

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

February 4, 1997

The Developmental Services Division has recently received word from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that our grant application for implementing self-determination initiatives in Vermont has been approved.

Over three years, the grant award of \$400,000 will be used to develop the capacity in Vermont to provide the supports necessary to assure people with developmental disabilities and their families will be truly empowered to take the lead in determining the nature of the supports they receive. Self-determination activities are integrated within the plans for comprehensive systems change currently being completed in Vermont. The "*Just Do It*" project will provide resources that focus on perhaps the two most critical aspects of the redesigned service system; the implementation of consumer directed and controlled budgets, and the development of a system based on consumer choice.

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