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## **Disability Rights Wisconsin Announces Send-Off of Executive Director**

(Madison) – Disability Rights Wisconsin's Board of Directors announces the resignation of the Executive Director, Lea Kitz. "Under Lea's leadership, DRW has increased the organization's capacity to reach our critical mission of advocating for people with disabilities and bringing about important systemic changes in policy. We are sorry to see her go and are very grateful for her commitment to the DRW mission and vision over the many years she has served.," stated Nancy Heltemes, Board President.

Kitz came to Disability Rights Wisconsin in 2011, serving as Executive Director for the last four of those years. She will continue in her position until the May 31, 2023. "It's been a wonderful, fulfilling experience, and I've been proud to be just a part of the skill and expertise of the staff at DRW," said Kitz. "A strong sense of fairness and equity drives our efforts to pursue justice with and for people with disabilities." DRW's dedicated Board of Directors is already hard at work conducting a search for a new Executive Director.

Disability Rights Wisconsin is the federally mandated Protection and Advocacy system for the state, charged with protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities and keeping them free from abuse and neglect. DRW uses a variety of strategies to achieve its mission, including individual casework and systemic change. The organization increases its effectiveness by collaborating with other advocacy and service organizations. It receives funding from federal and state grants, as well as other funding streams. Donations help DRW push forward public policy improvements that make a difference for thousands across the state.

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