

## **In Support of HB 2971**

As a Center for Independent Living, we provide services no other agencies provide. We provide Peer Mentoring, Advocacy, Independent Living Skills and Referral and Resources.

Consumer's who come into Lane Independent Living Alliance request services that a physician, Social Worker, Legal Aid, the court system Case Manager cannot provide. People with disabilities needs are different. Each has a physical or hidden disability and their needs are unique. Senior & People w/Disabilities refer their consumer's to us. Looking Glass refers their consumer's to us. The hospital, refer patients who are leaving the hospital to us. We work in partnership with Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

Consumers's from out of town e-Mail or call us for information. They want to know about housing, resources etc.

My co-workers from the Disability Navigator find their customer's have more needs than they can provide, so they refer them to LILA and visa versa, we refer consumer's to them for employment. We have a list of programs that we provide, they want to attend the support group, or become a member of the LILA Peer Support Club.

We are here to empower people with disabilities, not to hold their hands, but help as much as possible, then they move on with their lives.

We provide Housing 101, money management classes, support groups. They come to us, because we are also centrally located. .

Mental Health consumers have severe issues. We advocated for them to get in line w/appropriate MH care Sheltercare, Laurel Hill Center, Criminal Justice system. We recognize their Mental Health disability.

We assist with filling out applications, not do it for them, unless they are not physically capable of doing it or have a cognitive disability.

We show our peers we are not lesser than an able bodied person. We believe in the Holistic Approach, where we provide as much independent living skills training as we can to people with disabilities.

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