



# ADA TODAY

## Newsletter

Volume 4 Issue 5

March 2014

### YOU ARE INVITED TO A DC DISABILITY COMMUNITY MAYORAL CANDIDATES FORUM

**WHEN:** March 8, 2014, 2:30-4:30pm

**WHERE:** National Youth Transitions Center, 2013 H St NW, Washington, DC 20006

**CO-SPONSORED BY:** DC Advocacy Partners: a free leadership training program designed for advocates and family members of individuals with intellectual/developmental; and Project ACTION: a coalition of self-advocates and self-advocacy groups from the District of Columbia and surrounding areas. ACTION! stands for Advocacy, Change, Training, Information, Organizing, and Networking!

Please RSVP to Frances Vhay at [vhayf@iel.org](mailto:vhayf@iel.org) or 202-822-8405 x121 by March 3<sup>rd</sup>. ASL interpreters will be provided. If you need any other accommodations, please send your request by March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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### DC Commission on Persons with Disabilities (DCCPD) Hosts Community Forum on “Personal Care”

Come out and hear about the new Personal Care Attendant initiatives, the rights of the consumer and how the District Government is here to help.

*Saturday, March 8, 2014 ~ 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM ~ 441 4<sup>th</sup> St, NW ~Old Council Chambers ~Washington, DC 20001 (Red line - Judiciary Square Metro Station) For more information or to request reasonable accommodations please contact Christina Mitchell at 202-481-3877 or [christina.mitchell@dc.gov](mailto:christina.mitchell@dc.gov)*

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### ODR Releases DC--One Community All--FY '14 Agency Goal Summary

The DC Office of Disability Rights (ODR) releases the FY '14 Annual Goal Summary for the participating agencies in the District's DC--One Community for All-- Olmstead Community Integration Plan. The Summary highlights each agency's quantitative goal (the number of individuals it expects to help transition into the community during this fiscal year) as well as its qualitative goal (how it expects to promote community integration and inclusion through technical assistance, agency collaboration, and community outreach).

The agencies participating in the District's Community Integration Plan are: Office of the State Superintendent for Education (OSSE), Office on Aging (DCOA), Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS), Department of Disability Services (DDS), Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Mental Health (DMH), Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA), DC Public Schools (DCPS) and the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF). Read more at: [FY '14 Olmstead Goal Summary](#) or visit our website at: [www.odr.dc.gov](http://www.odr.dc.gov)

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## Local News and Information

### Fair Housing Videos for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

The National Fair Housing Alliance, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, is pleased to announce the creation of 12 videos in American Sign Language (ASL) with English captioning. These videos provide critical legal and practical information in a format accessible to persons who are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing. The videos were produced by Disability Independence Group, NFHA and Sweetwater Media. They are available at [www.nationalfairhousing.org](http://www.nationalfairhousing.org) and [www.fairhousingdeafvideos.com](http://www.fairhousingdeafvideos.com).

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### University Legal Services Presents: Medication & School: Know Your Child's Rights

Does your child have diabetes, asthma, severe allergies, or epilepsy & require medication at a DC public school or public charter school?

*If so, please join us for a discussion about new rules to help students get the care they need. Parents, \* educators, and advocates are welcome.*

Wednesday, March 12, 2014, ~ 7-8 PM  
Southeast Library, 403 7<sup>th</sup> St. SE ~ Washington, DC 20003 (near Eastern Market Metro)

**Food will be provided. Please RSVP by Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>.** To request an ASL Interpreter or other assistance, contact: Mary Bonventre ~ 202-547-0198 x101 ~ TTY 202-547-2657 ~ [mbonventre@uls-dc.org](mailto:mbonventre@uls-dc.org)

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Imagination Stage is excited to announce our spring session classes designed specifically for students with cognitive or developmental disabilities. We would appreciate it if you could help us spread the word about these classes.

### Access Musical Theatre: Scene Into Song for Ages 14-21

Dates: Mondays, 3/3/14-5/12/14 (10-weeks) ~ Time: 5:00-6:30 p.m. ~ [Learn more.](#)

### Access Puppetry for Grades 5-8

Dates: Mondays, 3/24/14-5/5/14 (6-weeks) ~ Time: 4:30-6:00 p.m. ~ [Learn more.](#)

### Access Hip-Hop Dance for Ages 14-21

Dates: Sundays, 3/16/14-5/4/14 (6-weeks) ~ Time: 4:30-6:00 p.m. ~ [Learn more.](#)

**The Advocates in Disability Award (ADA) program** <[http://www.hscfoundation.org/Awards\\_Programs](http://www.hscfoundation.org/Awards_Programs)> awards and encourages a young adult with a disability between the ages of 14 and 26 who is dedicated to positively affecting the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families. The program also supports an innovative project developed by the recipient to serve and empower individuals with disabilities.

Funded by both The HSC Foundation and the Sarah Beth Coyote Foundation, the selected recipient is awarded \$3,000 in recognition of his or her disability advocacy and will receive up to an additional \$7,000 in funding support for a project to benefit the disability community. Applicants must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States at the time of application submission and recipient selection.

Applications must be received by April 11, 2014 (by 5:00pm ET). For application and guidelines go to: <http://www.hscfoundation.org/2014ADA.php>

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## Federal News

### Upcoming Election Center Accessible Voting Workshop Seminars

This information comes from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC):

#### **Election Center Accessible Voting Workshop Seminars**

The [Election Center](#) is conducting six accessible voting workshop seminars to help election jurisdictions of all sizes to prepare for an anticipated rise in the number of voters with disabilities. Each day-long session will have the same content. A coalition of accessibility groups and The Election Center formed the Research Alliance for Accessible Voting (RAAV) to study these issues and now that the grant is concluding, they have results that can be shared with election administrators to prepare for both the present and the future. **Schedule:** Chicago (Nov 12); San Francisco (Jan 30); St. Louis (Feb 13); **Seattle (March 7); Washington, DC (March 18); Minneapolis (April 10)**. For details on how to participate, see the [RAAV Seminars BROCHURE](#) or visit the [Election Center website](#). The seminars are made possible through a grant by EAC.

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### [Justice Department Settles with Rite Aid over Discrimination against Customer with HIV](#)



The U.S. Department of Justice has reached a settlement with Rite Aid of Okemos, MI over claims of disability discrimination under the [Americans with Disabilities Act](#) (ADA). A Rite Aid pharmacist discriminated against a customer with HIV by refusing to give him a flu shot without using "special" gloves. Under the settlement, Rite Aid must train its staff on the ADA.

[How to File an ADA Complaint with the U.S. Department of Justice](#)

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



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### **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.