



FAIR SHAKE NETWORK

Vol.:3 Issue: 2/3 *Quarterly Newsletter* Spring/Summer 2013

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“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.”
—Margaret Mead

Early Membership Drive

July 1, 2013 began our “Early Membership Drive”. If you join the Fair Shake Network as a new member, during the months of July, August or September, 2013 your membership carries over for the upcoming membership year (Oct 1, 2013-September 30, 2014). If you join during the month of July this gives you 15 months of membership for the price of 12 months.

Benefits of Membership:

- ❖ Updates and alerts on state and national legislative actions and issues.
- ❖ Access to trainings on self-advocacy, leadership, and a range of disability issues at reduced rates.
- ❖ Being part of the larger voice of the disability community in West Virginia and the United States.
- ❖ Provides members with the opportunity to network with other members.

JOIN TODAY! JOIN TODAY! JOIN TODAY!

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Division of Rehabilitation CAC Conference 2013

This year’s Division of Rehabilitation CAC Conference will be held for one day on October 10, 2013 from 9:00am-3:30PM. Sponsorships for lodging, travel and meals will **only** be provided for CAC members. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn and Suites in South Charleston. This year’s conference is for CAC members only. There will be a working lunch provided but due to budget cuts no other refreshments will be provided.

Registration and details are coming soon.



A CALL TO ACTION!

FROM BOARD MEMBER NANCY TYLER

Based on the often quoted statement by Margaret Meade which says "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the

only thing that ever has." , it seems like an important time for all of the members of the Fair Shake Network (FSN) to reach out and invite all of your individual supporters and friends to join this important organization.

During the next budget year, there will be continuing efforts and possibly needs to change services and to reduce them to meet the state's budget challenges. We must all come together with our friends and families to ensure that that does not happen. Although small numbers can make a difference it is much easier to have an impact with people from all over the state understanding the importance of services to those with disabilities and the importance of maintaining, if not improving, those services.

This is an excellent opportunity to reach out to people you know and encourage them to join the Fair Shake Network so that we can be assured our voices are heard. If we could contact every

legislator and help him/her to understand the importance of our service needs and the importance of the people with disabilities to the state, we would strengthen the voice of this organization and enable messages to get to many people in a short period of time.

The Fair Shake Network is the source of important political and policy information so that you will remain informed and be able to let people know what you think is important. It would be great if the membership could be expanded to include all people with disabilities and their families. Many people in the state are not aware of our organization so hopefully in the next six months everyone can make a concerted effort to spread the word. I would like to see the FSN board and staff prepare an article or two about FSN for all of you to send to your newspapers to tell the public about the important role FSN plays in state policy development and the importance of getting involved. Let's unite and get it done.

Nancy Tyler
Healthcare Consultant



FSN Meeting Schedule for 2013

2013 FSN Board Meeting Schedule: All Board Meetings will be held at the WVSILC/FSN Office and/or by Conference Call. Meetings will begin at 1:30 pm. on the following dates:
August 14 & November 13

2013 Membership Meeting Schedule: All meetings will be held at the Kanawha City WVDRS District Office and will begin at 10:00 am. on the following dates:
September 25 & November 20

Ken Ervin Community Living Act (HB 2731) Signed



After countless hours of advocating and networking, inside and outside of the WV State Capital, legislators and advocates fought until the very last day of the session, to insure the Ken Ervin Community Living Act was passed. Nearing the end of the session, it seemed that the bill had died. Refusing to give up, Delegate Barbara Fleischauer kept fighting for this bill and pulled as many strings as possible. On the very last day, Saturday April 13, 2013, the bill was passed! This is prime example of how one should never give up hope, and when you get knocked down the best thing to do is to get up and try again.

Governor Tomblin's Remarks about Bill HB 2731 :

And finally, I will sign the Ken Ervin Community Living Act. Sadly, this Act was not passed during Ken's lifetime. Born with cerebral palsy, he knew of the challenges and needs many people with disabilities face, and fight to overcome, on a daily basis. He was an advocate for the disabled, and he inspired many. Ken once said, *"Would you rather live in a community, or a place where you lose contact with family and friends?"* Today, with my signature on House Bill 2731, we're going to make it easier for those with disabilities to stay in their homes, and receive the quality care they need. This bill enables unlicensed medical personnel to receive necessary training to administer medicine and perform certain medical tasks like glucose tests and more. In doing so, we're helping those with disabilities receive the care they need, at a more affordable cost while maintaining safe medical practices. I believe Ken would be proud.

Photo Courtesy of the Governor Tomblin's Office
Gov. Tomblin is joined by legislators and supporters as he signs House Bill 2731. This bill enables those with disabilities to stay in their homes, and receive the quality care they need.

The Ceremonial Signing of the Ken Ervin Living Act.

Reprinted from WVSILC Spring -Summer 2013 Newsletter



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Jan Derry, Receives Civil Rights Award

On Friday, February 22, 2013 Jan Derry was honored at The Governor's 10th Annual Civil Rights Day at the Culture Center in Charleston, W.V. Jan was recognized for her outstanding contributions in the civil rights arena. This year's event theme was Advancing Civil Rights through Advocacy. Gov. Joe Manchin III designated the last Thursday of February, each year, as Civil Rights Day in West Virginia. It is a day set aside to recognize the West Virginians who made significant contributions to the Civil Rights Movement.

The West Virginia Civil Rights Award is given each year to recognize individuals or a group that has made significant contributions to WV in the area of Civil Rights. Contributions may be in the areas of Equal Employment Opportunity or Program Delivery and may include initiatives that increase the representation of women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities as customers, employees, or members of local boards, councils, and committees. We are very proud of Jan for receiving this well-deserved honor and for her advocacy work!

"You, and the other honorees, have made this country a better place to live, and it is because of your efforts that we enjoy the level of diversity we have today. Your commitment and passion to the struggle for equality and justice will not be forgotten." "Thank you for allowing me to honor you for your sacrifice and dedication. It is on your shoulders that we stand. I hope that you can join us as we pause to remember your contributions to the civil rights movement," The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor. *Reprinted from WVSILC Spring –Summer 2013 Newsletter*



ACIL Holds Open House



The Staff and Governing Board of the Appalachian Center for Independent Living recently hosted an Open House. The purpose of this event was to increase community awareness about their programs and to serve as a fund raising activity.

Prior to the event each Board Member sent letters to potential donors inviting them to the open house to learn more about our Center.

The event was held on April 12th and each attendee got to view a slide show about our Center, look at displays, pick up brochures and enjoy refreshments. There were about 25 attendees through- out the day and the activity raised about \$2,000.00.

The ACIL would like to thank everyone that attended and or made a donation.

CWVCAC Reactivating!



The Central WV Consumer Affairs Committee is reactivating and is looking for new and old members.

The Central WV Consumer Affairs Committee is a volunteer team

whose mission is to "...meet the needs of people with disabilities..." through public awareness, full inclusion, equal access, self-determination and community involvement at the local level. With the support from the WV Division of Rehabilitation Services, this chapter is one of many CAC's around the state, working to make a difference and network within their own communities.

Each CAC team is made up of people from differing backgrounds coming together on a common theme. The Central WV CAC team meets once a month at the WVDRS Office in Kanawha City for an hour usually from 1:30-2:30. We take great pride in taking advantage of a truly working team where the work continues outside of our meeting times. The CWVCAC serves

Boone, Calhoun, Clay, Jackson, Kanawha, Mason, Putnam and Roane counties.

Over the last several months, we have participated in a job fair with 20 tables, helped to plan this fall's Consumer Affairs Conference, and plan to have a table at the WV Power Fan Night Game. Being in the Charleston area, it is a good time to build our own chapter back up to its former strength.

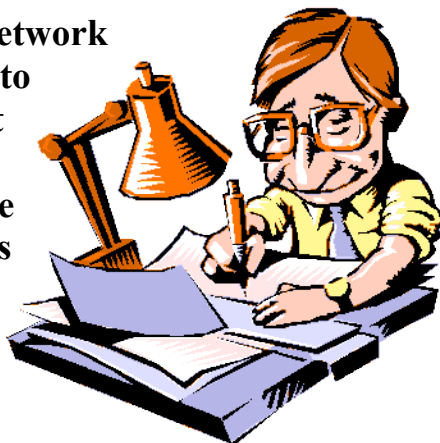
This is a great opportunity for people in Central West Virginia to work on issues that directly affect independence – jobs, transportation, discrimination, higher education, stigma and transitioning out of institutions. Ideally, the Committee will collaborate with other organizations and support networks that have missions related to ours: empowering people with disabilities to make informed choices and achieve equal opportunity, meaningful employment, independent living, economic and social self-sufficiency.

If you would like to get involved please come to one of our meetings or contact Courtney Bowman, DRS Liaison, at 304-356-2371 or email at cwvcac@outlook.com

NOTICE

The Fair Shake Network reserves the right to edit articles or not print content that does not reflect the mission and values of the Fair Shake Network.

Thank you.



Remaining 2013 Interim Committee Meetings

August 19 - 21, 2013
September 23 - 25, 2013
October 21 - 23, 2013
November 18 - 20, 2013
December 9 - 11, 2013
January 5 - 7, 2014



PAST PRESENT FUTURE

20TH ANNUAL PEOPLE FIRST OF WEST VIRGINIA

SELF ADVOCACY CONFERENCE 1993-2013

Jackson's Mill September 4-6, 2013



The People First Conference is designed to provide individuals with intellectual, cognitive, and related developmental disabilities with the knowledge and skills needed to successfully advocate for themselves on many issues. All sessions involve a lot of participation and are adapted and modified, when necessary, so individuals of all cognitive levels can understand and participate.

For More Information call 1-877-334-6581

This year they have two Keynote Speakers. Wednesday the Keynote will be Barbara Coppens, and her topic will be, Self-Advocacy: Where We Have Been...Where Are We Going? Barbara Coppens, Advocate Assistant with Disability Rights New Jersey For over 25 years, Barb has been focused on promoting the rights of those with disabilities and their efforts to live and work on their own in the community. It's a

journey that has taken the 54 year old Coppens from the Vineland Developmental Center in Southern New Jersey to the New Jersey Legislature and the White House, speaking out as an advocate on behalf of those whose voices are not always heard.

On Thursday the Keynote will be Ken Capone presenting on Advocating In Today's World: How Do We Have Our Voices Heard?

Ken Capone, Public Policy Coordinator, People On The Go, Maryland People On the Go is a group of advocates with intellectual and developmental disabilities who use their voices to be heard and recognized. They believe all people should be active participants in their communities and they strive to eliminate discrimination. People On the Go has been existence for 20+ years.

Continued on the next page

SAVE THE DATE:

- **What:** Low Cost Capacity Building Training for Disability Service Providers to Identify and Respond to Sexual Victimization of Persons with Disabilities.
- **When:** September 10-11, 2013
- **Where:** Blessed John XXIII Pastoral Center, Charleston, WV
- **Targeted Audience:** Organizations and Agencies that serve individuals with disabilities.
- **Trainers:** WV Foundation for Rape Information and Services
- **Sponsors:** Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living, Fair Shake Network, West Virginia Statewide Independent Living Council, West Virginia State Rehabilitation Council



**WATCH FOR REGISTRATION
INFORMATION COMING EARLY IN
AUGUST.**

20TH Annual PEOPLE FIRST Conference

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Available classes for this year are as follows:

Class #1

News reporting & Publicity: Interviewing, Writing Stories, Using Pictures /Video, Social Etiquette For All Settings: Meals, Meetings, Activities, and Events, First Aid and What to Do In An Emergency, Gardening: How to Plant and Grow Food and Flowers, Healthy Cooking and Meal Planning

Class #2

Computer and Technology Basics, Relationships: Getting Along With Others, Money Management and the Value of Money, Preparing For Employment: Resumes, Interviews, Transportation, People First Chapters: Growth and Leadership

Class #3

Computer and Technology Advanced, Safe Relationships: Staying Free of Abuse, Neglect, and Bullying, Futures Planning: SSI, Guardianship, Wills, Investments, etc., Micro-Enterprise: How To Start A Business, Fundraising For Your Chapter

Conference Registration

Registration forms must be received by August 15, 2013. The amount of room and funds available to support the conference will limit the number of participants. Don't take a chance get your registration in early.

Mail registration forms and payment for registration (if applicable) and lodging to:
People First of WV, 912

Market Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101 / Email
-registration@peoplefirstwv.org / Fax -
304-865-2072

Meals

All meals with the exception of the Wednesday Cook-out and Thursday Banquet Dinner will be all-you-can-eat meals that will be served family

or buffet style. Special diets will be accommodated but must be listed on the registration form.

Lodging

We are excited to be able to offer a variety of experiences in terms of lodging. Accessibility options vary by selection, so be sure to select carefully on your registration form. Cottages (\$14.50/per person per night)-Jackson's Mill is well known for its unique dormitory style housing located around the grounds. The size of the cottages vary from 15 to 56 beds. The only option for full accessibility (entrance & restroom) is a cottage, with some cottages only having an accessible entrance. Bed linens are furnished, but you will need to bring towels, washcloths, shampoo, and soap.

The following options are extremely limited in number and will ONLY be available for those based on accessibility or environmental need. Private Rooms (\$55.00 room per night)- Located in various cottages, the private rooms have two single beds, private entrances, and private bathrooms. Bed and bath linens are provided. Some private rooms are equipped with telephones, televisions, and/or air conditioning. Some private rooms have accessible entrances, while others do not. Private rooms are very limited so therefore are reserved by first come first serve.

Lodge Rooms (\$72.00/room per night) Located in Jackson Lodge, these motel type rooms have two double beds, telephones, air conditioning, and cable television. Bed and bath linens are provided. Two people per room are required. Lodge rooms and entrance are not accessible.

Again, For More Information call 1-877-334-6581

FSN Early Membership Drive

Continued from page 1

Membership fees and details are included in the Membership Application on page 9.

Membership fees support the important work/activities the FSN engages in to protect and improve the civil rights of West Virginians with disabilities and to promote best practices in public policies.

The Fair Shake Network **NEVER** denies membership due to the inability to pay a membership fee. If you are not able to afford the membership fee but would like to be a part of the Fair Shake Network, please contact Paul Smith to discuss the FSN payment plan, scholarship fund, or simply ask for FSN to waive the membership fee.

For the best deal please return your membership application and the **early membership fee** by July 31, 2013.

If you have any questions contact Paul at 304-766-0061, or 1-800-497-4746 (toll-free), or by e-mail at wvfn@suddenlinkmail.com

Mail completed FSN Membership Application to:

Fair Shake Network
PO Box 345
Institute, WV 25112

If you are a current member of the Fair Shake Network, we encourage you to recruit at least one new member during this membership drive.



Save The Date

Affordable Care Act Myths and Realities for People with Disabilities

**Friday, September 27, 2013
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Schoebaum Enrichment Center, Charleston, WV

Targeted to People with Disabilities and their Families

A limited number of stipends are available for persons with disabilities and family members.

Featured Speaker will be Perry Bryant, Executive Director West Virginians for Affordable Health Care.	Sponsored by the Fair Shake Network <i>And made possible through a grant from WVU Center for Excellence in Disabilities Family2family and WV Parent Training & Information Programs.</i>
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Along with other local speakers **Details and Registration COMING SOON!**

**Join Us or Make a Donation to the FSN
FAIR SHAKE NETWORK Membership Application**

Please complete all sections of this form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

County: _____ Phone# _____

E-mail Address: _____

How did you hear about the Fair Shake Network? _____

Due to the time sensitivity of some information will be sent by e-mail unless you prefer another method. If you cannot receive information by email please fill out the information below.

____ Fax #:

____ I do not have a fax machine, but can receive faxes at Fax #:

____ I do not have access to a fax, please **mail** me the information.

I need materials in the following alternative format:

This section is optional and is for grant and statistical data purposes only.

Please mark all that apply:

____ I am a person with a developmental disability (DD)

____ I am a person with a disability (Not DD)

____ I am a parent/family member of person with a developmental disability (DD)

____ I am a parent/family member of a person with a disability (Not DD)

I am from an agency/a friend/an advocate/an interested person (Circle one)

DUES/CONTRIBUTIONS:

____ Advocate Membership: \$20 per year ____ Independence Membership: \$250 per year

____ Assembly Membership: \$50 per year ____ Freedom Membership: \$750 per year

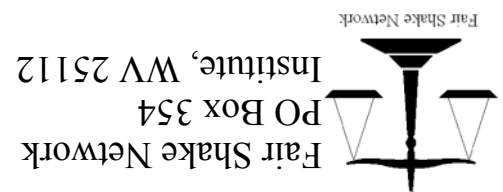
____ Alliance Membership: \$150 per year ____ Justice Membership: \$1,500 per year

____ Liberty Lifetime Membership: \$5,000 One-time Lifetime payment

____ **** I would like to set up an installment plan – please contact me**

____ *I am not interested in joining at this time but would like to make a donation to support the Mission and goal activities.*

Your contribution supports the important work/activities the FSN engages in to protect and improve the civil rights of West Virginians with disabilities and to promote best practices in public policies.



FSN

2013 Spring/Summer Edition 2013

Newsletter

Funds for the Fair Shake Network and their activities is provided by grants from the WV Developmental Disabilities Council, WV University Center for Excellence in Disabilities, WV Division of Rehabilitation Services and from membership dues, and other contributions.