

.....FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.....

~ Meg Paulsen ~

Crowned

Ms. Wheelchair Washington 2008



*"My lifelong ambition has been to make the world a better place for members of my community"*  
~ Meg Paulsen,  
Ms. Wheelchair Washington 2008



Meg Paulsen , who was born with Spina Bifida and utilizes a wheelchair for mobility, feels that her disability is a "gift" and has always made the choice to lead her life by example. She is an active and energetic person who loves recreational activities such as hand-cycling, cross-country skiing, boating/sailing, and traveling.

Meg's ambition is to educate others that despite judgments and prejudices that surround society's view of disability, these judgments are rarely correct. It is her hope that someday people with disabilities will be viewed as people first and not be defined by their situations.

Through the character building challenges of living with a disability, Meg feels as though she has developed a strong sense of self, which has allowed her to grow into a person who does not let anyone hold her back from what she feels her purpose in life is - to consciously and unconditionally contribute to her community. Meg's drive to contribute to her community has led to her voluntary involvement with numerous organizations serving people with disabilities such as:

The Washington State Business Leadership Network where she serves as Vice President and Washington Vocational Services where she serves as a Board Member. Both of these organizations serve people with disabilities who are seeking employment opportunities.

Professionally, Meg has incorporated her commitment to assisting people with disabilities in finding employment by working with Volt Technical Resources, a worldwide staffing agency, for the last seven years in the Diversity and Training Departments. Her vocation includes representing Volt at Diversity driven events with a strong focus on social service organizations that assist people with disabilities in employment.

**Meg's Platform Title: Employment of wheelchair users of all abilities**

**Platform Focus:** To use her resources and networking opportunities to enhance the recruitment, hiring and employment practices used by companies in regards to potential and current employees with disabilities. It is her hope that these efforts will in turn change the behaviors and environments of those corporations and that these changes will lead to the creation of sustainable career opportunities and win/win situations for both employees and employers.