

**Wolf, Denise**

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**From:** ANDREA DAHL [ajd1900@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 13, 2005 10:46 AM  
**To:** Wolf, Denise  
**Cc:** Jude Monson  
**Subject:** My Testimony for tomorrow's hearing..

Andrea Dahl  
1900 South Third West #3  
Missoula, Montana 59801  
(406)728-5326  
[ajd1900@msn.com](mailto:ajd1900@msn.com)

My name is Andrea Dahl. I am a recipient of services from both Independent Living and Vocational Rehabilitation. I have worked with Summit Independent Living Center, Inc. as a Peer Advocate for over 15 years. During that time I have learned to advocate for individuals and to work on issues relating to disabilities. My work with Summit provided a supplementary income that was appreciated.

In 2000 I had to go through surgery that forced me to leave my employment as personal care provider. While I was going through the process to qualify for SSI, Summit provided me with a small income to help me make it through the 2 years. After my benefits started, with the help of VR I enrolled at the University of Montana to study social work. I feel the skills I acquired in my work as a Peer Advocate were what influenced me to look into social work as a future career.

I am presently doing my practicum with Summit and will complete my Bachelor in Social Work degree this year. I will be part of the graduation ceremonies in May. Summit has offered me a part time position following my graduation. It is the support I have received from Summit ILC and from Voc Rehab that has helped me overcome a major setback and to open new doors in my life. This would not have happened without the funding that is provided for both of these agencies.

Thank you.

Thank you

To whom it may concern;

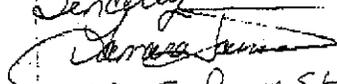
The LiftT people have done a wonderful job of making the ramp fit just right for my situation. It was very hard for me to go up or down stairs and the ramp makes it so much easier to gain access to the door on to the car. It seems like only a day or two from the original contact I had a ramp. Wow. A million thanks again  
 Ann Barback

P.2

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2595259

JAN-11-2005 14:04 FROM:

Sincerely  
  
 320 E. Power St  
 Glendive, Mt. 59330

Dear Legislators

My name is Thomas Rezman  
and I would like to ask you to help lift  
with funding for a very good "cause"  
they have helped me very much with my  
Disabilities. my back & left hand. Thanks  
to Kristy & Bobby - & Cathy Bach for their help  
with S.S. and listen to my problems they are  
good mentors to me and help me with my  
private problems, they "listen". Mentally it helps  
very much

Thank you very much  
Tom Rezman

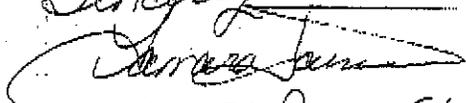
Dear Legislators

I would appreciate your vote for the Independent Living Centers.

I have back+neck problems + am also a single parent living on a limited income. I was told to speak with people at Independent Living + am glad that I have. They have been very helpful to me + have given me a lot of support at a time when I needed it.

I would encourage others to go + see the Independent Living but the only way this will happen if you secure the funding for the Independent Living programs so that they are able to help others in my situation.

Sincerely



320 E. Power St

Glendive, Mt 59330

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My name is Carl Austin and I'm from Glendive Mt. I'm writing this e-mail to express to you how important it would be to have a Disability Policy Coordinator. As a person with a dual disorder I feel that by having a person who is knowledgeable and possesses a disability that can represent those with a disability in the state of MT.

To me this person would oversee and make sure Disability policy's are followed.

I feel in picking a Policy Coordinator, the person picked should have a disability, because this person would know what other people who have a disability goes through on a day-day basis, therefore they possess the knowledge needed to represent those with a disability and can also pass this knowledge onto those that work with consumers who have a disability. To me it is very important in today's world, of all the

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hustle and bustle that there  
is help for those with a disability  
and that no-one falls through the  
cracks.

Thank you for your Time

CARL AUSTIN