



One Voice Brevard

1 January 2026



Beyond the Dots: What Braille Means for Independence

by Nicole Grabner, Director, One Voice Brevard

World Braille Day, observed each year on January 4, honors the birthday of Louis Braille and recognizes the vital role Braille plays in ensuring access to information for people who are blind or have low vision. More than a celebration of a tactile writing system, World Braille Day is a reminder that communication is a fundamental human right. For people with disabilities, access to effective communication can determine whether they are included or excluded from education, employment, healthcare, and civic life. Imagine your frustration if even for one day, you were unable to communicate with those around you. How would ask for help? How would you explain if you were scared or overwhelmed? Or for something as basic as needing to find a restroom - how would you find this if you couldn't communicate?

Braille, sign language, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), and accessible digital formats are not "special accommodations"—they are essential tools that allow individuals to express themselves, make choices, and participate fully in society.

When communication barriers exist, people with disabilities may be misunderstood, underestimated, or denied opportunities. Students may struggle to demonstrate their knowledge, patients may be unable to explain their symptoms, and individuals may be excluded from decisions that affect their own lives. Conversely, when communication is accessible, people with disabilities can advocate for themselves, build relationships, pursue independence, and contribute their skills and perspectives to their communities.

World Braille Day challenges us to think beyond one format or one disability. It calls on schools, workplaces, governments, and communities to prioritize accessibility from the start—by providing materials in Braille and accessible formats, supporting communication technologies, and valuing multiple ways of sharing information.

True inclusion begins with communication. By ensuring that everyone has the tools they need to be heard and understood, we create a more equitable, informed, and connected world.

In this newsletter
you will find:

Beyond the Dots

Accessibility is a Civil
Right

Florida Voices for
Health: The
Importance of
Stories

Repair of Mobility
Devices: Interview
with Rep. Eskamani

Call for Public
Comment

Beginnoing of a New
Year

Dad's Corner

Art Submission

Bill Buzz

OVCFL 2026
Legislative Platform

Resources and
Contact Info

Events

Event Flyers



Accessibility is a Civil Right, Not a Perk

BY: JJ HOLMES

(ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE ORLANDO SENTINEL AND REPUBLISHED WITH AUTHOR PERMISSION)

On July 1, Florida finally confronted decades of injustice and helped a group that has truly known oppression by passing a law that says if you are pregnant you no longer have to face the punishing trek from row 3 in the parking lot to the grocery store.

Here's how the new law works. If you're pregnant, you can now legally use disabled parking spaces. any stage of pregnancy counts. You don't need to show a medical complication. No doctor needs to verify mobility impairment. Just two pink lines on a stick and boom, front row parking wherever you go. Those exact same parking spaces that exist because I need that extra room to get my wheelchair ramp out without turning the parking lot into a demolition derby that features me as accidental roadkill.

When questioned in a committee hearing about why someone who's pregnant should suddenly qualify for a disability accommodations, the bill's sponsor, Rep. Fiona McFarland, offered a starkly honest explanation. She said, "I feel very strongly that pregnancy is not a disability. I just want to be able to park up front."

I know pregnancy can be difficult and I want parents supported but when policy is built on the belief that walking is annoying, what you create is not equity. What you create is a Black Friday parking lot every day for people with disabilities.

Meanwhile, let me tell you what disabled parking actually looks like for me. I have cerebral palsy and use a wheelchair. Accessible parking is not a luxury, it is the only safe way I can exit and enter my van. Every year, I travel across the state to speak at legislative delegation meetings, ironically about how Florida is 49th in the nation for funding disability services I need to survive. And every year, we arrive to find no empty accessible disabled spaces. So my mom unloads me in the middle of the parking lot like an airport baggage cart, she then parks in the regular spot, and prays no vehicle backs into me as I wait.

Voting is equally hazardous. My local library has a total of three accessible spaces. In November 2024, we circled the lot for 30 minutes like we were trying to win the Daytona 500. By lap 10, I was half expecting a pit crew to show up and refuel.

Accessibility is supposed to be a civil right, not a party favor you hand out during a legislative session.



What this law does is it tells us we have to share out lifelines with people who are using them as a perk.

You can't expand equality by shrinking someone else's rights and it's not compassion if it introduces new danger. I'm all for supporting pregnancy, just don't do it at the expense of my safety.

Most people don't think about accessibility until the day they suddenly need it. A broken ankle, a complicated pregnancy, a parent who can't walk far anymore. And when that day comes, you'll hope the people before you defended these rights. Fierce advocates like Olivia Keller and Matthew Dietz, who filed this suit. If this new law doesn't sit right with you, contact your state legislators. Remind them accessibility shouldn't be negotiable. Not for anyone with a disability.



Story Collection

Sharing your personal story with legislators is a powerful form of advocacy—especially in Florida as we approach the 2026 legislative session. It transforms abstract policy discussions into real human impact. Legislators are constantly bombarded with facts, data, and lobbyists, so imagine the huge impact that a personal story shared from their constituent, remains in their mind long after their vote is done.

When self-advocates, caregivers, and family members speak directly about how laws and funding affect daily life, legislators gain a deeper understanding of what access, services, and inclusion actually mean for their constituents, helping them make decisions that reflect real needs rather than assumptions or false information.

In past sessions, advocates from the disability community have highlighted that personal stories help lawmakers connect their policy choices to the lived experiences of families and individuals across the state, which can influence priorities like access to community-based services, employment support, and communication rights for people with disabilities.



If you would like to share your story, please check out the following sites. Florida Voices for Health is currently seeking stories of families affected by increased ACA premiums. (<https://www.healthyfla.org/flstories>)



The group, We The People, has a link on their site that lets you upload a quick video that will be professionally edited and shared. This video only takes a few seconds, but the impact would last much longer!

(<https://www.flddadvocacy.org/share-your-story>)



Repair of Mobility Devices

SB 586/SB 806/HB 487

Interview With Representative Anna Eskamani

Representative Anna Eskamani and Senator Carlos Guillermo Smith have filed the Right to Repair Act for Powered Wheelchairs, aimed at empowering wheelchair users by ensuring they have access to timely and affordable repairs for their essential mobility devices. The bill seeks to address the growing challenges faced by Floridians who experience long wait times and high costs due to restrictive repair practices in the mobility device industry. We asked Representative Eskamani to explain why she filed this bill and why it is important.

How is it that this issue came to your attention?

This issue came to my attention both personally and through my legislative work. I have a loved one who was a wheelchair user; he passed away due to complications with his disability, and I saw firsthand what it means when mobility devices break, how long people can be forced to wait for repairs, and the loss of independence that comes with it. At the same time, I've been following the national Right to Repair movement closely — from farmers being unable to fix their own equipment to wheelchair users struggling for months just to get a simple part replaced. The stories are consistent: people want the freedom to get repairs done quickly, safely, and affordably. When mobility is on the line, waiting weeks or months is not an inconvenience. It's a barrier to daily life. That is what motivated me to file this bill.

How will this bill help individuals with the repair of wheelchairs? Is there a financial component for those who can't afford repairs?

This bill empowers wheelchair users by giving them more options, not just the original manufacturer, to diagnose, repair, or service their mobility device. It requires manufacturers to make repair manuals, diagnostic tools, and necessary parts available to users or to independent repair shops. Right now, many people are locked into a single authorized vendor, creating long wait times, high costs, and no alternatives. This bill restores autonomy and speeds up repairs, helping people get back to work, school, and community life sooner.

Regarding financial support: The bill itself focuses on access — making repairs more affordable by increasing competition and eliminating monopoly barriers. While it does not

Repair of Mobility Devices (continued)



3. What can advocates do to help move this bill forward?

Advocates are essential in pushing this forward, especially those with lived experience. To support the bill, advocates can:

- Share personal stories and experiences with repair delays, costs, and impacts on daily life to their local state Representative and Senator
- Contact committee members and legislative leadership, urging them to schedule and support the bill
- Submit testimony or attend committee hearings when the bill is heard.
- Help educate the public and the media about Right to Repair and how mobility access is a disability rights issue.
- Collaborate with disability rights groups, aging advocates, and independent living centers to build a broad coalition.

Legislators need to hear directly from the people who live with these challenges every day. The more voices we have, the stronger our case will be!

*As of today (31 December 25), HB 487 has moved through the House and has one more committee before it is ready for the House Floor. The Senate companion bills (SB 806 and SB 586), however, have not been scheduled for their first hearing yet. It is imperative that these bills are scheduled to be heard as soon as possible in order to make it through before the 60-day Session deadline of 13 March. Supporters of the bill can call their local legislators or the Senate Committee Chairs and ask that they schedule the bill to be heard.



Call for Public Comment

The National Council on Disability (NCD) is requesting information to help inform a policy brief it will be publishing concerning the need for disability clinical care and competency training of medical professionals.

What this means:

When we discuss the competency training of medical and health professionals in disability clinical care, we are examining whether healthcare providers possess the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes to deliver effective, respectful, and equitable care to individuals with disabilities.

In practice, this means more than just learning about diagnoses. Disability competency training focuses on helping doctors, nurses, therapists, and other providers understand how disability intersects with health, communication, autonomy, and access. For example, providers should know how to communicate directly with a patient who uses AAC (assisted communication device), how to provide exams to someone with mobility limitations, or how to offer informed consent in ways that are accessible to people with intellectual or sensory disabilities.

It also includes addressing bias and assumptions. Many people with disabilities report that their symptoms are dismissed, attributed incorrectly to their disability, or that providers speak to caregivers instead of the patient. Competency training helps providers recognize and correct these patterns so patients are treated as whole individuals, not as problems to manage.

Additionally, disability clinical care competency involves understanding systems and accommodations—such as scheduling longer appointment times when needed, ensuring accessible exam equipment, providing materials in accessible formats, and coordinating care without placing the burden entirely on families.

All comments must be electronically submitted to Amged Soliman, Senior Attorney Advisor, National Council on Disability via email at: asoliman@ncd.gov; **no later than 6 January.**

For more information, please see the following link:

https://www.ncd.gov/2025/12/01/disability-competency-training-rfi-posted-to-federal-register/?fbclid=IwY2xjawPCX9lleHRuA2FlbQlxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzlxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEea4W/nhew7i94xOAl3IOMxtzCDRSFUJakdpD4dt6Fr4PeC5mczdLcEjmeG2HE_aem_aAR6QfimirEeleob_TOzG1Q



Beginning a new year with new hope

By: Nicole Grabner

The holidays often invite us to slow down—to gather with family, reconnect with those we love, and pause at the threshold between what has been and what is yet to come. As another year ends and a new one begins, reflection feels almost inevitable. And for caregivers, that reflection is often layered with fatigue, responsibility, and quiet resilience.

This past year was especially hard for many families and communities, ours included. I considered writing a recap of the battles we fought—milestones reached, losses endured, systems navigated. But I found myself exhausted by that framing. Living in constant accounting of struggle can leave little room to breathe. Instead, I began to wonder what it might look like to begin again—not by reliving what was hard, but by setting intentions rooted in sincerity, rest, and hope.

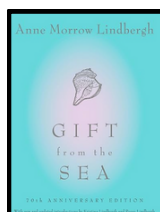
Caregivers are rarely afforded the space to ask: What do I need to feel whole again? The noise of daily demands can make it difficult to hear that answer. Yet perhaps the first step forward is not doing more, but clearing space. In *Gift from the Sea*, Anne Lindbergh writes of the desire “to be at peace with myself,” and of the need to “live in grace”—her home, her mind, her heart. That image feels especially meaningful for caregivers, whose lives are often filled with everyone else’s needs.

So, how do we “clear the clutter?” How do we even begin to contemplate a better path? It can begin with small acts of intention: letting go of what no longer serves, creating boundaries around our energy, allowing moments of quiet without guilt. It means recognizing that rest is not a reward—it is a necessity. After all, every paid worker expects to be able to have time off during the year, so why should the caregiver (who works longer hours for little or no pay) not have the same?

Quiet doesn’t have to mean long stretches of silence. It can be five minutes before the household wakes, a pause in the car before errands, or a deep breath before answering the next call. These moments reset the nervous system. Another idea might be to write without problem-solving—just naming what you’re carrying. Caregivers often process internally; putting thoughts on paper can clear mental clutter without demanding solutions.

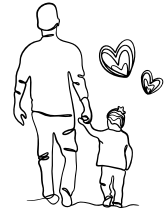
Decluttering is not about doing more—it’s about making room. Quiet is not escape—it’s restoration.

As we step into a new year, may caregivers give themselves permission to move forward gently. Not with all the answers, but with compassion, clarity, and the courage to begin again—one intentional step at a time.



Dad's Corner

by Guest Author Christopher Grabner



Hello from the first Dad's Corner of 2026! As we look back at last year, take some time to reflect on what you've achieved, or incremental steps towards improving yourself. I, for one, hate the idea of New Year's resolutions, but for 2025 I did set a goal to lose 50 lbs and improve my overall health, which I successfully achieved, but man it was hard! The other goal I set was to become one that is slow to anger, which if I'm being honest I didn't do really well (read our Dec 2025 newsletter and my road rage buffoonery). That said, I have made strides, and will continue to improve throughout 2026. I have always struggled with patience, and as a special needs parent, that simply will not do. So 2026... lets do this!

What about you? Did you achieve your 2025 resolutions? If not, perhaps reframe your mindset, take a moment and truly reflect on whether you perhaps made some progress towards your goal? If not, that's ok too! I mean, let's not dwell on it and keep moving forward. To quote the epic Master Oogway (Kung Fu Panda), "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift. That is why it is called the present".

From my family to yours, we wish you the absolute happiest of New Years, and hope that your 2026 starts off absolutely magical! Happy New Year!

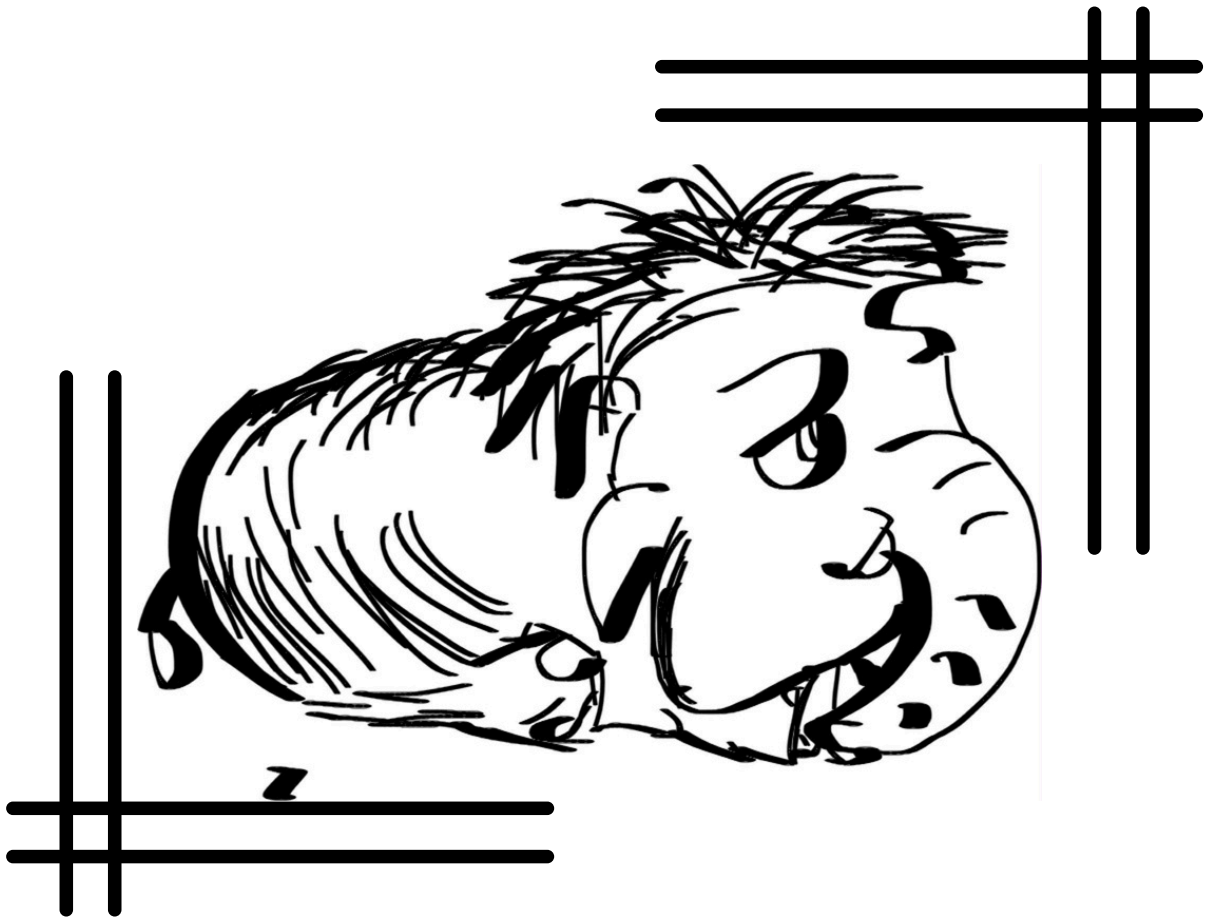
New Year

V	V	D	K	B	U	R	G	A	R	E	B	L	I
H	O	R	H	S	A	R	O	M	E	S	K	Z	A
A	L	E	R	E	K	J	A	Q	A	L	T	F	C
P	U	A	E	L	A	N	L	I	D	E	Z	P	C
P	N	M	S	J	T	L	S	M	Q	E	R	A	E
I	T	S	O	Z	A	R	T	J	Y	P	E	T	S
N	E	A	L	R	E	A	A	H	K	W	F	I	S
E	E	D	U	U	S	P	I	V	Y	T	L	E	I
S	R	V	T	O	L	Z	X	Z	E	H	E	N	B
S	B	O	I	U	J	I	M	R	D	L	C	C	I
A	Q	C	O	S	I	L	E	N	C	E	T	E	L
I	P	A	N	D	B	Y	I	T	O	V	I	I	I
O	A	T	E	X	E	R	C	I	S	E	O	O	T
Q	D	E	D	L	L	K	B	Y	L	D	N	R	Y

RESOLUTION
GOALS
HAPPINESS
PATIENCE
ACCESSIBILITY
ADVOCATE
VOLUNTEER
DREAMS
SILENCE
REFLECTION
TRAVEL
EXERCISE
READ
HEALTHY
SLEEP



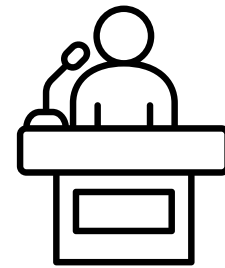
Monthly Art Submission



This month's art submission is by 12-year old Tripp Clark. He created this baby elephant using an App called Doodle.

Bill Buzz

By: Nicole Grabner, Director, One Voice
Brevard



It's the beginning of the year and the 2026 Legislative Session will be kicking off on 13 January!

This edition of Bill Buzz will show which bills we will be tracking and will be subject to change as the filing deadline is 13 January.

We will be briefing these slides, weekly, on our partner's Friday Zoom call, We The People, and we will also be posting updated tracking on our Facebook page. (Link to sign up for the Zoom meetings, which will begin on 9 January, see the following: <https://www.flddadvocacy.org/join-the-movement>

You can also check back on our website, <https://onevoicecoalitionflorida.org/advocacy>, for updated information.



2026 FLORIDA DISABILITY BILLS

*As of 31 December 2025. List is subject to change. Page 1 of 2.



Topic Category	Bill Number	Title	Sponsor/Contact	Status
Healthcare	SB 38/HB 219	Parity for nonnursing Services under MMC	Rep Dunkley/Sen Sharief	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 40/HB 163	Medicaid Providers	Senator Sharief	(S) 1-F, 2-R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 68/HB 355	Health Care Patient Protection	Senator Harrell/Rep Oliver	(S) 1-F, 2-R; (H) 1-F, 2CS-F final
Education	SB 72/HB 615	IEPs	Senator Harrell/Rep Tendrich	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 114/HB 577	Continuity of Care in Health Insurance	Senator Jones/Rep Woodson	(S) R; (H) R
Safety	HB 117/SB 244/SB 610	Residential Swimming Pool Req	Rep Lopez/Maggard/Sen Rodriguez	(S) R; (S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 152/HB 517	Medicaid Provider Network	Senator Harrell/Rep Tramont	(S) R; (H) R
Education	SB 182/HB 157	School Teacher Training & Mentoring Program	Senator Jones/Rep Hinson	(S) R; (H) R
Education	SB 186	Student Health and Safety	Senator Garcia	(S) R; (H) No Bill
Education	SB 206/HB 717/HB 411	Students with ASD	Senator Harrell	(S) R; (H) R; (H) R
Safety	HB 85/SB 428	Swimming Voucher ASD	Rep. Kendall	(S) R; (H) 1-F, 2 R
Law	SB 120	Contract Protection for Elderly & Disabled Adults	Senator Garcia	(S) R; (H) No Bill
Healthcare	SB 222/HB 367	Cost-sharing Req for Diabetes Management	Senator Smith/Rep Woodson	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 348	Statewide Health Care Coverage	Senator Smith	(S) R; (H) No Bill
Healthcare	HB 363/SB 693/HB 695	Dental Therapy	Rep Chaney	(S) No Bill; (H) R, (H) R, (H) R
Healthcare	HB 411/SB 206/HB 717	Terminology Associated w/Autism	Senator Harrell/Rep Maggard	(S) R; (H) R, (H) R
Safety	SB 418/HB 365	Law Enforcement Interactions w/ASD	Senator Jones/Rep Valdes	(S) R; (H) R
Safety	SB 428/HB 85	Swimming Lesson Voucher Program	Senator Yarbrough/Rep Kendall	(S) R; (H) 1-F, 2 R
Law	HB 447/SB 876	Pub Records Mental Health & Substance Abuse	Rep Maney/Senator Gaetz	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	HB 475	Medical Placement for High-acuity Children	Rep Salzman	(S) No Bill; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 476/HB 829	Music Therapy	Senator Smith/Rep Eskamani	Bill Filed 18 Dec 25
Safety	SB 494/HB 423	Student Elopement	Senator Arrington/Rep Eskamani	(S) R; (H) R
Law	HB 507	Special Protections in Judicial Proceedings	Rep. Baker	(S) No Bill; (H) R
Education	SB 512/HB 345	Funding Voluntary PreKindergarten	Senator Osgood/Rep Edmonds	(S) R; (H) R
Education	SB 556/HB 453	Requirements for Standard High School Diploma	Senator Berman/Rep Gossett-Seidman	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 562/HB 533	Communication Rights of Indiv w/Disabilities	Senator Garcia/Rep Woodson	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 568/HB 531	Managed Care Plans	Senator Harrell/Rep Barnaby	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 794/HB 565	Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Senator Jones/Rep Tant	(S) R; (H) R

Green: House & Senate Bill assigned to committees
Yellow: Has not been assigned to committees
Red: Missing either House or Senate Companion



R: Referred/ 1-f: First Committee found Favorable; CS: Committee Substitute/ 2-F: Second Committee Found Favorable
(S): Senate/ (H): House
Yellow = Bill almost finished in either House or Senate.

For more information, please see either the Florida House or Senate websites.

*To find who your State Legislators are, please see the Florida House and Florida Senate websites.

Bill Buzz, Part 2

By: Nicole Grabner, Director, One Voice
Brevard

<div><div></div><div><h2>2026 FLORIDA DISABILITY BILLS</h2><p>*As of 31 December 2025. List is subject to change. Page 1 of 2.</p></div><div></div></div>				
Healthcare	SB 574/HB 471	Recruitment & Retention of SLPs	Senator Jones/Rep Chambliss	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 580/HB 555	Local Licensing of Home Caregivers	Senator Harrell/Rep Skidmore	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 586/HB 487	Repair of Mobility Devices	Senator Smith/Rep Eskamani	(S) R; (H) CS 1-F, 2 R
Safety	SB 606/HB 503	Drowning Prevention Education	Senator Smith/Rep Eskamani	(S) R; (H) R
Safety	SB 608/SB 658/HB 79	Vacation Rentals	Senator Smith/Rep Burgess	(S) R; (S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 648	Medicaid Reimbursement for Private Duty Nurse	Senator Bradley	(S) R; (H) No Bill
Education	SB 662/HB 109	Corporal Punishment	Senator Bernard/Rep Lopez	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 668	Physician Assistants	Senator Truenow	(S) R; (H) No Bill
Healthcare	SB 670/HB 551	Right of Medical Conscience of Health Care Prov	Senator Yarborough/Rep Black	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 782/HB 681/HB 315/SB 328	Health Care Repeals	Senator Jones/Rep Eskamani	(S) R; (S) R; (H) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 740	Comprehensive Health Care for Residents	Senator Osgood	(S) R; (H) No Bill
Healthcare	HB 783	Coordinated Access Model Pilot Program (DCF)	Rep Sapp	(S) No Bill; (H) Not yet referred
Healthcare	SB 784/HB 293	Medicaid Coverage of Cont Glucose Monitor	Senator Harrell/Rep Franklin	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 788	Health Care	Senator Harrell	(S) R; (H) No Bill
Healthcare	SB 886/HB 573	Discounted Drug Pricing Study	Senator Rodriguez/Rep Chaney	(S) R; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 902/HB 733	Department of Health	Senator Garcia/Rep Gerwig	(S) F; (H) R
Healthcare	SB 978	Student Mental Health	Senator Osgood	(S) F; (H) No Bill
Education	SB 100/HB857	Student Support Services for K-12	Senator Truenow/Rep Lopez	(S) F; (H) F
Healthcare	SB 1016/HB 915	Medical Assistance Elig for Working w/Disability	Senator Bradley/Rep Tant	(S) F; (H) F
Healthcare	HB 6003	Recovery of Damages for Medical Negligence	Rep Trabulsky	(S) No Bill; (H) 1-F, 2-F Final

Green: House & Senate Bill assigned to committees
Yellow: Has not been assigned to committees
Red: Missing either House or Senate Companion

R: Referred/ 1-F: First Committee found Favorable; CS: Committee Substitute/ 2-F: Second Committee Found Favorable
(S): Senate/ (H): House
Yellow = Bill almost finished in either House or Senate.

For more information, please see either the Florida House or Senate websites.

*To find who your State Legislators are, please see the Florida House and Florida Senate websites.

OVCFL 2026 Legislative Platform



ONE VOICE COALITION 2026 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM



- Protecting and Expanding Medicaid - Ensuring Floridians have access to quality, affordable health care.
- Standardize and update the legal definition of autism in the Florida Statutes.
- KidCare Rollout - ensure effective implementation of this benefit

Protect children with disabilities by ensuring the protection of OSEP (Office of Special Education Programs), OCR (Office of Civil Rights), and protecting IDEA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.



Bring collaboration and transparency to every aspect of policy affecting those with disabilities. It is imperative to ensure that our voices are heard when decisions are being made - Nothing about us without us!



info@onevoicebrevard.com



www.onevoicecoalitionflorida.org

Resources and Contact Information

- Brevard Autism Coalition; <https://brevardautismcoalition.com/>
- Angels Bridging Gaps; <https://angelsbridginggaps.org/>
- The Parker Foundation; <https://www.theparkerfoundation.com/>
- S.O.A.K.; <https://www.soakautism.com/>
- Down Syndrome Association of Brevard; <https://www.dsabrevard.org/>
- UCF CARD; <https://ucf-card.org/>
- Florida Developmental Disabilities Council; <https://www.fddc.org/>
- Project 10; <https://project10.info/>
- Vocational Rehabilitation; <https://www.rehabworks.org/contact/area3.html>
- FLAPSE; <https://apse.org/chapter/florida/>
- The Arc of Space Coast; <https://www.arcofsc.org/>
- Promise in Brevard; <https://promiseinbrevard.com/>
- Brevard Resource Center for Disability Solutions; <https://rcdsfl.org/>
- The Family Cafe; <https://familycafe.net>
- Family Liason Project; <https://familyliasonproject.com>
- Early Steps Space Coast; <https://spacecoastes.org>
- Family Care Council Area 7; <https://fccflorida.org/area-7-fcc.html>
- Bright Feats magazine
- Brevard C.A.R.E.S. Mobil Response Team 24/hour line (321) 213-0315
- Feeding Florida (food bank information) <https://www.feedingflorida.org/>
- Everything Brevard (resource website)
<https://www.everythingbrevard.com/blog/guide-space-coast-food-pantries>



For more information or questions, please see our Facebook page.

Brevard County Delegation

CONTACT US
Brevard County Delegation



Senator Debbie Mayfield
District 19

📞 District Office (321) 409 - 2025
Capital Office (850) 487 - 5019

✉️ debbie.mayfield@flsenate.gov

🌐 <https://www.flsenate.gov/Senators/S19>

📍 900 East Strawbridge Avenue
Room 408
Melbourne, FL 32901



Senator Tom Wright
District 8

📞 District Office (386) 304 - 7630
Capital Office (850) 487 - 5008


✉️ tom.wright@flsenate.gov

🌐 <https://www.flsenate.gov/Senators/S8>

📍 4606 South Clyde Morris Boulevard
Suite 2-J
Port Orange, FL 32129



CONTACT US
Brevard County Delegation



Rep. Chase Tramont
District 30

📞 District Office (386) 278 - 1640
Capital Office (850) 717 - 5030

✉️ chase.tramont@flhouse.gov

🌐 <https://www.flhouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/detail.aspx?MemberId=4867&LegislativeTermId=91>

📍 Suite 201D
5889 South Williamson Boulevard
Port Orange, FL 32128-6110



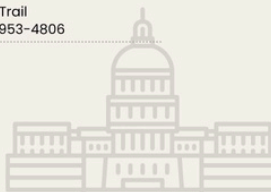

Rep. Tyler Sirois
District 31

📞 District Office (386) 304 - 7630
Capital Office (850) 487 - 5008

✉️ tyler.sirois@flhouse.gov

🌐 <https://www.flhouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/detail.aspx?MemberId=4748&LegislativeTermId=91>

📍 Suite 206
260 North Tropical Trail
Merritt Island, FL 32953-4806



CONTACT US
Brevard County Delegation



Rep. Brian Hodggers
District 32

📞 District Office (321) 497 - 8200
Capital Office (850) 717 - 5032

✉️ brian.hodgers@flhouse.gov

🌐 <https://www.flhouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/detail.aspx?MemberId=5064&LegislativeTermId=91>

📍 Building B #202
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Viera, FL 32940-6605



Rep. Monique Miller
District 33

📞 District Office (321) 497 - 8170
Capital Office (850) 717 - 5033


✉️ monique.miller@flhouse.gov

🌐 <https://www.flhouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/custom/details.aspx?MemberId=4913&LegislativeTermId=91>

📍 Suite 5
2539 Palm Bay Road Northeast
Palm Bay, FL 32905-3534



CONTACT US
Brevard County Delegation




Rep. Robert Brackett
District 34

📞 District Office (772) 365 - 9230
Capital Office (850) 717 - 5034


✉️ robert.brackett@flhouse.gov

🌐 <https://www.flhouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/detail.aspx?MemberId=4870&LegislativeTermId=91>

📍 Suite B2-203
1800 27th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960-0310



Sign up for my
E-Newsletter!




@RepHaridopolos

**NEED HELP WITH A
FEDERAL AGENCY?**

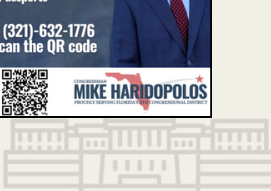

For assistance with:

- Social Security
- The IRS
- Veterans Affairs
- Medicare
- Immigration/Passports

Call (321)-632-1776
or scan the QR code



MIKE HARIDOPOLOS
FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES





January Events

January 4, World Braille Day

2026							JANUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT							
				1	2	3							
4	5	6	7	8	9	10							
11	12	13	14	15	16	17							
18	19	20	21	22	23	24							
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							

- Community Pathway to Kids presents A Good time for a Good Cause Fund Raiser, **Thursday, January 15, 5:00 p.m.** till 9 p.m., at Route 7 Karting and Entertainment, 1 AAR Way, Site 102, Rockledge, Fl. See flyer for additional information.
- UCF CARD presents “Caregivers of Adults and Soon-to-Be Adults with ASD”, a resource and discussion group, on **Wednesdays** via Zoom from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Registration required. See flyer for additional details.
- Community Playdate for Under 5, **Wednesday, 28 January** from 9-10:30 at the Children’s Center Titusville. This play date is held every fourth Wednesday of the month. Check the flyer for additional information.
- UCF CARD presents “Parent Mindfulness Matters”, an 8-week course designed for caregivers and their children (ages 5-8) to learn simple, mindful techniques that support emotional regulation. Overview **Tuesday, January 6th**, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Starts every **Tuesday, January 20th - March 10th**. See flyer to register.
- Save the Date! Brevard Autism Coalition Presents the 7th Annual 2026 Spring Break Prevoctional Adventure Camp. Registration opens **January 17th**. Camp dates are March 16th to 20th. See flyer for additional information.
- Martin Luther King, Jr Day, 19 January
- Angels Bridging Gaps , Adult group, beginning **6 January**. Events are scheduled from 11:00 am to 2 pm, Tuesday through Thursday.. For more information, contact Angels Bridging Gaps at: <https://angelsbridginggaps.org/abgworks-program-calendar>
- Save the Date! Brevard Autism Coalition presents Camp 2 Can 2026. Registration opens on **January 17th**. Camp dates are **June 8-12, June 15-19, June 22-26, July 6-10, July 13-17, and July 20-24**. See flyer for registration information.
- Health and Safety Crisis Panel, 27 January, at Malabar Baptist Church. Please see Angels Bridging Gaps for more details.
- “In Due Season” screening, 31 January, The Episcopal Church of our Savior, Palm Bay. Please check back later for more information.



Event Flyers



Event Flyers

CAREGIVERS OF ADULTS AND SOON-TO-BE ADULTS WITH ASD

Resource and discussion group via Zoom
6:30PM-8:00PM

Free monthly resource and discussion group for parents of adults and late teens (16+) on the autism spectrum. Open forum for parents to discuss concerns, seek resources, and gain support in assisting their adult children.
NOW ON WEDNESDAYS!

TO REGISTER: scan the QR code or copy the link below:
<https://coa4654.eventbrite.com>






Center for Autism and Related Disabilities
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA





Hey Mama!

Mom's Retreat for those raising children with autism and special needs. Valentines Edition!
9:00am-11:30am
February 7th, 2026
Location: Kiwi Racquet and Fitness Club
Banquet Room - 2nd Floor
30 Tradewinds Drive - Indian Harbor Beach, FL 32937

Coffee, light refreshments, self-care tips and takeaways, speakers, and connection with likeminded moms for sharing resources and experience.
*Childcare not provided

FREE REGISTRATION VIA EVENTBRITE
PLEASE CANCEL YOUR REGISTRATION IF UNABLE TO ATTEND AS SPOTS ARE LIMITED:

<https://heymamafeb2026.eventbrite.com>

FEBRUARY DEEP DIVE TOPIC AND SPEAKER TBA

FOR INFORMATION EMAIL
info@theparkerfoundation.com





CARD
CENTER FOR AUTISM & RELATED DISABILITIES

 **JANUARY 15-18, 2026**
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

REGISTER NOW



WWW.CARDCONFERENCE.INFO



ADOS-2
2 day Workshop
THURSDAY &
FRIDAY,
JANUARY 15-16,
2026



EDUCATORS' DAY
For teachers & family
FRIDAY,
JANUARY 16,
2026




HISPA
All Spanish Sessions
FRIDAY,
JANUARY 16,
2026




AUTISM CONFERENCE
55+ more sessions on autism
SATURDAY & SUNDAY,
JANUARY 17-18,
2026

Event Flyers

NCD Quarterly Council Meeting



**January 22-23, 2026
Orlando, Florida**



**BRIGHT PATH EDUCATION
IS NOW OFFERING:
A HOME EDUCATION
CO-OP**

A small group environment for
students with disabilities &
learning differences



DETAILS:

- Academic & Social supports
- Monday- Thursday 8:00-2:00pm
- Fun Friday option available for those interested
- Accepting Scholarships & Private pay options
- 6:1 ratio
- Led by certified teachers & behavior technicians
- OT & Speech Language services can be contracted through local collaborative agencies

OPENING IN JANUARY

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
(321) 307-8240
1240 Rockledge Blvd. Suite 6
Rockledge, FL
BrightPathEducation2025@gmail.com

AGES 5-12

ROUTE 7 KARTING AND ENTERTAINMENT

A GOOD TIME FOR A GOOD CAUSE



FUNDRAISER!

EAT PLAY REPEAT

THURSDAY
GOOD TIMES
JANUARY 15
5PM-9PM

HELP SUPPORT:
COMMUNITY PATHWAY TO KIDS
LOW SENSORY NIGHT

SCAN TO VIEW MORE



ROUTE 7
1 AAR WAY,
SUITE 102
ROCKLEDGE, FL

FUNDRAISER!

FREE PARKING

(321) 978-7223

Arts for All STUDIO
ART CLASSES & WORKSHOPS AT THE STUDIO
STARTING in JANUARY

Mondays
Afterschool Art 4:00-4:45pm
Mixed Media Art Class for Kids ages 5 and Up
Advanced After School Art 5:00-6:00pm
Mixed Media Art Class for Kids ages 11 and Up

Tuesdays
Meet the Masters 12:30-1:30pm
Mixed Media Art Class with projects inspired by the masters and contemporary artists.
Mixed Media Arts 1:30-2:30pm
Explore Different Mediums and increase skills to use them as an artist

Wednesdays
Express Yourself (Teen Art Class) 7:00-8:30pm
Teen art class for students to explore and improve art skills in various mediums

Fridays
Able Artists Kids 9:30-10:15
Multimedia exploratory art class for neurodivergent kids
Able Artists Teens 10:15-11:00am
Multimedia exploratory art class for neurodivergent Teens
Graphic Design 11:30am-12noon
Intro to Graphic Design taught by EFSC Professor in the Advanced Technologies Department
Intro To Adobe for Design 12:30-2pm
Software subscription required. Bring your own computer and learn intro level skills for Adobe Photoshop, Indesign and Illustrator. taught by EFSC Professor in the Advanced Technologies Department

More Details Coming Soon on our Website Calendar and Facebook Events
Pre-registration is required * Spaces are limited
If you have any questions, feel free to call or text: Barbara Finneran at Arts for All Studio at 321- 749-9808.
Or email us at atsforsallstudio@gmail.com

ART CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Come Join the Creative Fun!

