

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Disability Law Colorado's Current Executive Director, Carrie Griffin Basas, Accepts Position as Executive Director of Disability Rights Washington, Beginning September 2023**

*Carrie expects to wrap up her work with DLC by mid-August to prepare for her family's move to the State of Washington. She moved to Colorado from Washington in 2022 to lead DLC after the retirement of DLC's long-term Executive Director, Mary Anne Harvey.*

**[Denver, CO | July 18, 2023]** Disability Law Colorado (DLC) is saddened to announce the upcoming departure of its current Executive Director, Carrie Griffin Basas. Carrie is returning home to the State of Washington to lead Disability Rights Washington. However, leaving DLC was not an easy decision. Carrie has worked very hard in her time at DLC to advance disability rights, justice, and advocacy work across Colorado. She looks forward to remaining connected to DLC as part of the national network of protection and advocacy organizations.

Carrie has built a resilient and talented leadership team, cultivated new opportunities for staff, and worked in collaboration with the Board of Directors to make additional investments in staff, ranging from salary increases to a more flexible workweek. She leaves behind a passionate, unified, and extraordinarily capable team, an energized Board of Directors, and a strong organization. That is quite a legacy for such a short tenure!

Thanks to Carrie's hard work, DLC's longstanding history of being a powerhouse in areas ranging from education justice to the rights of those who are incarcerated has continued. Last month, DLC received National Disability Rights Network's *Advocacy Award* for its work on behalf of incarcerated youth eligible for IDEA services—which is a tremendous honor!



Additionally, under Carrie's direction, and in partnership with several local organizations, DLC successfully hosted its first annual Disability Rights Advocacy Day on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

*Pictured (left) is Carrie presenting closing remarks to community members and disability rights advocates in the Old State Library of the Colorado State Capitol on Disability Rights Advocacy Day.*

But there is so much more to do...and we are committed to doing it together, with **you**, our community of fierce disability rights advocates.

The Board of Directors has commenced a search for a new Executive Director. The Board looks forward to partnering with a new Executive Director who will support the staff to continue their engagement in disability protection and advocacy, build community engagement throughout the state, and guide innovation for disability justice throughout Colorado.

***Disability Law Colorado's Board of Directors will share more news with the community in the coming weeks about its search process for a new Executive Director.***

###

**About Disability Law Colorado:** Disability Law Colorado is the Protection & Advocacy System for Colorado. We work to protect disability rights and improve the human, civil, and legal rights of Coloradans through legal representation, advocacy, and education.

**Press Contact:**

Lindsay Leuthold  
Director of Development & Marketing  
Disability Law Colorado  
Email: [LLeuthold@DisabilityLawCO.org](mailto:LLeuthold@DisabilityLawCO.org)  
Phone: 720-610-4286