Fellowship Project:
Medicaid Policy Changes

Host name & organization name:
Jenny Neugart
WI Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

State: Wisconsin
Project Summary

- Study the process for getting durable medical equipment
- Find ways to lessen the time it takes to get equipment
- Look at the training required for rehabilitation specialists/seating specialists
- Develop ideas to attract more people to the field
Explain Your Project: What was your goal?

1. Do a survey to find out other people’s experiences with getting equipment.

2. Improve Medicaid policies so the process moves faster.

3. Get more rehab specialists in the field so people don’t get stuck at home waiting for repairs.
How did you reach your goal?

• Talked to a lot of people!
  • Governor and other legislators, people with disabilities, community leaders, rehab specialists, therapists, doctors, teachers and more!
  • Each conversation moved me closer to my goal.
Big Activities and Accomplishments

How did you reach your goal?

- Created a survey to find out about other people’s experience.
  - 50 people responded
Big Activities and Accomplishments

How did you reach your goal?

- Spoke at several conferences
Big Activities and Accomplishments

How did you reach your goal?

- Got my wheelchair!
  - Took a full year
  - Had to pay out of pocket for the seat elevation
How did you create the resource?

- Talking to other people who have gone through the process.
- Thinking through my own experiences.
- Brainstormed a list of tips.

How can it be used by self advocates?

- The tips can help make the process easier, faster and know where to start.
- The tips will give people a sense of direction and advice.
How did you create the resource?

- Brainstormed a list of questions we wanted to know more about.
- Reached out to my wheelchair specialist about the questions.
- Used Survey Monkey to collect the data.

How can it be used by self advocates?

- There are stories and recommendations that could be helpful.
- Self-advocates could share the summary with decision-makers.
How did you create the resource?

- I speak at conferences a lot, so I wrote down the things I usually cover during presentations.

How can it be used by self advocates?

- Self-advocates can simply fill in the outline with their own information.
- It can be easily changed to fit just about any presentation.
- It can be shared with other self-advocates and organizations.