

# I.L. SUMMIT 2009

A Conference sponsored by the Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council

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July 15, 2009

To whom it may concern,

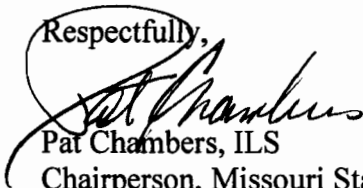
I first met Scott Lewis in December 2008 at an Emergency Preparedness conference in San Diego. Scott presented his Pathfinders program to the approximately 125 emergency management professionals in attendance. I was extremely impressed with the concept. Scott's ability to grab and hold the audience's attention led me to asking him to come to Missouri as a featured speaker for last month's Independent Living Summit in Columbia, Missouri.

Scott was the Opening Keynote Speaker at *I.L. Summit 2009*. He addressed the more than 330 attendees with the same passion and common sense approach that I had seen him deliver in San Diego. The audience, made up of representatives of all twenty-two of Missouri's Centers for Independent Living as well as support and partnering agencies, were as receptive to Scott and his disaster response program as I was in San Diego. As a matter of fact the Case Manager Supervisor for Missouri's Long Term Recovery Committee Karen Benson was so impressed that she met with Scott immediately after his hour-long presentation and then drove to the state capitol in Jefferson City, Missouri that afternoon to pitch the program to Missouri's State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) The SEMA Directors responded just as quickly and directed Karen to take the steps necessary to bring Scott and the program to Missouri.

Scott's disaster response concept is revolutionary, but it takes a person with the ability to communicate the concept to truly deliver the message. I have seen Scott do that to two different groups. He interacts with his audience, makes personal contact with individuals throughout the room, and talks to a group as individuals. That ability to talk to Independent Living Specialists, Emergency Management professionals, and representatives of local, state and national government is why a great program is being so rapidly accepted and implemented across the country.

I am looking forward to Scott bringing The Eagles Wings Foundation and Pathfinders program to Missouri. The I.L. Summit Planning Committee wanted our event to be a conference people walked out of saying "WOW." Scott WOWED "the Show-Me State" and I am sure he will have the same motivating impact on every group and/or organization which uses him as a trainer and/or speaker for their meetings.

Respectfully,



Pat Chambers, ILS

Chairperson, Missouri Statewide  
Independent Living Council's

Training & Emergency Management Committees