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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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IDAHO STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC) HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BOISE, ID, June 1, 2009, the Idaho State Independent Living Council (SILC) announced today that they have hired an Executive Director to replace Kelly Buckland, who has accepted a position as the Executive Director for the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) in Washington, D.C.

The SILC has named Todd DeVries as the new Executive Director in Boise, Idaho. Todd is the former chair of the SILC and has served on the Council for over six years. He has also served on the Idaho Task Force on the ADA and worked with various non-profit organizations throughout the state, specifically in the Idaho Falls and Pocatello areas. Todd is currently employed by Idaho State University as a coordinator for the University's ADA and Disability Resource Center. Todd has a background in working with people of disability with significant interests in access technology and transitioning students from high school to the adult world. He joins the SILC staff June 8, 2009.

Todd states he is looking forward to leading the SILC in continuing to provide outstanding advocacy, fostering relationships and creating opportunities to share our message and beliefs which will allow our organization to grow in unexpected and surprising ways.

Todd loves the outdoors and enjoys many activities which Idaho offers, including kayaking , hiking and cross country skiing.

SILC Chair, Angela Lindig, says, “The SILC staff and fellow council members warmly welcome Todd as the new director and wish Kelly Buckland continued success in his new endeavors in Washington. Staff, council and fellow independent living (IL) advocates have stated how much they will miss Kelly in the Idaho field of IL, but are excited to have such an experienced advocate on the national front.”

The Idaho State Independent Living Council bears the primary responsibility for developing the State Plan for Independent Living. SILC’s mission of advocating for equal opportunity, self-determination and choice for those with disabilities includes an emphasis on education and training for providers who move those with disabilities from dependence to empowerment and self-sufficiency.

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