

Advocacy & Disability Rights

Advocacy takes many forms. Sometimes, it means sharing your opinions with your members of Congress about proposed legislation. More often, it means standing up for yourself and your community in your school, town hall, and even your own doctor's office. It always means working to make the world better for people living with disabilities. This fact sheet provides resources and information on advocacy organizations and avenues to help you advocate for yourself and everyone living with disabilities.

adapt@adapt.org

<http://www.adapt.org/>

ADAPT

1208 South Logan Street

Denver, CO 80210

E-mail: adapt@adapt.org

ADAPT is a national grass-roots community that organizes disability rights activists to engage in nonviolent direct action, including civil disobedience, to assure the civil and human rights of people with disabilities to live in freedom. There are ADAPT groups in many states: <https://adapt.org/adapt-groups/>

www.aapd.com

American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)

2013 H Street, NW, 5th Floor

Washington, DC 20006

Phone: 202-521-4316

Toll-free: 800-840-8844

AAPD is the largest national cross-disability member organization in the United States, dedicated to ensuring economic self-sufficiency and political empowerment for 56 million Americans with disabilities. AAPD works with other disability organizations for the full implementation of disability nondiscrimination laws.

www.MedicareAdvocacy.org

Center for Medicare Advocacy

P.O. Box 350

Willimantic, CT 06226

Phone: 860-456-7790

The Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc., established in 1986, is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan law organization that provides education, advocacy and legal assistance to help older people and people with disabilities obtain fair access to Medicare and necessary health care. The Center is headquartered in Connecticut and Washington, DC with offices throughout the country.

<http://www.changingspacescampaign.com/>

Changing Spaces Campaign

This parent-led group advocates for accessible public rest rooms with adult sized changing tables so that adults with disabilities don't have to be changed on the floor.

<http://www.disabilityrights.org/>

Council for Disability Rights

On national, state, and local levels, the Council for Disability Rights advances the rights of people with disabilities. The Council promotes public policy and legislation, public awareness through education, and provides information

and referral services. The Council's office is closed, but the site maintains links to books and other resources for people with disabilities.

<http://www.disabledparentrights.org/>

Disabled Parents Rights

1270 Automation Drive, Suite 2000

Windsor, CO 80550

Phone: 970-460-6765 (office)

Phone: 720-363-1131 (office)

Email: info@disabledparentrights.org

Disabled Parents Rights is a small organization dedicated to combating discrimination that impacts parenting for parents with disabilities. They provide direct representation, advocacy, and technical assistance to disabled parents, as well as their advocates and attorneys.

<http://dralegal.org/>

Disability Rights Advocates

2001 Center Street, Fourth Floor

Berkeley, CA 94704-1204

Phone: 510-665-8644

655 Third Avenue, 14th Floor

New York, NY 10017

Phone: 212-644-8644

Email: frontdesk@dralegal.org

A non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and advancing the civil rights of people with disabilities.

www.disabilityrightslegalcenter.org

Disability Rights Legal Center

350 South Grand Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90071

Phone: 213-736-1334; 866-999-3752 (toll-free)

Video Relay: 213-908-1079

Email: DLRC@drlcenter.org

DRLC is a national organization whose mission is to advance the rights of people with disabilities through education, advocacy, and litigation.

<http://www.dredf.org/>

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)

3075 Adeline Street, Suite 210

Berkeley, CA 94703

Phone: 510-644-2555, 510-841-8645 (FAX/TTY)

E-mail: info@dredf.org

Founded in 1979 by people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities, DREDF is a national law and policy center dedicated to protecting and advancing the civil rights of people with disabilities through legislation, litigation, advocacy, technical assistance, and education and training of attorneys, advocates, persons with disabilities, and parents of children with disabilities.

<https://www.disability.gov/resource/disability-govs-guide-disability-rights-laws/>

Disability.gov: Guide to Disability Rights Laws

<http://www.endabusepwd.org/>

End Abuse of People with Disabilities

Email: cvs@vera.org

Phone: (212) 376-3096

Toll Free: 1-855-274-8222

The End Abuse of People with Disabilities provides a space to access the latest resources and research from the field and to advance the thinking around intervention and prevention. They provide free publications, training materials, events, and a search tool to find local organizations working to end abuse of people living with disabilities.

www.HCBSadvocacy.org

HCBS Advocacy

Email: hcbsadvocacy@gmail.com

Info for advocates about the new Home and Community-Based Services rules including state and national information.

Human Rights Commissions

Many states have a human rights commission which helps protect people from discrimination, including discrimination against people with disabilities. Please see the state fact sheet for the state you live in for contact info.

www.fvkasa.org

Kids as Self Advocates

Phone: 207-458-1009

Email: bbaker@familyvoices.org

Kids As Self Advocates (KASA) is a national, grassroots project created by youth with disabilities for youth.

www.ncd.gov

National Council on Disability (NCD)

1331 F Street, NW, Suite 850

Washington, DC 20004

Phone: 202-272-2004

Email: ncd@ncd.gov

NCD is an independent federal agency making recommendations to the President and Congress regarding policies and programs that guarantee equal opportunity and empowers people with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion into all aspects of society.

<http://www.ndrn.org>

National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)

820 1st St. NE, Suite 740

Washington, DC 20002

Phone: 202-408-9514

TTY: 202-408-9521

NDRN (formerly the National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems, NAPAS) is the nonprofit membership organization for the federally mandated Protection and Advocacy (P&A) Systems and Client Assistance Programs (CAP). Collectively, the P&A/CAP network is the largest provider of legally based advocacy services to people with disabilities in the U.S. Each state has a Disability Rights Network Center.

www.nod.org

National Organization on Disability

77 Water Street, Suite 204

New York, NY 10005

Phone: 646-505-1191

Email: info@nod.org

Since 1982, NOD has been working to expand the participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of American life. NOD promotes voting, housing, employment, religious access, accessible urban design, statistical surveys, and marketing to the disability community.

<http://www.patientadvocate.org/>

Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF)

421 Butler Farm Road

Hampton, VA 23666

Phone: 800-532-5274 (Toll-free)

Email: help@patientadvocate.org

A national non-profit organization that seeks to safeguard patients through effective mediation assuring access to care, maintenance of employment and preservation of financial stability. PAF serves as a liaison between patients and their insurer, employer, and/or creditors to resolve insurance, job retention and/or debt crisis matters relative to their diagnosis through professional case managers, doctors and health care attorneys.

www.peopleforqualitycare.org

People for Quality Care

1111 W. San Marnan Dr.

Waterloo, IA 50701

Phone: 800-260-7913 (toll-free)

Email: answers@peopleforqualitycare.org

Medicare Beneficiary Complaint Hotline: 800-404-8702

They advocate for seniors and people with disabilities who benefit from home care and medical equipment. They provide tools to encourage grass-roots level political and community participation. They created a Medicare Complaint Hotline so that people can share their concerns and complaints about Medicare with Congress and important Medicare officials.

<http://respectabilityusa.com/>

RespectAbility USA

11333 Woodglen Drive, #102

Rockville, MD 20852

Phone: 202-517-6272

Email: jenniferm@respectabilityusa.org

RespectAbilityUSA is a non-profit organization that will work to educate, sensitize and engage Americans to focus on what people with disabilities can do, rather than on what they cannot. RespectAbilityUSA thereby will seek to help increase the number and percentage of disabled Americans who engage in gainful employment, start and sustain their own businesses, lift themselves into the middle class, and participate in their communities.

<http://www.selfadvocacyinfo.org/>

Self-Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center (SARTAC)

SARTAC's mission is to strengthen the self-advocacy movement by supporting self-advocacy organizations to grow in diversity and leadership. They offer help and technical assistance to advocacy groups and organizations, not to individuals.

<http://www.ada.gov/>

U.S. Department of Justice: Americans with Disabilities Act

Phone: 800-514-0301 (Toll-free, voice), 800-514-0383 (Toll-free, TTY)

This site provides information and technical assistance with the ADA.

Magazines

<http://www.raggededgemagazine.com/>

Ragged Edge Online

Ragged Edge offers many articles on a variety of topics related to disability and disability rights. Available in online format only.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this resource guide was obtained from the different individual sites and from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation Resource Center.