

## People with IDD Wait To Be Served!

### Caseload Forecast DDA Services!



## Close Rainier School Move Clients into Community Housing

SAIL supports an institutional closure bill to close Rainier School and ICFs by the end of 2024. We believe these Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF) should be closed because people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD) want to live in the community with the proper services and supports.

Disability Rights Washington (DRW) has a lawsuit against the Department of Social and Health Services because Rainier School has so many violations. The State has had reviewers go in five times and they found that residents were in danger of being harmed. The lawsuit cites Rainier School Staff using physical and chemical restraints and says that people there are living in fear of psychological and bodily injury. Rainier School cottages are being de-certified by the federal government because they aren't up to federal standards, don't have enough direct care staff, and the staff is disorganized, confused and they don't take responsibility when things go wrong.

The lawsuit asks for the State to quit putting new people into Rainier and help all the people who are in Rainier that want to move out, to be transitioned safely into the community. There are currently 37 residents who have the funding to move out, but have been stuck there. 19 of those people have been waiting over a year to move out!

SAIL members say, "Enough is enough!", the abuses and deaths at Rainier have continued for too long. Don't keep throwing money at this problem that never improves! It is time to learn from the mistakes of the past and do things differently.

SAIL members ask that the legislature provides funding to safely transition all residents into community settings by the end of the 2023-2025 biennium and close the doors on Rainier as a state institution for people with IDD. We want the state to ensure each person has a well thought out transition plan before they move.

There are only **233** people still living in our ICFs and **72** of them are at Rainier, but it costs about \$1,400 PER DAY for them to live there.

A State Operated Living Alternative (SOLA) is an average of only \$800 PER DAY.

Supported Living is even less, only \$531 PER DAY.

The extra money saved could be used to improve community services. Many of our members have previously lived in an ICF and all of them say "Shut them Down!"

It is because of these and other concerns at Rainier School, the Coalition of Self Advocates in Leadership is calling for you to

## Close Rainier School!

For more information:

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View the DRW lawsuit at:

<https://www.disabilityrightswa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Complaint-1.pdf>

