

OFFICE OF DISABILITY RIGHTS

December 30, 2019

Dear Residents, Community Members, and Stakeholders:

In 2017, Mayor Bowser introduced the District's *Olmstead* Community Integration Plan, "DC—One Community for All 2017-2020." Over the past three years, this Plan has solidified the District's commitment to provide care in the least restrictive setting available for District residents with disabilities. Continued collaboration among the Plan's participating agencies—the DC Office of Disability Rights (ODR), the Department on Disability Services (DDS), the Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL), the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF), and the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH)—has helped ensure the District fulfills that commitment. By incorporating person-centered thinking into all elements of the Plan, we can continue to support people with disabilities make informed, self-determined choices about how and where they wish to receive their care.

Working toward creating an even better future path of community integration in the District, the *Olmstead* Working Group will host four public meetings to gather input and insight on how together, we can use the Plan to continue to improve the transition from institutionalized care for District residents. As a result of these meetings, we will work to roll out a new multi-year Community Integration Plan to take effect in calendar year 2021. During this planning phase, participating government agencies will continue to report on the goals laid out in the current 2020 Plan.

Please join the *Olmstead* Working Group at Shaw Neighborhood Library, 1630 7th St. NW, on January 7, 2020 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for our first meeting. Together, we can work to improve the choices and outcomes of residents with disabilities in transition.

Sincerely,

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Mathew McCollough, Director Office of Disability Rights