



ADA TODAY



Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 11

August 2013



October 1st— Doors open 9:30 AM

This FREE event is for all the DC residents with a disability, advocates, caregivers and providers to share information and valuable resources; build new relationships; participate in activities that are fun, relaxing and empowering!

Opening Remarks from the Honorable Mayor Vincent Gray

FEATURING:

- FREE Health Screenings
- Employment Workshops
- Sensory Storytime
- District Government
- and more than 30 public and private programs & service providers.

ONLINE REGISTRATION:

www.2013dcdae.eventbrite.com

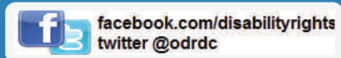
**Tuesday,
October 1, 2013
10:00 AM—3:00 PM**

Martin Luther King, Jr.
Memorial Library
901 G St. NW
Great Hall
Washington, DC 20001



For more information and/or reasonable accommodations:

Christina Mitchell
Office of Disability Rights
202-724-5055
www.odr.dc.gov



Register now: www.2013dcdae.eventbrite.com

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Follow us www.twitter.com/odrdc

Local News and Information

Developing a Regional Transportation Priorities Plan (RTPP) for the National Capital Region



NEW! Available for Public Comment

On Wednesday, July 24, 2013, the TPB released for public comment a draft of the Regional Transportation Priorities Plan (RTPP), incorporating the results of the spring 2013 public opinion survey and preliminary feedback from internal stakeholders.

You can review the draft Plan and provide feedback by visiting www.mwcog.org/transportation/public.

There you will find a copy of the draft Plan, a link to the online survey tool used to develop the plan, and an electronic form for submitting your comments. The draft Plan and link to the online survey can also be found below.

Purpose

As growth in our region continues to place heavier demands on our transportation network, decision-makers will be challenged to make critical improvements to roads, public transportation and pedestrian and bicycle facilities, all while funding is limited. Read More: <http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/priorities/>

Autism Society / AMC Theaters Summer Nights Program July - August

The Autism society is proud to announce its continued collaboration with AMC Theaters! The AMC Summer Nights Program offers some of the past year's biggest movies for just \$3, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Autism Society.

Upcoming Showings: August 5-7: G.I.JOE: RETALIATION ~ August 12-14: OBLIVION

*All of the above Summer Nights Program movies show at 10pm.

Please [click here](#) for scheduling, participating location, or ticket information.

HSCSN Male Caregivers Advocacy Support Group Schedule July - August

Event: Inclusionary Zoning Workshop

Date: August 7, 2013

Event: Vaccinations, Immunizations, and Your Parental Rights *

Date: August 14, 2013

Event: Money Matters Workshop

Date: August 21, 2013

Event: Mediation (Presented in partnership with Advocates for Justice and Education, Inc)*

Date: August 28, 2013

* Presented in partnership with Advocates for Justice and Education, Inc).

All of the above workshops and trainings are open to male and female participants and will be held from **6:30 - 8:30 pm at Health Services for Children with Special Needs, Inc. (2124 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave. SE)**. Dinner and childcare services will be provided and certificates will be issued upon completion of each workshop or training. Transportation will be provided for HSCSN members only.

To RSVP call Director of Family and Community Development Cecil Doggette at 202 - 580 - 6485.

AAPD Scholarship Opportunity - August 11th

AAPD is seeking applicants for the NBCUniversal Tony Coelho Media Scholarship. The NBCUniversal Tony Coelho Media Scholarship will offer four scholarships for the fall of 2013 to 2nd year associate students; undergraduate sophomores, juniors, and seniors; and graduate students with disabilities pursuing communication or media-related degrees. To learn more or to apply, please [click here](#). Applications must be received by 5:00PM EST on or before August 11th.

Mark your calendars: DC Sibs will host Sibs in the City on October 19! Read on for more information and please forward this email to any sibs who may be interested.

Sibs in the City

Washington, DC
October 19, 2013



Calling all adult sibs from across the mid-Atlantic! Are you interested in meeting other sibs, visiting the nation's capital, and spending a day connecting with other sibs in a great city?

You are invited to Sibs in the City! We're inviting adult sibs to join us for a day of fun and connection - a day with people who "get you" like no one else - in our favorite city.

Sibs in the City started in Chicago and New York as a day dedicated to connecting, supporting, and celebrating siblings of people with disabilities. Sibs in the City is run by and for sibs through chapters of the [Sibling Leadership Network](#) and connected through the Sibling Support Project/SibNet. On October 19, we're bringing the idea to Washington!

More information will come soon. If you received this as forward and want to stay informed, you can join our mailing list at dcsibs.org or like us at [Facebook.com/dcsibs](https://www.facebook.com/dcsibs). Questions? Email dcsibs@gmail.com

Quality Affordable Health Insurance is Available to you!

In August of 2012, Mayor Vincent C. Gray established the DC Health Benefit Exchange Authority to implement President Obama's new health care law. The bill, which is known as the Affordable Care Act (ACA), was signed into law March 23, 2010 and as a result, thousands of District residents, small business owners, and their employees will soon have access to comprehensive, affordable health coverage. Many individuals and families will also qualify for help paying for health insurance premiums.

As a national leader in fulfilling the promise of the health care law, the District of Columbia through its DC Health Benefit Exchange (HBX) is building a new online marketplace – called DC Health Link – for District residents and small businesses to get the facts about their rights and benefits, shop for coverage, and compare options side-by-side before choosing the plan that best meets their needs and budgets. Residents will begin to enroll in the health plan of their choice on October 1, 2013, with coverage starting January 1, 2014.

To learn more about DC Health Link and the affordable, high-quality health insurance options offered, as well as new Medicaid options, please mark your calendar to attend one of the DC Health Link Ward Town Hall meetings. The meetings will be held in various wards throughout the city. Information on meeting dates and time is detailed in the attached flyer.

Come out and join us! Experts will be available to share information and answer questions about the Affordable Care Act, the new online health insurance marketplace (DC Health Link) for individuals, families and small businesses and the new Medicaid options. For more information, please visit www.dchealthlink.com. Tell your neighbors and friends to mark their calendars and be there!

Federal News

[Presidential Proclamation on the 23rd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act](#) Proclamation by President Barack Obama on the 23rd anniversary of the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#) (ADA). The ADA protects the rights of Americans with disabilities and breaks down barriers to provide more opportunities for people with disabilities in their community, at work and where they live. The Administration is working to level the playing field for Americans with disabilities by recruiting, hiring and retaining workers with disabilities.

[Social Security's Ticket to Work: Free Support Services for People with a Disability Who Are Ready to Work - August 7](#) If you receive Social Security disability benefits and want to make more money through work, Social Security's [Ticket to Work](#) (TTW) program can help. Register for this free Work Incentives Seminar Event that will be held on **August 7, 2013**, from 3 – 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time. You'll learn about the TTW and how other [work incentives](#) may let you keep your benefits while you explore employment or receive vocational rehabilitation services. Register online or call **1-866-968-7842 (V)** or **1-866-833-2967 (TTY)**.

[Justice Department Sues Florida Doctor, Medical Practice for Retaliating against Deaf Couple](#) The U.S. Department of Justice has filed a lawsuit against Dr. Hal Brown and Primary Care of the Treasure Coast of Vero Beach, FL for violating the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#) (ADA). The doctor and the practice allegedly refused to continue to treat a deaf couple after learning that they had filed a lawsuit against a

hospital for not providing sign language interpreter services. It violates the ADA to retaliate against individuals exercising their rights under the law.

[People with Diabetes May Face Higher Disability Risk](#) A recent study in “The Lancet Diabetes and Endocrinology” finds that people with [diabetes](#) face more than a 50 percent higher risk of disability than people without the disease. The odds of someone with diabetes having a mobility disability, such as trouble walking, were 71 percent higher than for someone without diabetes. The study highlights the importance of focusing on disease prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of diabetes.

[Justice Department Sues Florida for Segregating Children with Disabilities](#) The U.S. Department of Justice has filed a lawsuit against the state of Florida for allegedly violating the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#) (ADA). Under Florida’s service system, children with significant medical needs are provided services in nursing facilities when they could be served in their family’s homes or in community settings. The ADA and the Supreme Court’s decision in [Olmstead v. L.C.](#) requires states to stop unnecessary segregation of persons with disabilities.

[Report Reviews Impact of 2008 Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) Amendments Act](#) The National Council on Disability's new report ["A Promising Start: Preliminary Analysis of Court Decisions Under the ADA Amendments Act."](#) reviews the court decisions that have been made under the [ADA Amendments Act of 2008](#). The report shows that there have been significant improvements in how courts are interpreting protections under the ADA.

[U.S. Access Board Releases New Guidance on Making Prescription Drug Container Labels Accessible](#) The [U.S. Access Board](#) has released new [guidance](#) on how to make prescription drug container labels accessible to people with vision impairments or who are elderly. The information on drug container labels is often inaccessible to people who can't read print or small type, including dosage, side effects and expiration dates. The guidance covers different ways of making labels accessible, including Braille, large print, auditory technologies such as "talking bottles" and radio frequency identification tags.

[Power Grid Operator Company Settles Lawsuit for Denying Reasonable Accommodation to Employee with Postpartum Depression](#) The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has charged Midcontinent Independent Transmission System Operator with [disability discrimination](#) under the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#) (ADA). An employee at the Carmel, IN office had postpartum depression and requested a [reasonable accommodation](#) of leave. Her request was denied and she was then fired her for lack of attendance. The company has agreed to train its employees on the obligations under the ADA.

[Justice Department Settles Lawsuit with Erie County, NY for Discriminating against Employee with Vision Disability](#) The U.S. Department of Justice has settled a lawsuit against Erie County, NY for violating the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#) (ADA) by discriminating against an employee with a vision impairment. The county allegedly refused to promote an employee with monocular vision because he did not have a commercial driver's license, even though other employees without a commercial driver's license had been promoted. The county is required to provide ADA training to its staff.

For Information about ODR's Newsletter call [202-724-5055](tel:202-724-5055) or visit the web at odr.dc.gov.



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ODR.Complaints@dc.gov

Visit us on the web: <http://odr.dc.gov>

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the District Office of Disability Rights (ODR) is to ensure that the programs, services, benefits, activities and facilities operated or funded by the District of Columbia are fully accessible to, and useable by people with disabilities. ODR is committed to inclusion, community-based services, and self-determination for people with disabilities. ODR is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the City's obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as well as other disability rights laws.