



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

April 26, 2010

Department of Human Services
Addictions and Mental Health Division
500 Summer Street NE E86
Salem, OR 97301-1118
Voice 503-945-5763
Fax 503-378-8467

Bob Bernstein, Executive Director
Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
1101 15th Street, NW, Suite 1212
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Request for support for "Amplify" training workshops

Dear Mr Bernstein:

This letter serves as a formal request for financial sponsorship from the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law for the following workshop to be provided in Oregon in five regional locations:

AMPLIFY THE VOICE OF MENTAL HEALTH CLIENTS:

**How Disability and Mental Health Consumer/Psychiatric Survivor Communities
Can Create Change Together!**

DHS Addictions and Mental Health Services invited Bazelon to support this model half-day workshop in June 2009 in Eugene, Oregon to assist with Olmstead implementation. Last year's workshop was a well-attended success, with high ratings from participants. We understand you personally had the opportunity to view this training, and gave it high recommendations.

Please consider support for five (5) more such half-day workshops to be held this fall, including a repeat in Eugene. Workshop organizers have partnered with local disability and mental health agencies to assist with logistics and marketing for these events at the following locations:

Portland, Beaverton, Salem, Eugene, Grants Pass


Executive Summary of the "Amplify" Training:

According to information provided by the trainers, the workshop will introduce tested strategies that have increased inclusion, collaboration, and coalition-building

If you need this letter in alternate format, please call 503-945-5763 (Voice) or 800-375-2863 (TTY)

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between the cross-disability and mental health consumer/psychiatric survivor communities as well as between agency allies and the public.

Countless studies show people diagnosed with psychiatric disabilities experience a severe level of discrimination, disempowerment and exclusion -- as have all people with various disabilities. We understand the workshop uses a model developed in Lane County, Oregon that shows how the cross-disability and mental health consumer/psychiatric survivor communities can successfully unite together to break down barriers, assist Olmstead implementation, locate and unite allies, and educate the public.

Target Audiences:

- Individual participants in groups and/or staff of agencies that advocate for support or serve individuals with disabilities.
- Leaders and emerging leaders in the cross-disability movement
- Individuals who self-identify as mental health consumers or psychiatric survivors.

We understand each workshop will have 35 to 40 participants, though with additional support from local partners this could be up to 80.

Topics Covered:

- History of the disability and mental health consumer/psychiatric survivor communities organizing together
- How collaboration between mental and physical disability organizations may assist Olmstead implementation
- The basics of coalition building
- Conflict resolution and mediating differences between beliefs
- Building independence through fundraising for your coalition work
- Uniting to educate the public using town forums and educational events

Training Outcomes:

- Train key staff and participants of cross-disability groups, such as centers for independent living, about cultural competency for inclusion of people with mental disabilities.
- Identify, empower and support new and emerging leaders in both communities, especially youth.
- Broaden mental health consumer voice, inclusion, leadership and participation among allied groups and agencies in the mental health and disability fields.

Partnerships:

Since May 2007 the Opal Network in Lane County has supported emerging leaders by providing community organizing training for mental health consumers and psychiatric survivors. The workshop described here is based off a series of ongoing, successful events held in Oregon by the Opal Training Institute.

We understand that the Oregon Consumer/Survivor Coalition (OCSC) is providing sponsorship to help support these training workshops. OCSC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) alliance that unites more than a dozen mental health peer-run organizations in Oregon.

The presenters for these half-day workshops include:

Bjo Ashwill, MS, LPC, NBCC is a counselor and teacher at Lane Independent Living Alliance (LILA). She has worked for inclusion of people with psychiatric disabilities in our CIL (Center for Independent Living) which is a cross disabilities organization. She helped co-found the Opal Network events which supports and empowers mental health consumer/survivor voice.

David W. Oaks is executive director of Mind Freedom International. He has been an international community organizer of mental health consumers and psychiatric survivors for 34 years. David is on the board of OCSC and the United States International Council on Disability (USICD). He helped co-found the Opal Network.

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We look forward to working again with Bazelon Center on these important "Amplify" workshops. When the cross disability and mental health communities work together, significant change for inclusion and empowerment can be accomplished. We hope this initiative which has started in Oregon will provide a positive model for other areas of the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shawn Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Shawn Clark

Workforce Development Manager

CC: David Oaks

SC/pa