



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Department on Disability Services**

**Office of the Director**

June 27, 2012

***Dear Disability Leaders, Stakeholders, Supporters & Consumers of Disability Services;***

The Department on Disability Services needs your assistance to re-energize the leadership committees that are so critical to the success of disability service programming in the District of Columbia. I am reaching out to those who care the most about our services, asking for your recommendations of individuals that may be interested in serving in a volunteer capacity on a DDS leadership committee.

Specifically, the DC **State Independent Living Council (SILC)** is in need of new members. This important council is required by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 USC Sec 796d) and a Mayor's Order (9-198). The SILC is charged with promoting the philosophy of independent living, which includes consumer control, choice, self-determination and equal access for all DC residents with disabilities. Members of the SILC have the opportunity to create projects and activities to enhance the ability of people with disabilities to live independently. SILC members are important to ensuring compliance with applicable laws governing independent living and advising me and the DDS staff about issues impacting people with disabilities in Washington, DC.

SILC terms are three (3) years long and require appointment by the Mayor. If you or someone you know is interested in being considered, please forward an email to my executive assistant, [Tonya.Poindexter@DC.gov](mailto:Tonya.Poindexter@DC.gov) and include:

- Your name,
- Your current address, phone number and email,
- A brief statement as to why you are interested in being appointed to the SILC,
- A brief summary of your education and/or experience that would make you a good candidate for appointment to the SILC.

If you have a current resume, please attach it or paste it into the email. If you wish to submit your information by mail, please send it to:

Department on Disability Services  
1125 15<sup>th</sup> St. NW  
Attn: Tonya Poindexter  
Washington, DC 20005

Once the initial applicant emails have been reviewed, our DDS staff will follow up and interested individuals will be required to provide additional information, including the formal Boards and Commissions application, tax affidavit/waiver and resume.

If you are a District resident, consider yourself knowledgeable about issues related to independent living for people with disabilities, and want to make a difference, maybe now is the time to lend a hand to your City. Submit your name or nominate a friend, colleague or family member. Help me build a more effective ***State Independent Living Council*** to lead the way to a better and more independent future for us all.

I welcome your inquiries and appreciate your consideration of my request.

Best Regards,

Laura L. Nuss, Director  
Department on Disability Services