

Executive Director Report
Rob Honan
State Independent Living Council
April 25, 2008

1. **Personnel Update**

a. The original plan to hire a “Resource Developer” was scrapped because federal law does not allow SILCs to do this. This was clarified to me at the SILC meeting and with subsequent discussions with Rehabilitation Services Administration

b. Advertisement for the Executive Assistant position has been out since early April. Position closed on April 21st

c. As of April 9th, we have received approximately 10 applications for the half-time position.

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 January meeting

a. **Deaf- Blind Outreach.** Held a second meeting on March 7th to brain storm additional ideas on how IL can work with this population. I am in the process of setting up a third meeting, and including CIL personnel for this meeting.

b. **Outreach to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communities.** Met with Charley Lane and Eric Raff of the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing to set up strategies in which CILs can market their services to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community and vice versa. The three of us met on January 17, 2008 and we will be convening again with Susie Burdick of the Hearing Speech and Deafness Center (HSDC) to discuss a “pilot project” with dRC and HSDC. The pilot project will focus on office sharing between HSDC and dRC.

b. **Transportation-** Met with Ryan Bondroff of the ACCT Council. Provided input on their Volunteer Drivers Manual. February 22, 2008

c. **Increasing Capacity.**

- Legislative Visits with various CIL staff.
- ACIL-WA conference calls
- Attended TBI Awareness “kickoff” on March 12th. Networked with the new TBI Council
- Center for Independence Board meeting, March 20th

d. **Assistive Technology.** Participated in two phone meetings as a member of the WATF (Washington Assistive Technology Foundation) board. Their focus at the current time is on hiring a new Executive

3. SILC Congress- Attended SILC Congress with Al Neely, Romel Mackelprang, Lynnae Ruttledge, and Charley Lane. The two presentations we provided, (1) The Flight of the Phoenix and (2) Disability Studies, were both very well received. The audience members engaged in a great dialogue about some of the issues that this state is grappling with. January 25-29, 2008.

4. Legislative

- Independent Living Rally Day- February 13, 2008. Spoke to advocates about importance of CILs and about lack of state funding for CILs.
- Legislative Visits: January 16, February 13, March 5
- Met with Developmental Disability Council, Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment, and others about the effectiveness of this year's Legislative Day at the Capitol (January 16th) and how to make it better next year. This meeting took place on February 27, 2008

5.. Thurston County LEAD

- Book Group interview with Jim Larson of Morningside, a Community Rehabilitation Program in Olympia. The focus of the "interview" was leadership and leadership styles.
- February 11th: Health and Human Services Challenge Day
- March 12th: Education Challenge Day
- April 1: Art and Culture Challenge Day

6. Other Trainings and meetings.

- January 17, 2008: Mental Health training in Lakewood. Sponsored by CFI.
- February 15, 2008: Met with Council member Jana Finkbonner and Edna Harper to set up May 22, 2008 Public Forum in Bellingham
- Webcast: "Working on the Front: Ethics in Rehabilitation of Veterans." February 29, 2008
- Met with National Council for Independent Living executive director, John Lancaster, on April 17, 2008 (tentative)
- Taste of Technology Conference- Seatac (Tentative), April 18, 2008
- Department of Services for the Blind- IL contracts meeting, March 17 and 18 and April 17, 2008