## **Iowa State Report**

Submitted by Sybil Finken, VOR Iowa State Coordinator

The state of Iowa has two, state-run ICFs. One is located in the middle of the state near the state capital, Des Moines (Woodward Resource Center - WRC) and one is the south west corner of the state across the river from Omaha, NE in Glenwood (Glenwood Resource Center - GRC.)

My son Seth has made his home on the GRC campus since 1984. My husband and I have lived in Glenwood since 1976 where we raised our family.

Both Resource Centers survived the DOJ investigations, but have been put on a slow bleed (downsizing 12 individuals per year from each facility.) This number 12, it is important to note, was not part of the DOJ settlement, but a number randomly chosen by the Department of Human Services. Currently, the numbers are as follow:

	GRC	WRC
Census:	231	143
Admissions:	2	4
Dismissals:	9	14
FT employees:	788	600
Group Homes:	5 HCBS waiver homes run by GRC	12

Just this past week, Governor Branstad and <u>Lieutenant</u> Governor Kim Reynolds visited the GRC campus. I had the opportunity to speak with them AGAIN about the downsizing. Currently, GRC has, in addition to the 231 ID/DD individuals residing there, a number of private entities sharing space on the 1000 acre campus. They include:

On With Life (Long term care for TBI) I serve on the board of OWL Glenwood Public Schools: Administrative offices, day care, Head Start Mills County Public Health

Newest to the "hill" is **Glenhaven Nursing Home**. Glenhaven is in the process of leasing 7 of the empty houses (lovely, ranch style homes built on the campus from 1976 - 1990.) They hope to relocate to the campus and have the residents live in more of a "homey" setting. It's a new concept, they say. HA! The questions remain: **Why are the houses empty in the first place? And, why is it okay for elderly people to enjoy this setting and not people with ID?** 

I did manage to get to ask those very questions to the governor in front of the press and the 20 something people who were on that tour. It was appropriate that we were standing in one of the houses that has been vacated for the Glenhaven -- the home where my son Seth lived for 30 years! Fortunately for Seth, he just had to move up the street to another house.

And so it goes in Iowa.