

MAJOR STORIES:

Hiring People with disabilities...

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4th Annual Disability Policy Summit Held September 15th

The COALITION hosted the 4th Annual Disability Policy Summit at the AmericInn of Chamberlain on Thursday, September 15th. Disability Advocacy Network (Network) members representing 16 different disability organizations participated this year:

- Center for Disabilities
- Children's Care Hospital and School
- Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Independent Living Choices
- Learning Disabilities Association of SD
- NAMI SD
- North Central Chapter of PVA
- SD Advocacy Services
- SD Advocates for Change
- SD Association of the Deaf
- SD Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities
- SD Council of Mental Health Centers
- SD Council of Substance Abuse Programs
- SD RehabACTION
- SD Statewide Independent Living Council
- SD United for Hope and Recovery

The agenda included a look ahead at the 2011 Legislative Session, dialogue on the Network's funding priorities for the 2011 Legislative Session, Network strategies for the upcoming session, and identification of other emerging issues individual Network members are anticipating in the coming year.

The Summit also included reports on the status of the Medicaid Solutions Workgroup and Sub-Committees, Moving SD Forward Initiative, Behavioral Health Services Task Force, involuntary commitment processes, Health Insurance Exchange Workgroup, DHS Sunset Review, Sales Tax Exemptions Review, redistricting of legislative seats, major statute review looking at existing statutes that are "unnecessary, antiquated" and the potential for an omnibus bill next year to address these statutes.

Network members met with Governor Dugaard and his senior advisor, Deb Bowman, during the 2011 Legislative Session. Conversations are underway to schedule a follow-up meeting with Governor Dugaard in the coming weeks.

Hiring People with Disabilities

Posted by John Berry, White House Director,
Office of Personnel Management

October 14, 2011 – The Tony Coelho Award recognizes commitment and action to employ people with disabilities – in every available position. I was honored to accept this year’s award on behalf of OPM this past Wednesday. It reflects our work towards OPM’s simple goal: Hire the best.

At least two of our presidents, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln, lived with disabilities. First-hand accounts tell us that President Lincoln experienced depression. From his wheelchair, President Roosevelt led America through a Great Depression and a World War.

The American people hired the best in those two cases, and we need to do more of that today. We need to tap into the creativity, the determination, and the smart minds of the disability community.

That’s why President Obama set the goal of the federal government being a model employer of people with disabilities. That’s the way I set a goal at OPM that 10% of our hires should be people with disabilities – a goal we surpassed in 2011, with 11.2%. We’ve doubled our hiring among those with targeted disabilities, and we’re striving to hit our goal of making them 3% of our hires.

I see qualified people who are unacceptably underutilized even though they are willing and able to work and there are jobs they can excel at. This is unacceptable for all of us, because our nation will only continue to succeed if we leave no talent pool idle and untapped.

What didn’t stop Lincoln from reuniting our country shouldn’t stop anyone today from working as a defense civilian to continue protecting America.

What didn’t stop Roosevelt from fighting poverty and disease as President shouldn’t stop anyone from working at NIH to search for cures.

Remember, any of us could join this community in an instant.

While most people would fear such a change, the examples of leaders like Dan Inouye in the Senate, Jim Langevin in the House of Representatives, and countless of others shows that we should not.

Their service enriches our nation, and serves as a model to us all. Their example shows that you can live with a disability and make profound and lasting contributions to your neighbors, your community, and your country.

SD Getting \$3 Million in Transportation Grants

Associated Press – 10/18/2011

PIERRE – South Dakota is getting more than \$3 million in federal grants to upgrade transportation programs, Sen. Tim Johnson has announced.

The South Dakota Transportation Department will get \$480,000 to provide rural transit agencies statewide with upgraded computer software that will feature online booking and automated notifications to alert riders of delays and scheduling changes.

A \$116,000 grant will allow the city of Sioux Falls to buy an additional paratransit van.

River Cities Public Transit in Pierre will receive \$520,000 to surface the parking area around its new bus facility.

Community Transit in Sisseton will get \$240,000 to increase parking capacity at an existing bus garage.

Rapid City will receive \$1.7 million for vehicle replacement.

Holiday Closures of the COALITION Office

Friday, November 25th

Monday, December 26th

Monday, January 2nd

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK....

Dear Fellow Members,

A couple, three things or so—

First, thank you for electing me back on the COALITION board. It is a great board, and I am proud to be able to work with them.

Second, thanks to the board for electing me president. I will do my best to help grow the COALITION in the coming year.

Third, a big thank you to Dave Miller who brought the COALITION forward this past year. He will remain on the board as vice president.

Fourth, we have a great staff who works very hard to make our organization a “going and growing” organization. Over this past year they (along with board members) have done a lot of different things for us i.e., circulated Enews on state and federal issues; trained on Welcoming All Customers; provided state and federal legislative alerts; trained on the Value of Employment for People with disabilities; coordinated joint advocacy activities of 15 participating DAN (Disability Advocacy Network) members; provided administrative and technical support to the Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, Statewide Independent Living Council, Freedom to Work Project and Council on Developmental Disabilities; and during legislative session, prepared and circulated daily legislative updates - to name only a few. A HUGE thank you to them!!

However (and there is always a however), this all costs time and money. Your board reviewed the financial state of the COALITION at the last board meeting, and it determined that we need to strengthen our financial status if we want to continue our future work as we have in the past.

To do that, one thing we've decided to do is hold a membership drive. But this will be a very special membership drive. You will receive information in the mail shortly, if you haven't already, about this drive. Generally it goes like this...each member of is asked to recruit at least one (1) new member between November 1st and December 31st, 2011. We are sweetening this endeavor with a prize to the member who recruits the most new members. Plus all other members who recruit a least one (1) new member will be part of a drawing for a second prize. We hope that whether you win or not, you will help our organization by taking part in this membership drive.

Remember who we are...remember that the COALITION (you and me) believe in the inclusion of all people in all aspects of society and that everyone should have the freedom of choice to pursue their own quality of live. In order for us to grow and share this belief with others, we need to make others aware of us. And we need YOUR help to get it done.

'Til next time,

Margot



Thoughts from our Executive Director

"Little-d democracy" - does it ring a bell with you? It's something we often talk about as advocates. Yet until I read a piece the other day, I had never heard of "Little-d democracy". So what is it?

"Little-d democracy" is the basic idea that ordinary Americans, regardless of rank or stature, can have a voice in shaping their destiny. It is not about political parties or the procedures that government uses to operate on a daily basis. "Little-d democracy" is the basic idea (I would add - belief) that ordinary citizens, regardless of rank or stature, can have a voice in shaping their destiny.

Some would say that the huge gap between the mindset of Washington decision-makers and the daily realities of most Americans threatens "Little-d democracy". They point to some of the following as signs of this threat:

- For months, poll after poll shows that most Americans of all political persuasions believe that revenues (taxes) should be a part of any budget deal.
- Respected economists on both sides of the political spectrum agree that cutting spending during a recession is all but certain to make things worse.
- The President's call to the American people that they can and should communicate with those they voted into office set off a huge debate as to the appropriateness of his remarks and the motives behind them.
- The new "Super Congress," nicknamed the Gang of Twelve, is another sign of the current growing separation between the decision-makers (or as some would say - deal makers) and the people whose lives hang in the balance.

OK, so now we've looked at one side of the picture. What about the other side?

It began with "Occupy Wall Street". It has now moved into over 30 states. People of all ages, all ethnicities are raising their voices about decisions, which they believe no longer reflect America, as they define it. A few examples of the signs protesters are raising read - "I can't afford a lobbyist, I am the 99%." "Wall Street is our street." "I need a job now." "People not profits." "Wall Street gets a bail out. Where's my bailout?" The numbers are growing, and "Little-d democracy" is happening right now through this movement and beyond.

"Little-d democracy" happens every time a person takes time to respond to a telephone survey on today's issues. It happens when people take time to travel to Pierre and testify before a legislative committee. It happens when someone takes time to write or call their congressional delegation and shares his or her thoughts on issues. It happens when people take time to attend a public meeting with local, state or national decision-makers and raise their voices on issues of importance to them.

One sign from "Occupy Wall Street" said, "You have the right to remain silent. If you give up that right..." Rather than share that person's ending, I am challenging each of us to take time to finish it for ourselves. Let's work to make sure that "Little-d democracy" is alive and well in our lives today, and for years to come.

Shelley

Social Security:

The Numbers May Surprise You

By Kathy Petersen, Public Affairs Specialist,
SSA, Rapid City, SD

Social Security touches the lives of virtually every American. Whether it is after the loss of a loved one, the onset of disability or during the transition from work to retirement. Our employees and programs offer support to the people of this country, often during difficult times. We run one of the nation's largest entitlement programs, the Old Age, Survivors and Disability Program. We also administer the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program, which provides financial support to aged, blind or disabled adults and children who have limited income and resources.

You have a concept of what Social Security is about, but how well do you really know what we do? Here is a quiz to test your knowledge about the business of Social Security:

1. How many phone calls come into Social Security's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213, each year?
 - a. 2.0 million
 - b. 7 million
 - c. 9 million
2. How many disability applications are processed each year?
 - a. 3.2 million
 - b. 700,000
 - c. 200,000
3. How many earnings items are posted to workers' records?
 - a. 2 million
 - b. 100,000
 - c. 240 million
4. How many Social Security cards do we issue each year?
 - a. 2 million
 - b. 900,000
 - c. 17 million

- How many Medicare Extra Help applications for the prescription program do we process each year?
 - a. 30,000
 - b. 1.3 million
 - c. 4.2 million
 - How many appeal hearings do we hold each year?
 - a. 22,000
 - b. 738,000
 - c. 1.2 million
7. How many SSI applications for people or older do we take each year?
 - a. 101,000
 - b. 90,000
 - c. 293,000
 8. How many retirement, survivor and Medicare applications do we take each year?
 - a. 23,000
 - b. 839,000
 - c. 4.7 million
 9. How many people visit our field office yearly?
 - a. 10 million
 - b. 3.0 million
 - c. 4 million

Social Security is more than just retirement payments and Social Security cards. The numbers may be surprising, but one thing is not a surprise. Social Security has a long history of providing the best public service government has to offer.

(Answers on Page 7)



Research: Do Workshops Prepare Employees for Real Jobs?

Supporters of sheltered workshops have noted that one of the benefits of their facilities is that they prepare workers for community jobs because of the training and work experience they provide. The implication is that they improve outcomes of workers who wish for a community job. A recent study by Robert Cimera has tested this. Cimera studied two sets of data matched by demographic and disability labels of workers with intellectual disabilities. He compared work outcomes of those who had been in facilities with those who had not.

Findings? Each group had the same percentage of reaching a job – 60%, refuting the premise that workshops teach people needed work skills. In fact, those who did not attend a workshop earned more (\$137 weekly vs. \$119) and had more job hours (24.78 vs. 22.44). Further there was a significant cost savings for services for those employed without attending a facility. Those in workshops had average costs of \$8,659, while those not averaged \$5,399.

In the words of the author, *"while what individuals learned in sheltered workshops didn't improve their employability, it did appear to make them more costly to train."*

Cimera, R. (2011) Does being in sheltered workshops improve the employment outcomes of supported employees with intellectual disabilities? Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation, No. 35, pp. 17 – 21.

Mark Your Calendars!

**2012
87th Legislative Session**

1st Day – Tuesday, January 10th

Final Day – Monday, March 19th

Aging & Disability Resource Connections (ADRC)

Your link to home & community long-term service options

Trained staff assists individuals over 60 years of age or over 18 years of age with physical disabilities who are seeking home and community service options, regardless of income.

Based on each individual's requests and needs, Resource Connections will:

- Provide objective information on choices for available services.
- Help to evaluate the types of services needed.
- Make connections with organizations that provide services.

They will connect you to community services and supports such as: adult day services, assisted living centers, independent living centers, senior centers, mental health centers, transportation services, prescription drug assistance, Medicaid, Medicare, nursing facilities, adult protection services and planning for long-term care.

They will connect you to in-home services and supports such as: emergency response system, assistive devices, personal care (dressing, bathing, etc.), homemaker services (house cleaning), home-delivered meals, home modifications, nursing services, medication administration, respite care and companion services.

Contact the ADRC Call Centers at:

- Rapid City Area – 1.855.315.1986
- Pierre Area – 1.855.642.3055
- Watertown Area – 1.855.315.1987
- Mitchell Area – 1.855.315.1988
- Sioux Falls Area – 1.877.660.0301

Or email ADRC@state.sd.us

Blind Americans Equality Day, 2011

White House, Office of the Press Secretary – October 14,
2011 – By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Generations of blind and visually impaired Americans have dedicated their passion and skills to enhancing our national life – leading as public servants, penning works of literature, lending their voice to music, and inspiring as champions of sport. On Blind Americans Equality Day, we celebrate the achievements of blind and visually impaired Americans and reaffirm our commitment to advancing their complete social and economic integration.

My Administration is dedicated to ensuring Americans with disabilities have every opportunity to reach their full potential. Last year, I signed the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act to set new standards that enable people living with disabilities to access broadband, digital, and mobile innovations. To help level the playing field for employment, we are working to improve the Federal Government's compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. Making electronic and information technology 508 compliant will give applicants with disabilities a fair chance and allow employees with disabilities to use necessary tools while on the job. By taking these steps, my Administration reaffirms its pledge to openness by making sure that people with disabilities can better access all the information the Federal Government has placed online.

This year also marks the 75th anniversary of the passage of the Randolph-Sheppard Act. For decades, the legislation has provided openings for blind Americans to work as vendors on Federal property, creating meaningful entrepreneurial opportunities and enabling them to contribute to our economy. These jobs have enriched the lives of those participating in the Randolph-Sheppard program and enhanced public understanding of blindness for those who have interacted with the program's vendors.

Though we have made progress in the march to equality for the blind and those with low vision, there is still more work to be done. In addition to improving access to technology and employment opportunities, this January, I signed the Pedestrian Safety Enhancement Act. This landmark legislation requires electric and hybrid car manufacturers to add sounds to alert all pedestrians to the presence of these unusually quiet vehicles. These provisions will help increase the safety and independence of blind and visually impaired Americans.

By joint resolution approved on October 6, 1964 (Public Law 88-628, as amended), the Congress designated October 15 of each year as "White Cane Safety Day" to recognize the contributions of Americans who are blind or have low vision. Today, let us recommit to forging ahead with the work of perfecting our Union and ensuring we remain a Nation where all our people, including those living with disabilities, have every opportunity to achieve their dreams.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2011, as Blind Americans Equality Day. I call upon public officials, business and community leaders, educators, librarians, and Americans across the country to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of American the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

BARACK OBAMA

**Answers to
Social Security Numbers Quiz**
(page 5)

1 – b, 2 – 1, 3 – c, 4 – c, 5 – b,
6 – b, 7 – c, 8 – c, 9 – c

South Dakotans Talking

Do you want to be part of a local discussion about how our state raises tax revenue and spends it? Have you ever wondered how the budget process actually works and how you can influence it?

YOU are invited to be a part of a public forum in your area discussing the formation of the South Dakota budget and fiscal policy research. All events will include a light meal, followed by education and discussion around the South Dakota budget and fiscal policy.

The goal of these *South Dakotans Talking* sessions is to provide local communities with an opportunity to come together for a non-partisan budget discussion, to learn state budget basics, and to begin a consensus building discussion. Participants will share their thoughts and ideas in small group discussions and by using electronic technology called "Turning Point."

Events were held in mid to late October in Mitchell, Yankton, Ft. Pierre and Winner. Following is a schedule of upcoming events:

Rapid City – Monday, November 7th @ 4 to 6:30 p.m. and Tuesday, November 8th @ 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Black Hills Workshop. RSVP by November 4th to Brad Saathoff at 605 343-4550.

Kyle – Monday, November 7th @ 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lakota Funds Bldg. RSVP by November 4th to Lakota Funds at 605 455-2500 or tbunsch@lakotafunds.org

Huron – Monday, November 22nd at the Crossroads Convention Center (supper – time to be announced). RSVP by November 11th to Kristin Kline at 605 352-1008.

Milbank – Tuesday, November 15th @ 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. (location to be announced). RSVP by

November 11th to Bobbie Bohlan at gcdc@itctel.com.

Vermillion – Wednesday, November 16th @ 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (location and RSVP to be announced).

Eagle Butte – Friday, November 18th @ 12 to 2:30 p.m. (location to be announced) RSVP by November 15th to Tanya at 605 964-3687.

Sisseton – Monday, November 21st @ 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. (location to be announced) RSVP by November 18th to Paula Jensen at 605 698-7654.

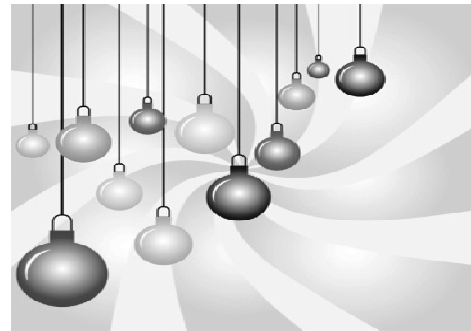
Aberdeen – Tuesday, November 22nd @ 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (location to be announced) RSVP by November 19th to Kari Fruechte at 605 685-6972.

Pierre – Thursday, December 8th (time, location and RSVP to be announced).

Sioux Falls – Monday, December 12th @ 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Main Branch, Siouxland Public Library (RSVP to be announced).

For the latest updates on scheduled meetings please check:

<http://igrow.org/events/>
or
www.sdbpp.org



***Happy Holidays from the
COALITION Board and Staff***

EEOC Calls Out Target & Starbucks for Disability Discrimination

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), the government agency that enforces the Americans with Disabilities Act in the employment arena, has settled with two major corporations related to discrimination of workers with disabilities.

Target Corporation will pay \$160,000 to settle the lawsuit. The EEOC had charged that Target refused to provide a reasonable accommodation for a cart attendant with cerebral palsy at a store in CA. Target hired Jeremy Schott, who has cerebral palsy, in 2002 as a part-time stocker. By 2003, he was the "Target Hero of the Month". He needed reminders to do certain tasks and a job coach to provide assistance at times. Schott succeeded at first, but, Target later failed to ensure the presence of a job coach during work meetings.

Following a medical leave of absence, Schott's work hours were decreased dramatically. In a settlement, Target must designate an ADA coordinator in its corporate human resources department and implement a company-wide policy regarding reasonable accommodations.

Meanwhile in El Paso, Texas, the EEOC charged Starbucks Coffee with denying a reasonable accommodation to a barista with dwarfism and firing her because of her disability. The company claimed she posed a "danger" to customers and employees. Under the terms of the settlement, Starbucks will pay \$75,000 in relief to compensate the worker. In addition, Starbucks has agreed to provide training on the ADA for all managers and supervisory employees at all of Starbucks' El Paso locations.

Learn about the
**TAXPAYER ADVOCATE
IRS SERVICE**

by going to www.irs.gov/advocate

Some WI Workers with Disabilities Paid 2 Cents per Hour

This month, the Green Bay Press Gazette featured an article that reviewed the ongoing debate over the use of sub-minimum wages for people with disabilities. The publication found over 10,000 Wisconsin citizens with disabilities earned less than minimum wage, ranging as low as 2 cents per hour.

The article also reviews a local sheltered workshop where 96% of workers are paid below minimum. Commentary against the continued use and defense of sub-minimum wage was posted by advocate Dale DiLeo on his blog at <http://raymondsroom.blogspot.com>.

14th Annual Youth Leadership Forum

June 3-7, 2012

Northern State University
Aberdeen, South Dakota

What is the Youth Leadership Forum? A unique career and leadership training program for high school juniors and seniors to learn more about self advocacy skills, disability awareness and more. Applications at:

www.tsllp.org/YLF

Application deadline is Friday,
December 23rd, 2011

***Wishing you and all those
close to you***



***a New Year of
happiness and peace.***

Bylaws Amended at 2011 Annual Membership Meeting

In late September, the COALITION held its 2011 Annual Membership Meeting at the AmericInn of Chamberlain. One order of business at that meeting was action on proposed bylaw changes, which had been sent out to the entire membership for review and comment 30 days prior to the date of the meeting.

Major changes focused on:

1. The number of persons needed to conduct business at both board and membership meetings.
2. Changing our membership year to coincide with our fiscal year of October 1st – September 30th.
3. Changing organizational processes i.e., board nominations and elections to coincide with the membership year – October 1st – September 30th.
4. Some revision of standing Board Committees and their functions.

If you would like to review the “current” bylaws in their entirety, as approved at the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting, please visit our website at: www.sd-ccd.org.

Vandals Strike Backens Statue

By Emilie Rusch
© Rapid City Journal – 10/20/11

It has happened so often in the past year that Bruce Backens has lost count.

Every few weeks, someone walks by the Americans with Disabilities Act Tribute Memorial in Memorial Park and breaks off the signature flag waving from the statue that was molded in the likeness of his brother, Scotty.

“I don’t know what the cause is,” Backens said.

In response to concerns, the Rapid City Police Department said Wednesday that it would

launch a Street Crimes Unit investigation of the repeated vandalism. Street Crimes officers work the downtown area, including the bike path and Memorial Park.

“It’s significant,” said Lt. Peter Ragnone, who oversees the downtown sector. “I’m disappointed that this is happening.”

(Continued on page 11)

This publication is the official publication of the COALITION (South Dakota Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities) and is published bi-monthly. We welcome letters, manuscripts, news items and other items of interest, which will be considered for possible publication within a future edition. This publication is mailed out to all COALITION members and other interested parties. Many of the articles in this publication are reprinted from other sources, as a means of giving our readers access to examples of information being presented to the general public locally and throughout the country. The opinions expressed in these articles do not necessarily represent the opinion of the COALITION, its membership or staff.

The COALITION is a strong supporter of using “People First” language and encourages its use in written and spoken communications. Some articles used in this publication may contain terminology that is not consistent with the “People First” concept. The language used by authors of articles that are not consistent with “People First” is not a reflection of the COALITION’s preference.

Please notify us of any change of address by writing: The COALITION; 221 South Central Avenue; Pierre, SD 57501; by phoning 605.945.2207 or 1.800.210.0143; or by emailing faithe@sd-ccd.org.

Vandals Strike Backens Statue

(Continued from page 10)

The vandalism is particularly frustrating to Backens, who worked for more than a year to raise enough money to build the statue in honor of his brother and all people with disabilities.

Backens and friends raised about \$85,000 to commission and install the statue, which was unveiled in July 2010 to coincide with the 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, a landmark piece of federal civil rights legislation. The statue is visible from Omaha Street near the old mid-block crosswalk between Sixth and Seventh streets.

Scotty Backens, a longtime fixture in downtown Rapid City, used a wheelchair for most of his adult life after a degenerative muscle and nerve disease took away the use of his legs. He died in 2006 at the age of 50.

The flag was one of Scotty's trademarks, according to his brother.

"He looks naked without it," Backens said. "He's an icon so everyone says I've got to put the flag back."

But at \$6 a pop, replacing the bicycle safety flag is getting expensive, especially when Backens knows it is probably just going to get broken off in a matter of weeks. When commissioning the statue, he and sculptor John Lopez talked about whether the flag should be cast in bronze as part of the sculpture but decided against it for practical and sentimental reasons.

"It looks like him. The flag has to wave in the wind," Backens said. "A bronze flag isn't going to do that."

City parks manager Lon Van Deusen said while he was not aware of the vandalism, he understood why the family would be upset, given all the work and effort it took to get the statue on display.

City parks crews do not typically do maintenance or repairs on public art in city parks, leaving that responsibility to the artists who know the pieces best, he said.

"We deal with vandalism on a daily basis in the parks system," Van Deusen said. "I know how I feel when I see things happen like that when you try to provide nice things for people and they get damaged by uncaring individuals."

Ragnone said, as far as he knows, the police department also has no official reports of vandalism on the statue.

But that doesn't mean they won't take Backens' concerns seriously, he said. Similar reports of vandalism on other pieces of public art, including the city of Presidents statues downtown, are extremely rare.

"It's not surprising these statues aren't vandalized. They are near and dear to the people. They belong to the community," Ragnone said. "When they are victimized, it's a crime against the community."

Membership Drive Underway During November & December

Our goal is to "double" our membership in two months. How do we see this happening? If each current member – individual and organizational – recruits one (1) new member, we will double our membership. That's right! Each current member only needs to recruit one (1) new member – individual or organizational.

Why is this important? Conversations are happening every day at all levels of government, which will impact our lives and the COALITION's goal of inclusion of all people. Widening our circle and strengthening our voices will help us to continue working to ensure that the needs of people with disabilities and their families are an integral part of all of those conversations. Please help us "double" our membership NOW!

November 2011 – Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 People Planning Together Day 1 – Mitchell 9 am – 4 pm Info: 605.773.3438	2 Fundamentals of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders/Aberdeen Info: 605.357.1439 <hr/> People Planning Together Day 2 - Mitchell	3	4	5
6 Daylight Saving Time Ends	7	8 Election Day <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Transitions in Housing – SD Housing Development Authority Conference/Pierre</div>	9	10 Be a Superhero For Your Child – SD Advocacy Service (Parents Role/IEP Process) 1.800.658.4782	11 Veterans Day	12
13	14	15 Regional Transition Forum/Pierre 11 am - 2:00 pm Info: 605.224-6287 or drounds@tie.net <hr/> Our World in Sioux Falls - 2011 Sioux Falls Diversity Conference	16 Regional Transition Forum/Platte 11 am – 2:00 pm Info: 605.353.8571 or lwehlander@tie.net	17	18 Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports for Students with Autism Spec Disorders/Yankton Info: Angie at 1.800.658.3080 <hr/> Regional Transition Forum/Rapid City(11 -2pm) Info: 605.347.4467 or dhalverson@bhssc.tie.net	19
20	21	22	23 Regional Transition Forum/Madison Info: 605.367.5330 or bev.petersen@state.sd.us	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27	28 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Statewide Independent Living Council Pierre</div>	29	30			
	PCT Training Day 1 Mitchell 9 am – 4pm	PCT Training Day 2 Mitchell 9 am – 4 pm				

December 2011 – Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 COALITION Board Meeting - Chamberlain Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports for Students with Autism Spec Disorders/Mitchell; Info: Angie @ 1.800.658.3080	3 Sibshops Sioux Falls Info: 1.800.640.4553
4	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8	9 Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired Pierre	10
		Board of Vocational Rehabilitation Sioux Falls	14	15	16	17
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Hanukkah begins at sundown	21	22	23 Applications due for Youth Leadership Forum Applications available at www.tslp.org/YLF.htm	24
25 Christmas	26	27	28	29	30	31