



WASHINGTON

State Independent Living Council

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Memorandum

July 24, 2009

To: Independent Living Stakeholders and other interested parties

From: Rob Honan, SILC Executive Director and Romel Mackelprang, SILC Chair

Re: Closure of disAbility Resource Connection (dRC), serving Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom Counties

Last week Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) performed a review of dRC and recommended discontinuing funding dRC based on the findings of their visit and program review. In addition, The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation terminated their Part B contract. Essentially, these actions leave dRC without their major sources of funding and will result in the Center's closure.

In addition to gathering information from dRC, we are working with Rehabilitation Services Administration, Association of Centers for Independent Living- Washington, the two Designated State Units (Washington Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and Washington Department of Services for the Blind) to discuss future plans to serve Northwest Washington. Discussions include RSA Part C funds, State DVR Part B funds, potential resources for a future Center for Independent Living Center, and other issues. Of course, we believe that this area needs services and this will be up for a competitive bidding process per RSA guidelines.

We expect the SILC to be actively involved in assessing and planning how to move forward in the wake of these recent events.

If you would like more information, please contact Rob Honan at 800-624-4105 or 360-725-3695 (voice) or by email: honanrw@dshs.wa.gov

