

Executive Director Report  
Rob Honan  
State Independent Living Council  
January 16, 2008

1. **Personnel Update**

a. Executive Assistant Grace Doyle resigned on November 2, 2007.

b. After meeting with Chair Romel Mackelprang and consulting with DVR Director (and SILC member) Lynnae Ruttledge and DVR HR director Chuck Paeth, the SILC is in the process of developing, advertising, and hiring a "Resource Developer." This would take the place of an Executive Assistant and be ideal to "expand the capacity" of the Independent Living in this state.

c. My deadline for filling the half-time position is by the April council meeting, if not sooner.

d. I would take over most of the Administrative duties such as processing invoices and bills.

2. **State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL).** I am undertaking a variety of activities to advance the State Plan for Independent Living. The following are examples of my work since the October Meeting

a. **Deaf- Blind Outreach.** Along with Jean Healy, I facilitated a group of Deaf-Blind, Deaf and Department of Services for the Blind advocates at a December 10, 2007 meeting in Seattle. The purpose of this dialogue is for the IL community to forge ties with these underserved (according to IL in Washington) communities. The meeting last month is only the beginning, and future meetings will incorporate CIL personnel. The outcome of this activity will be to increase services to this underrepresented group and to increase the diversity of CIL staff and boards statewide.

b. **Transportation-** Angela Barbre of CTA-NW (she spoke at the SILC meeting in January 2007) invited me to the November and December ACCT (Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation) meetings. Most of the individuals associated with ACCT are involved in some form of transportation for individuals with disabilities. The meetings focused on potential legislation in the 2008 legislative session. The potential outcome is to increase transportation options for persons with disabilities in this state, and this includes streamlining and simplifying paratransit eligibility in the various cities and townships that have it (paratransit) in Washington.

c. **Increasing Capacity** for the CILs in Washington state. Along with Jim Baker, Executive Director of dARSW (Vancouver) and the rest of the CIL Directors, I have been working with Representative Deb Wallace to see if there is a way to

obtain state funding for the CILs. At this time (January 7, 2008) there has been no movement on the part of the legislature or Representative Deb Wallace to implement the SILC and ACIL-WA request for funding outlined in the SPIL.

d. **Assistive Technology.** Continuing to work with Washington Assistive Technology Foundation (WATF) on developing outreach activities and funding for the organization. WATF is looking forward to working with the CILs in developing workshops for CIL participants. Attended two phone meetings during reporting period.

3. **704 Report.** Worked with Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and Department of Services for the Blind to complete and submit 704 Report to Rehabilitation Services Administration and Independent Living Resource Utilization (ILRU).

4. **ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Symposium.** Attended Region X ADA Symposium in Portland, November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Very informative and excellent speakers. There were a broad range of topics, from the ADA itself to Veteran's issues to the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board to Job Accommodation.

5. **City Tacoma-** Attended and participated in an advocacy session for the city of Tacoma. Organized by the Center for Independence (CFI), the forum was designed to encourage the city to ensure Title II compliance of the Americans with Disabilities Act. I suggested that the city use existing resources such as CFI and TACID to provide disability awareness and sensitivity training so that all city employees have as much of a disability frame of mind to provide positive experiences for persons with disabilities in Tacoma.

6. **Thurston County LEAD.** Continued countywide Leadership program. Topics were: City/ State Government, Business and Economic Development, and Law and Justice.