

Judy's Corner by Judy Cunio

WHAT ABOUT MEASURE 30

As most of you know, the temporary income tax increase that the legislators put into place to help balance the State budget, will now be decided by the voters on February 3, 2004. What does that mean for people and their services?

If people vote "Yes" for the tax increase then we will be able to keep our services. And everything will be fine.

If people vote "No", we will lose many services. It won't affect only people with disabilities but everyone will lose out. From kids not getting what they need from schools to not having enough police and firemen.

It is up to us to let people know what will happen and let them decide. Get information at www.oureregon.com.

Register to Vote before January 12th! Here are some places where you can get a voter registration card...

- Post Office
- DMV
- Library
- On the Internet

Voter Language Workgroup is a group of people working together to make voting more accessible for all Oregonians.

They are creating voter information on statewide ballots measures and candidates that will be easier to read and understand. The Voter Language Workgroup would like your help with creating accessible information and getting it out to people with cognitive disabilities.

If you, or your group, are interested in helping or would like to receive voter information please call Julie Anderson at the Oregon Advocacy Center, 1-800-880-1931.

Ever been confused about Medicaid? Need help understanding it?

Now there's a way to find information!

The Medicaid Reference Desk

Information about Medicaid for people with developmental disabilities

www.thedesk.info

If you don't have email, ask someone to help you look at this website!

SAAL Policy Committee has created a new issue paper called "No Pity"

You can check out SAAL issue papers on our website, www.asksaal.org, and share them with people you know.

How to contact us?

By mail: SAAL
161 High Street SE
Suite 243
Salem OR 97301

Phone:
503-232-9154, then dial ext.133, or
(outside of Portland)
1.800.410.7069 x.133

email: helvingt@ohsu.edu

website: asksaal.org

Act Fast:

SAAL Policy Committee:

Is looking for two (2) new members. If you are interested in Policymaking and would like to travel to Salem every other month then you may want to apply for the SAAL Policy Committee. We especially need people from Eastern, Southern, and Coastal regions of Oregon. Please call Marla Henry at 1-800-410-7069 x133 to apply.

Editorial Board: If you have email, love to read and want to apply to be on The People First Connection Editorial Board, call Sarah Bustamante today!

In Portland dial 503-232-9154 x154 or toll free 1-800-410-7069 x154 to apply.
bustaman@ohsu.edu

Other Opportunities:

Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities (OCDD):

OCDD joins with Oregonians with developmental disabilities and their families to promote change, through self determination, leading to a more accessible, inclusive, and culturally responsible world. If you are interested in serving on this Governor Appointed Council in the future, call OCDD for an application, 1-800-292-4154 or in Salem 503-945-9941.

So many of our dreams seem impossible, then improbable, then inevitable – Christopher Reeve

Self-Advocates are getting out!!

There are many opportunities to learn about what's happening in Oregon & to make connections! TRY THESE:

Writers Workshop: This is a fun way of putting your experiences into words. The next Writers Workshop will take place on
March 13th Grants Pass
TBA Hood River
If your group is interested in setting up a Writers Workshop, call Jill Murray. 1.800 410.7069, ext 134, or 503.232.9154, x 134.

My Voice, My Choice: A training on Self-Determination and Self-Directed Supports. The next training will take place on
February TBA Beaverton
March TBA Klamath Falls
SAAL can set up a training in your area! For information, call Jill Murray at 1.800 410.7069, ext 134, or 503.232.9154, x 134.

Capitol Connections: A series of trainings that helps self-advocates get their voices heard by policy makers.

Advocacy Days: January 22nd Salem
Using Your Story: February 26th Salem
Role Play Session: March 25th Salem

For more information call Sarah Bustamante at 1-800-410-7069 x154.

Arc of Oregon Conference: May 7-8 at the Eugene Hilton. Please call Bev, 541-343-5256, for more information.

National Self-Advocacy Conference: May 27-30 in Anaheim California. Contact People First of California, 916-567-1974, for more information. People First of California is located at 1010 Hurley Way Suite 195 in Sacramento California, 95825, www.peoplefirstca.org.

People First of Oregon Conference: September 5th – 7th at the Portland Marriott. For more information call Larry Johnson at 541-343-1401.

Help SAAL prepare for the future

Self Advocates As Leaders are making goals for the next three years and would like your help. We would like you to fill out the short survey attached to this newsletter and mail it back to us. Your answers will tell us what SAAL should be doing. Your voice is valuable to us and we want your opinions to be heard!

SAAL is sponsored by the Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities, with support from the Center on Self-Determination at OHSU-OIDD