



SOUTH DAKOTA

COALITION

OF CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES

# Focus on Abilities

Volume 27, Issue 2 March/April 2018

## MAJOR STORIES:

HB 1155 Passed and Signed...

BVR, BSBVI and SILC Seeking Nominations...

PRICED OUT...

SB 46 Journeys...

The Abuse Crisis...

Risk Factors...

SD Council on DD Seeking Nominations...

Overview of Concerns with H.R. 620, the ADA Education...

SDHDA Celebrates National Fair Housing...

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## Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) What May it Mean for People with Disabilities?

Under the 2016 21st Century Cures Act, states must establish Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) systems by 2019 for PCAs (personal care attendants) and 2023 for home health agencies, or face cuts to Medicaid funding. The law requires PCAs and home health aides to use EVV to enter: the activities they perform, the name of the person for whom they provide services, the date, time of when they clock in and out, and location of delivery of their services each day.

As of June 2017, EVV has been implemented in CT, IL, KS, MO, NM, NY, OK, RI, SC, TN, TX and WA. EVV has also been initiated in some parts of other states including FL and LA. States have required different technologies to be used to enter the data mentioned above into each states' automated EVV system. These devices include: landline phones, cell phones, smartphone apps, tablets, or web portals. All technology used to enter the data typically must be owned by or in the home of the client that the home health aide or PCA provides services for.

The ways in which these devices monitor PCAs and home health aides varies. South Carolina uses mobile apps to monitor PCAs which use GPS to track whether a home health aide or PCA is with a client. Other states like Illinois require people to be in their homes to receive services.

You may ask, "How has EVV impacted people with disabilities?"

Home health agencies and state government entities in states such as South Carolina have said individuals receiving home health services have praised EVV for helping them feel more protected because it's easier for them to see that their PCAs worked the hours they said they worked.

The National Council on Independent Living reports that EVV systems that use geo-tracking to ensure that PCAs and home health aides are with their clients, basically places people with disabilities under house arrest as they're constantly monitored when they're with their PCA.

In some states like Illinois, the state required PCA services to only be provided in the home which limited the ability of people with disabilities to interact with their communities.

In states, such as New Mexico, people with disabilities have been adversely affected by EVV if they have poor phone or internet service. Individuals have had to travel long distances to their nearest independent living center so their PCA can verify service delivery. This is also a concern even in states where EVV has not been implemented, such as Alaska and Colorado.

(This information is a portion of information contained in the June 2017 Disability Policy Consortium Call to Action: Urgent Need to Protect the Rights of People with Disabilities as Electronic Visit Verification of Home Health Workers Takes effect in Massachusetts.)

As we learn more about what's being considered in SD, we'll be sharing it.

## **HB 1155 Passed and Signed into Law - An Act to Create Provisions Regarding the Language Development of deaf and hard-of-hearing students**

LEAD—K: Language Equality & Acquisition For Deaf Kids is a movement with a goal of children who are deaf being kindergarten ready, which = lifetime success!

During the 93rd Session of the South Dakota Legislature, HB 1155 was brought forward to address the reality that “research has shown that language deprivation or delays between ages 0-5 is the main cause of many deaf children’s eventual reading, academic, and social struggles... Research shows that the first 3 years of life are crucial for language development and the basis for kindergarten-readiness. A common approach is to use spoken English early on with Deaf babies, with devices and tools. What is not commonly known is that Deaf children’s success in acquiring language at age appropriate levels when exposed to sign language is well documented; however the majority of deaf children continue to be denied exposure to a visual language. Whether the parent chooses one or both languages, it is important to remember that language development for all Deaf children starts in the home.”

The focus of LEAD-K is to promote English literacy, using language acquisition milestones toward getting Deaf children Kindergarten-ready, and assessment tools that will measure their success along the way. LEAD-K supports both languages Deaf children use, American Sign Language and English. English is defined as spoken, written, and reading as well as other visual communication modalities such as cued speech or other techniques used to access the spoken word.

LEAD-K’s strategies are two-fold: 1) raise the awareness and understanding of the general public, parents, and the education system of the Deaf child’s experience in language learning; and 2) change public policy related to focus on preparing Deaf children who use ASL and English, both or one of the languages, toward Kindergarten-readiness.

Through strong and consistent advocacy efforts of the Deaf community and others from the larger disability community, the bill passed out

of the House Committee and full House of Representatives, even though the Department of Education was initially in opposition to the bill. Through the efforts of key sponsors - Representative Ahlers and Senator Nesiba - and other sponsors, various stakeholders were brought together to work out amendments to the bill, which were acceptable to all and resulted in the bill passing the Senate with the support of the Department of Education.

HB 1155 was delivered to the Governor’s desk, and Governor Daugaard signed the bill into law on March 12, 2018.

Key outcomes within the legislation are: 1) the Department of Education shall incorporate language developmental milestones set...for the purpose of developing a resource for parents to monitor and track deaf and hard-of-hearing children’s expressive and receptive language acquisition and developmental stages toward English literacy; 2) The advisory committee...shall recommend tools or assessments to assess the language and literacy development of deaf and hard-of-hearing children; 3) The department shall disseminate the parent resource developed...to parents and guardians of deaf and hard-of-hearing children; 4) Before March 1, 2019, the department shall provide the advisory committee...with a list of existing language developmental milestones from existing standardized norms, along with any relevant information held by the department regarding those language developmental milestones for possible inclusion in the development of a parent resource; 5) The superintendent of the State School for the Deaf shall establish an advisory committee for purposes of soliciting input from experts on the selection of language developmental milestones for children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing that are equivalent to experts for children who are not deaf or hard-of-hearing, for inclusion in the parent resource...; and 6) Before August 1, 2020, the department shall establish reporting criteria, using existing data reported in compliance with the federally required state performance on students with disabilities, that is specific to language and literacy development of deaf and hard-of-hearing children from birth to five years of age, inclusive.

For the complete language of the bill, go to <http://sdlegislature.gov/docs/legsession/2018/Bills/HB1155P.pdf>

# President's Thoughts...

Warm Greetings from your president as I look outside from my desk, I can see the sun shining and many robins are flying around. Here comes Spring, at this moment. We've had an interesting and unpredictable winter. Do you agree?

I hope that you are doing good with your daily lives. We, the Board of Directors, are working very hard to develop strategic and policy plans for the organization. We had a task force meeting to discuss the future of the organization and how we can improve and expand the Coalition's scope. We have not reached a point where we can present a plan as yet. We are still working on it.

We are very grateful to have our Executive Director and her commitment to working for the needs of the disability community. Thank you, Shelly, for your persistence to improve the quality of life for all of us.

I also wanted to thank again and again all of participants who are involved in the Disability Advocacy Network (DAN). It is very important to be part of the team to ensure that everyone in the disability community can share and speak out on what they feel needs to be accomplished on behalf of South Dakotans with disabilities. Thanks for your time and commitment to this work.

It is time for us to recruit members to run for positions on our coalition board of directors in our election in July. Some of our current board members have maxed out their terms, and they are unable to run again without taking a year's break in service. My term is up, but I'm eligible to run for one more term, and I am going to run again. Please consider running for an opportunity to serve on the board. We NEED you! (like Uncle Sam says)

For upcoming referendum, mid-term and Governor elections, be sure to pay attention to and hear what candidates have to say about our concerns and their ideas to improve the quality of life for all South Dakotans. Be sure that you VOTE! Vote for who and what you feel is best for yourself, as well for the state of South Dakota.

Thank you for your continued support of Coalition activities. It is very important of us to have people serve our organization and work to protect our civil rights. Let's keep our focus for the rest 2018. Know that we are here to support all of you all the way to the top. Know, too, that we can't do what we do without your SUPPORT.

See you next time.

*Tom Kober*

# Executive Director Notes...

As you read this edition of our newsletter, you probably may note a common theme. In some places it is stated pretty directly. In others, not so clearly.

We are approaching the final days of this year's legislative session. Once again, in some ways it has been predictable. In other ways, there have been surprises - at least for me.

I can honestly say, this session has been one of the more enjoyable ones I've experienced. If you want to visit about that more, let me know, and we'll talk over a cup of coffee or some other beverage.

As is always the case, some efforts went as we hoped; others moved forward but encountered some detours; still others did not turn out as we had thought they would... Yet, what else can we expect when decisions are being made that impact all of us - all citizens of South Dakota - with "our" individual priorities and "our" personal beliefs, by a body of people with just as varied priorities and beliefs.

A main reason I found this year more enjoyable is that it felt like constituents - voters, citizens - were more active in the process from beginning to end. They participated through attending cracker barrels and coffees, sending of emails and letters, making phone calls and appearing before committees to testify on bills of importance to them. We recognized the value of being involved and letting leaders know our thoughts, whatever the issue and whatever our position. Thank you for being involved! You made a difference!

Another reason was that I heard our legislators say more than once, during committee hearings, and at other venues, how much they valued hearing from their constituents - the citizens! It's not that I hadn't heard that during other sessions. I had. Yet, it seemed like I heard it a lot more often, from a lot of different leaders. They commented on the receipt of emails, the questions at cracker barrels, the testimony... Thank you, Legislators, for listening and carefully considering the many and various voices raised on all that you were called to decide. We know your job is not an easy one, and even though we don't always agree - we continue to live in one statewide community.

Another reason was that Governor Daugaard, upon entering his last legislative session as Governor, continued to lead based upon the values and beliefs of what he sees as best for all South Dakotans. Again, whether we always agreed or not, we cannot ask for more from anyone who is seeking to serve all of us. Thank you, Governor!

So the theme, well the theme is "service." Throughout this session, there have been countless examples of individuals from all corners of our state and in all types of positions, who have sought to serve the people of South Dakota. Some do so on a daily basis, after session is ended. Hopefully, all of us do so in our own way.

In this newsletter you'll note additional opportunities to "serve". The Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired, Statewide Independent Living Council and SD Council on Developmental Disabilities are all seeking nominations for their boards/councils. These are only a few of the many boards and councils associated with state government that seek citizen involvement. Consider throwing your name into the hat for one of these.

If that feels a bit uncomfortable, look around your local community. Is there a Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities, a local organization that advocates on behalf of people with disabilities or works on some other cause that is of importance to you? Explore the opportunities there might be to "serve" within those organizations.

And if that still doesn't feel comfortable, look around and see who in your circle might be needing a friend - a cordial hi - a how are you doing? "Service" looks as different as each of us.

Some say, "We get what we put out there." Others say, "We reap what we sow." However, you say it, I believe each of us has the power to make a difference. What kind of difference we make is up to us - a difference that just impacts me or a difference that impacts all of us...

And really, don't all of our decisions impact more than just ourselves?

*Shelly*

## 93rd Legislative Session Activity Update

During the 2018 Legislative Session, the Coalition closely tracked 52 bills. Of those bills, as of today - March 23rd - the results are:

- 24 (46%) Passed and Signed into law
- 3 (6%) Awaiting final action
- 25 (48%) Either Deferred to the 41st legislative day, Tabled or Failed

We hosted bi-weekly conference calls to discuss legislative happenings with advocates statewide, we issued approximately a dozen legislative updates via email to our listserv, and we publicized legislative cracker barrels and coffees being held statewide via our website.

### BVR, BSBVI and SILC Seeking Board and Council Nominations

The BVR (Board of Vocational Rehabilitation), BSBVI (Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired) and SILC (Statewide Independent Living Council) need your assistance in identifying knowledgeable individuals who are committed to improving employment and independent living services and opportunities for individuals with disabilities in South Dakota.

The BVR, BSBVI and SILC are federally mandated. Each meets a minimum of four times a year and has a minimum of fifteen members. Members represent a cross section of South Dakotans from a wide geographic area. Member expenses i.e., mileage, per diem, lodging (if necessary) resulting from participating in meetings or board/council activities are reimbursed at state rates.

They are currently seeking nominations for pending vacancies on our boards/councils, as well as checking with current members who are eligible and have interest in being re-nominated. Upon receipt of all nominations, they will forward them to the Governor for his review, consideration and selection.

Individuals are selected based upon their personal qualifications, experience and specific position requirements of each board/council. Members are typically appointed to serve three-

year terms, unless they are filling the remainder of a term vacated by someone leaving prior to their term ending.

If you have any questions, you're invited to contact BVR and SILC staff at 1.800.210.0143 or BSBVI staff at 1.800.265.9684. Thank you for your consideration of this request and any subsequent nomination you submit to us.

NOTE: Further information on the BVR, BSBVI and SILC are on following pages. Nomination forms for each are also included in this newsletter.

Prior to submitting any nomination(s), please ask the potential nominee(s) if they are willing and able to serve, if appointed.

### PRICED OUT: The Housing Crisis for People with Disabilities

(Excerpt from the Forward)

Some key findings of this important national report include:

- In 2016, the average annual income of a single person receiving SSI payments was \$9,156 - about 22% below federal poverty level, and equal to only 20% of the national median income for a one-person household.
- The national average rent for a studio/efficiency unit in 2016 was \$752, equal to 99% of monthly SSI payments. In thirteen states and the District of Columbia, areas with the highest housing costs in the nation, the average rent for even a studio/efficiency unit exceeded 100% of income of an SSI recipient.
- In 220 housing market areas, one-bedroom rents exceeded 100% of monthly SSI payments - an increase of almost 60 markets since our last report, *Priced Out in 2014*.

What does this mean for people with disabilities? Too often, the answer is homelessness, institutionalization, incarceration, substandard housing, or severe rent burdens. Research has demonstrated that costs incurred by people with disabilities cycling through public institutions are far greater than the cost of providing rental assistance with supports.

## Senate Bill 46 Journeys Through the Legislative Process

Senate Bill (SB) 46 was introduced by the Committee on Education at the request of the Department of Education. Upon being introduced it read:

"FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to require school districts to adopt a policy limiting the use of restraint and seclusion.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

Section 1. That chapter 13-32 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

The school board of each school district shall adopt or revise a school district policy on the use of restraint and seclusion. The policy shall contain the following provisions:

- (1) A procedure for immediately notifying the parent or guardian of the student, unless the student is emancipated, of an incident requiring the use of restraint or seclusion;
- (2) A prohibition on the use of prone restraint, defined as physical pressure applied to any part of the student's body to keep the student in a face down position on the floor or other surface;
- (3) A prohibition on the use of involuntary confinement of a student locked alone in a room; and
- (4) Training on crisis prevention and the proper use of restraint and seclusion."

The Senate Education Committee amended the bill, changing (1) to read:

"A procedure for notifying the parent or guardian of the student on the same business day, unless the student is emancipated, of an incident requiring the use of restraint or seclusion;"

The full Senate passed SB46 as amended by the Senate Education Committee.

The House Education Committee was next to hear this bill, and they amended it by changing (1) to read:

"A procedure for immediately notifying the parent or guardian of the student, unless the student is emancipated, of an incident requiring the use of restraint or seclusion."

They also deleted, "(4) Training on crisis prevention and the proper use of restraint and seclusion."

The full House passed SB 46 as amended by the House Education Committee.

A Conference Committee was formed with members from both the Senate and the House. This Committee brought forward the following bill, which was passed by both the Senate and House, and presently it is on the Governor's desk, awaiting his action (3/23/18):

"The school board of each school district shall adopt or revise a school district policy on the use of restraint and seclusion. The policy shall contain the following provisions:

- (1) A procedure for notifying the parent or guardian of the student, unless the student is emancipated, of an incident requiring the use of restraint or seclusion;
- (2) A prohibition on the use of prone restraint, defined as physical pressure applied to any part of the student's body to keep the student in a face down position on the floor or other surface, except when the use is necessary and reasonable in manner and moderate in degree; and
- (3) A prohibition on the use of involuntary confinement of a student locked alone in a room, unless there is clear and present danger."

SB 46 is an excellent example of how any piece of legislation, simple or complex, is never completed until the process is completed. There are many different times when the voice of those potentially impacted by our leaders' decisions need to be raised, whatever your position on the issue - whatever the issue.

## **Board of Vocational Rehabilitation**

### **The Board of Vocational Rehabilitation needs representatives from the following categories to meet composition requirements:**

- Disability advocacy groups representing a cross section of individuals with disabilities with physical, cognitive, sensory and mental disabilities; or individuals with disabilities who have difficulty representing themselves.
- At least one representative of the Statewide Independent Living Council, who must be the chairperson or other designee of the Statewide Independent Living Council.

### **BVR MEMBER'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Attend and actively participate in BVR meetings and activities.  
Actively work on at least one BVR committee.  
Serve as an advocate for all persons with disabilities needing vocational rehabilitation services.  
Advise the Department of Human Services on the employment needs of persons with disabilities.  
Provide public comment on South Dakota's State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation and Supported Employment services and rules or policies concerning the vocational rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.  
Advise the Division of Rehabilitation Services on program policy and procedure for the distribution of funds for vocational rehabilitation.  
Assist the Department of Human Services in evaluating program effectiveness and Provide information for state and federal policy makers.  
Facilitate the development of new vocational rehabilitation leaders within the state.  
Seek out and listen to the ideas, concerns and recommendations of other citizens concerning vocational rehabilitation services.

### **VALUES DESIRED:**

Commitment to consumer control, meaning that people with disabilities should have control over their lives and decision-making.  
Belief in the principle of equal access and equal opportunity.  
Commitment to the full inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of society, including employment.  
Possession of honesty, integrity and respect for the values of others.  
Possession of a strong personal code of ethics, including maintaining confidentiality and avoiding conflict of interest and self-dealing.

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

Knowledge of teamwork.  
Experience with vocational rehabilitation, business or disability advocacy groups linked with vocational rehabilitation services.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

BVR staff, at 945-2207 (Pierre) or 1-800-210-0143 (statewide toll free), by writing them at Board of Vocational Rehabilitation; 221 South Central Avenue, Suite 34A; Pierre, SD 57501, or by emailing [shellyp@sd-ccd.org](mailto:shellyp@sd-ccd.org)

**Nominations due by Friday, April 13th.**

## **The Abuse Crisis: What the Research Shows**

(Excerpt from Special Publication - Councils on Developmental Disabilities Addressing Sexual Violence & Neglect)

People with I/DD are 2.5 to 10 times more likely to experience abuse.

People with I/DD are not only much more likely to experience abuse, they are likely to experience repeated abuse. One study estimates that 49% of people will experience 10 or more incidences of abuse.

Researchers found that more than 90% of people with intellectual disabilities will experience some form of sexual abuse at some time in their lives. They estimate that 15,000 to 19,000 people with intellectual disabilities are raped each year in the United States.

Most incidences of abuse and neglect for people with I/DD are not reported. This is especially true for people receiving services in congregate settings where up to 85% of cases of abuse go unreported.

When abuse is reported, most cases do not lead to prosecution or conviction. For instance, a study published by the Boston Globe found that while 70% of serious crimes against people without disabilities were prosecuted, only 5% of serious crimes against people with disabilities were.

People with more profound intellectual disabilities and people with higher support needs (who are more dependent on services) are more likely to be targeted for abuse and neglect.

Almost all abuse is perpetrated by someone that a person with a disability knows; some research estimates up to 96% of cases.

## **Risk Factors for Individuals with I/DD**

Studies indicate that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are at increased risk to experience abuse and neglect for several reasons. Specifically, the frequently reported risk factors for abuse, neglect, and sexual violence against people with I/DD are:

- Lack of education about sexual development and anatomy

- Lack of information on abuse awareness
- Lack of healthy relationship education
- Lack of social norm education
- Lack of age-appropriate friends.

Another risk factor correlated with incidences of abuse and neglect and rates of reporting is the setting in which services are provided.

People who receive institutional and congregate services and supports are likely to experience abuse, but are less likely to report (or have someone report on their behalf). Studies have shown that a disproportionate number of abusers are people who have a relationship with their victims specifically because of their disability. So, when people are supported in their communities, there are more opportunities for people to see and report abuse and neglect.

## **SD Council on Developmental Disabilities Seeking Nominations**

The South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities will have one (1) vacancy for a parent or guardian of an adult with an intellectual and developmental disability.

The Council staff are gathering names of people who are interested in this position on the Council. Those names will be forwarded to the Governor's Office for final selection in summer 2018.

The SD Council on Developmental Disabilities is involved in advocacy, capacity building and systems change efforts on behalf of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the state. Through the DD Act, the Council has federal funds available for training, outreach, demonstration projects, coalition building, etc. The Council's work involves requesting grant applications in areas it has defined, reviewing the applications, and making funding decisions.

The due date for receiving names is **April 30, 2018**. Please contact Arlene Poncelet, Council Executive Director, if you have questions or wish to receive the application for membership, Council Member job description, federal definition of developmental disability and the Mission Statement and Statement of Principles.

You may contact Arlene at 605.773.6369 or 1.800.265.9684.

## **Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired**

**The Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired is seeking nominations for two positions.**

- Nominations for an individual who is blind or visually impaired and representative of business and industry is needed.
- Nominations for a representative of an individual who is blind and has multiple disabilities and has difficulty representing himself or herself due to disabilities.
- A priority will be put on nominations that include representation from current or former applicants for or recipients of, vocational rehabilitation services and/or representatives of disability advocacy groups.

### **Essential Duties:**

Attend and actively participate in quarterly BSBVI meetings and activities.  
Actively work on at least one BSBVI committee.  
Serve as an advocate for all individuals who are blind or visually impaired needing vocational rehabilitation services.  
Advise the Department of Human Services on the employment needs of persons with disabilities.  
Provide public comment on the Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired State Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation and Supported Employment.  
Provide comment and input on the services, rules or policies concerning the vocational rehabilitation program for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.  
Advise the Division of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired on program policy and procedures for the distribution of funds for vocational rehabilitation.  
Assist the Department of Human Services in evaluating program effectiveness.

### **Authority:**

An SBVI Board Member has the authority granted him or her by federal or state statute.

### **Values Desired:**

Commitment to consumer control, self-advocacy and choice.  
Commitment to the full inclusion of individuals who are blind or visually impaired in all aspects of society, including employment.  
A strong personal code of ethics, including maintaining confidentiality and avoiding conflict of interest.

### **Qualifications:**

Knowledge of teamwork.  
Experience with vocational rehabilitation, business or disability advocacy groups linked with vocational rehabilitation services.

### **Time Commitment (excluding travel time):**

32 hours - Board Meetings (8 hours a day, 4 times a year)  
20 hours - Board committee meetings, conference calls, town meeting participation  
16 hours - Preparation for Board meetings  
**68 hours annually (estimated)**

**Nominations due by Friday, April 13th.**

## **Overview of Concerns with H.R. 620, the ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017, and Similar Bills**

(Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund - excerpts from article)

H.R. 620 (or any bill that adds "Notice and Cure"\*) would significantly weaken the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), an important civil rights law. The ADA ensures the rights of people with disabilities to access public accommodations - that is, businesses such as restaurants, hotels, stores, medical facilities, etc. It would turn people with disabilities into second-class citizens and undermine the very principles of the inclusive society that America is still all about.

\*"Notice and cure" requires the disabled person to notify a business before filing a lawsuit. Often, it includes a waiting period for business to fix the problem."

Such bills are exceptionally harmful because:

- 1) They Remove Incentives.
- 2) Discrimination is Real.
- 3) They Place the Heaviest Burden on Individuals with Disabilities - the People Who the ADA is Designed to Protect.
- 4) Such Bills Would Not Fix Business Concerns About Money Damage Awards.
- 5) Courts Have the Power Today to Address the Few Unscrupulous Attorneys.
- 6) ADA Carefully Crafted to Take Business Needs into Account.
- 7) Already Extensive Federal Efforts to Assist Business Compliance.
- 8) Importance of the ADA Standards.

To read the full article, which includes explanations for each numbered item above, go to:

<https://dredf.org/hr620/overview-of-concerns-with-h-r-620/>

## **SDHDA Celebrates National Fair Housing Month by Hosting Fair Housing Trainings Statewide**

PIERRE, S.D. - In association with South Dakota's fair housing ombudsman, South Dakota Housing Development Authority (SDHDA) will be hosting five fair housing trainings throughout the state during the month of April. The goal of the trainings is to

educate individuals and organizations about fair housing.

Every April, HUD, local communities, fair housing advocates, and fair housing organizations across the country commemorate Fair Housing Month by hosting activities to enhance awareness of fair housing and highlight HUD's enforcement efforts with the goal of preventing housing discrimination.

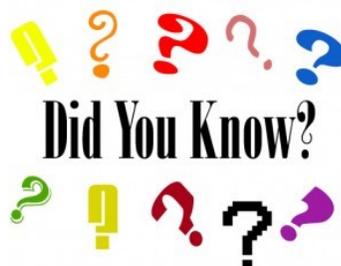
The trainings will be held in Mitchell on April 16, Rapid City on April 18, Pierre on April 19 and Aberdeen on April 20. For more information on the trainings, their locations and times, visit

<https://fairhousingtrainingsd2018.eventbrite.com>

The Fair Housing Act makes it illegal to discriminate in the sale, rental and financing of dwellings and in other housing-related transactions based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability or familial status. For questions about fair housing in South Dakota, contact Paul Flogstad, the fair housing ombudsman at 877.832.0161.

Since the fair housing ombudsman position was established in South Dakota, more than 1,400 calls have been answered, mediated or passed on to HUD for further review.

(Press Release from SDHDA on March 22, 2018)



Fewer than 4 in 10 applications for disability benefits result in an award; according to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United States has one of the narrowest standards of disability among its member nations.

It's estimated there are 54 million people with disabilities in the United States.

In June of 2017, 8.8 million disabled workers received Social Security benefits.

## **Statewide Independent Living Council**

**The Statewide Independent Living Council needs representatives from the following categories to meet composition requirements:**

- Provide statewide representation;
- Represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities from diverse backgrounds;
- Are knowledgeable about centers for independent living and independent living services;
- Are individuals with significant disabilities (required majority of the Council) and are not employed by any State agency or center for independent living; and
- Represent other State agencies that provide services to individuals with disabilities.

### **Role and Responsibilities**

Attend and actively participate in all SILC meetings/activities.

Actively work on at least one SILC committee or work team.

Serve as an advocate for all persons with disabilities needing independent living services.

Advise the State of South Dakota on the independent living needs of persons with disabilities.

Provide leadership in the development and implementation of the State Plan for Independent Living.

Advocate for and help to create local and state systems which permit persons with disabilities to determine, achieve and maintain independence, productivity and integration in community life.

Concentrate on independent living issues, resources and solutions that are shaped by the geography, values, politics and cultures unique to South Dakota.

Facilitate the development of new independent living leaders in South Dakota.

Seek out and listen to the ideas, concerns and recommendations of other citizens concerning independent living needs.

### **Values Desired**

Commitment to consumer control, meaning that people with significant disabilities should have control over their lives and decision-making.

Belief in the principle of equal access and equal opportunity.

Commitment to the full integration of people with significant disabilities in all aspects of society.

Possession of honesty, integrity and respect for the values of others.

Possession of a strong personal code of ethics, including maintaining confidentiality and avoiding conflict of interest and self-dealing.

### **Qualifications**

Commitment to teamwork.

Experience with and knowledge of independent living philosophy and services.

### **For More Information Contact:**

Shelly Pfaff, SILC staff, by calling 945-2207 (Pierre) or 1-800-210-0143 (statewide toll-free), by writing her at SILC; 221 South Central Avenue, Suite 34A; Pierre SD 57501, or by emailing her at [shellyp@sd-ccd.org](mailto:shellyp@sd-ccd.org)

**Nominations due by Friday, April 13th.**



SOUTH DAKOTA

# COALITION

OF CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES

## Join Today!

Name/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **New**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Renewal**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Individual**  
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**Join by completing this information and mailing it with a check to:  
The Coalition; 221 South Central Avenue, Suite 34A; Pierre, SD  
57501 or by going to our website at [www.sd-ccd.org](http://www.sd-ccd.org)**

### Equality



The assumption is that **everyone benefits from the same supports.**  
This is equal treatment.

### Equity



**Everyone gets the supports they need.**  
This is the concept of affirmative action, thus producing equity.

### Justice



All 3 can see the game without supports because **the cause(s) of the inequity was addressed.**  
The systemic barrier has been removed.