is still time for additional public input. There are two ways to provide further information. First, you may simply go to the SILC website ([www.wasilc.org](http://www.wasilc.org)) and take a look at the "Draft Document" in the middle of the page and email me or call me with comments (contact information is on

the next page and the website).

Another method of providing additional information is by participating in a conference call on Tuesday June 29th at 10 am. Please call in at 877 216-1555 (pass code: 815648). CART STREAM: <http://www.streamtext.net/text.aspx?event=SILC>

## Public Forums: (Cont. from front page)

Individuals present. A wide range of topics were discussed, including the need for accessible taxis, education for transportation providers and information about the Seattle Commission on Disabilities.

- **April 22nd.** Later that day, the "SPIL Tour 2011-2013" continued with an evening forum at the Whatcom Community College in Bellingham. There was a sizable Deaf population in the mix, and much of the discussion centered around interpreter issues and outreach to Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing. Rural and LGBT outreach was also a hot topic for some in the audience.
- **May 11th.** After a two week break, the forums resumed with a stop in Vancouver. This one was hosted by dARSW and the SILC at the Housing Authority. Audience members had a range of issues to discuss, including: accessible housing, outreach, and services to Deaf individuals.
- **May 12th.** Ellensburg. Some 200 miles away, the next forum took place at the Hal Holmes Center in Ellensburg. There was a wonderful turnout of approximately 35 people with disabilities, their support and families. Issues: rural health care, transportation, and seeking more effective collaboration with the SE Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
- **May 13th.** Pasco: Central Basin Community College. After a delay of an hour due to technical difficulties (the power went out just before show time), but due

to our "emergency preparedness procedures" we were able to carry on with a late start. Housing, of course, was a major issue. The other big issue was expansion and outreach to the Latino population that is prevalent in the geographic region.

- **May 14th,** The final forum took place at the West Central Community Center in Spokane where a large crowd of nearly 50 greeted us. Three of the main issues were: emergency preparedness, Deaf and Hard of Hearing issues, and transportation.

### Special Thanks:

- To Jim Baker for his leadership and initiative as the chair of the SPIL committee. Without his hard work, this process would have been that much more difficult
- To Dona Fuerst, DVR staff, for taking the time to read our newsletter and make valuable suggestions. THANK YOU THANK YOU

## ADA Celebration in Your Community

Celebrate the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act in a community near you on July 26, 2010 (unless otherwise indicated)

- **Seattle: Woodland Park from 10AM-2PM.** Please RSVP: The Alliance of People with Disabilities (206-545-7055 or 206-632-3456 TTY) or events@disabilitypride.org
- **Spokane: Mirabeau Park in Spokane Valley.** Please contact Teresa Kennedy for more information at 509-326-6355. (CORD). **EVENT: 10 AM to 2 PM.**
- **Center for Independence** will have a picnic ~~on July 30th~~ from **noon to 4 PM.** Please RSVP by calling 253-582-1253 or 253-584-9374 TTY. E-mail: connect@centerforindependence.org

[SILC members and staff \(click here\)](#)

[Washington CILs \(Click\)](#)

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