



Self Advocates in Leadership

# SAIL UPDATE

November 2009



**OUR MAIN FOCUS IN 2009 IS RESPECTFUL LANGUAGE!**

**THE SUSPENSE. . . DRUM ROLL PLEASE. . .  
WHO WON THE CHRIS PUNELL AWARD??**

The Chris Purnell Award was voted on by fellow SAIL members each year to honor a particularly deserving person who has worked hard in advocacy over the years. This year. . .



*The winner is*



**HEATHER HARPER**



Congratulations, Heather! Thank you so much for all of your hard work!  
We really appreciate your passion and leadership.

**Help has Arrived for our Website! Hurray!**



SAIL's website has needed an overhaul for quite some time now. Thankfully Shawn Latham has volunteered to help to fix it. At the meeting Shawn brought several new ideas to the group, to include on the website. The group also took an updated group picture to add to the website. The next meeting there will be additional pictures taken to include on the website.

**Thanks a million Shawn we couldn't do it without you!!!!**

For more information about SAIL, contact Emily Rogers: [emily@arcwa.org](mailto:emily@arcwa.org); 1.888.754.8798

Look for more information and pictures in the next newsletter about the Advocacy Matters! Award that SAIL received!!!! WAY TO GO!

# SAVE THE DATE

## January 20, 2010



DD Briefing, 2:30 PM-4:30, The United Churches, Olympia  
AND THEN GO TO

Legislative Reception, 5:30-7:30 PM Legislative Building Capitol Campus, Olympia

### A Message From The Chair



Hello!

Congratulations to everyone who has been a part of SAIL over the years, recently we received the Advocacy Matters from the Arc of the US.

Well Done! What a great honor for us!

This session coming up is going very hard. Now is a good time to think about what kinds of supports you use in the community and how important they are to your life. Legislators need to hear from us.

Hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Ken Larson, Chair

### The 2010 Legislative Agenda is Done!

During the meeting the group worked hard to finish the Legislative Agenda. There are currently 4 priorities for SAIL this year. They include:

- **Respectful Language Bill:** Replacing the term "mental retardation" with "intellectual disability"
- **No/Low Cuts:** Our lives fit together like pieces of a puzzle and without all of the services our lives cannot be the same.
- **Increase the Reimbursement Rate so that Dentists and Doctors will Accept Medical Coupons:** *Most of us receive Medicaid Coupons. We should be able to find a Doctor in our area that can treat our dental and health needs.*
- **Closure of State Institutions:** Support the closure of state institutions for people with developmental disabilities and create **the** best living environment for people.

