



# PARTIAL LIST OF RESOURCES ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND INDEPENDENT LIVING

## Table of Contents

- [Emergency Preparedness](#)
  - [DC Agencies](#)
  - [Federal Agencies and National Organizations](#)
  - [Other Online Emergency Preparedness Resources](#)
- [Transportation](#)
  - [DC Agencies, Organizations, and Resources](#)
  - [Federal Laws, Agencies, National Organizations and Online Resources](#)
- [Housing](#)
  - [DC Agencies, Organizations, and Resources](#)
  - [Federal Laws, Agencies, National Organizations, and Other Organizations](#)
  - [Resources from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#)
  - [Other Housing Resources](#)
- [Independent Living](#)
  - [DC Agencies, Organizations, and Resources](#)
  - [Federal Agencies and National Organizations](#)
  - [Other Independent Living Resources](#)

## [Emergency Preparedness](#)

### ***DC Agencies***

#### **District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA)**

HSEMA provides the leadership in devising an all-hazard based emergency management program that assures that government agencies and private-sector organizations are engaged in a process to address continuity of operation planning. HSEMA provides references and technical assistance with the creation of agency and/or organization specific COOP plans. Also, HSEMA provides technical support in the form of training, exercise development, program implementation and evaluation.

**Address:** 2720 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20032

**Phone:** (202) 727-6161; **Fax:** (202) 673-2290; **TTY:** 711

**Website:** <http://hsema.dc.gov/>

## ***Federal Agencies and National Organizations***

### **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

FEMA is an agency of the United States Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's mission is "to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards."

**Address:** P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-8055

**Phone:** (800) 621-FEMA (3362); **TTY:** (800) 462-7585

**Website:** <http://www.fema.gov/>

### **Ready.gov**

*Ready* is a national public service advertising (PSA) campaign by FEMA designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies including natural and man-made disasters. The goal of the campaign is to get the public involved and ultimately to increase the level of basic preparedness across the nation. The campaign's messages have been distributed through: television, radio, print, outdoor and Web (PSAs) developed and produced by The Advertising Council; brochures; [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov) and [www.Listo.gov](http://www.Listo.gov) Web sites; toll-free phone lines 1-800-BE-Ready and 1-888-SE-Listo; and partnerships with a wide variety of public and private sector organizations.

**Address:** Ready Campaign, FEMA/DHS, 500 C St, SW Suite 714, Washington, DC 20472

**E-mail:** [ready@fema.gov](mailto:ready@fema.gov)

**Website:** <http://www.ready.gov/>

### **National Emergency Management Association (NEMA)**

The National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) professional association dedicated to enhancing public safety by improving the nation's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from all emergencies, disasters, and threats to our nation's security. NEMA provides national leadership and expertise in comprehensive emergency management; serves as a vital emergency management information and assistance resource; and advances continuous improvement in emergency management through strategic partnerships, innovative programs, and collaborative policy positions.

**Address:** PO Box 11910, Lexington, KY 40578

**Phone:** (859) 244-8000; **Fax:** (859) 244-8239

**E-mail:** [nemaadmin@csg.org](mailto:nemaadmin@csg.org)

**Website:** <http://www.nemaweb.org/>

## **[Back to the Table of Contents](#)**

## ***Other Online Emergency Preparedness Resources***

### **Disaster Preparedness Checklist**

This site was created to assist, educate and archive information regarding disaster preparedness for people with disabilities.

**Website:** <http://www.disability911.org/>

### **Prepare for Emergencies Now: Information for People with Disabilities**

Brochure from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) explains four steps key steps to preparing for an emergency.

**Website:** [http://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/FEMA\\_Disabilities\\_R-6\\_web\\_june2012.pdf](http://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/FEMA_Disabilities_R-6_web_june2012.pdf)

### **Getting Medical Care and Prescription Drugs in a Disaster or Emergency Area**

This web page from the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services explains how to get medical care and prescription drugs if you are in an area that has been declared an emergency or disaster.

**Website:** <http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/11377.pdf>

### **Preparing for Disaster for People with Disabilities and Other Special Needs**

For the millions of Americans who have physical, medical, sensory or cognitive disabilities, emergencies such as fires, floods and acts of terrorism present a real challenge. The same challenge also applies to the elderly and other special needs populations. This booklet will help people with disabilities prepare and emergency plan to protect themselves, family, friends, personal care assistant and others in the support network in the event of an emergency. Post the plan where everyone will see it, keep a copy with you and make sure everyone involved in your plan has a copy.

**Website:** <http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?id=1442>

### **National Organization on Disability: Preparing for Emergencies Resources**

Following the attacks of September 11, 2001, NOD launched the Emergency Preparedness Initiative to help emergency managers address disability concerns during an emergency, and to ensure that people with disabilities are included in planning, response, and recovery. This section includes descriptions and links to download the following materials:

- Partners in Preparedness Brochure
- Guide for Emergency Planners, Managers and Responders
- Disaster Readiness Tips for People with Disabilities
- Preparing Makes Sense Brochure Series
- Special Needs for Katrina Evacuees Report

**Website:** [http://nod.org/research\\_publications/emergency\\_preparedness\\_materials/](http://nod.org/research_publications/emergency_preparedness_materials/)

### **It's A Disaster. . . and What Are You Gonna Do About It?**

A Disaster Preparedness, Prevention and First Aid Manual, Compliments of District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency

**Website:**

[http://hsema.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/hsema/publication/attachments/dc\\_disaster\\_bk\\_5th\\_ed\\_2009.pdf](http://hsema.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/hsema/publication/attachments/dc_disaster_bk_5th_ed_2009.pdf)

### **[Back to the Table of Contents](#)**

# Transportation

## ***DC Agencies, Organizations, and Resources***

### **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)**

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (often abbreviated as WMATA and commonly referred to as Metro) was created by an interstate compact in 1967 to plan, develop, build, finance, and operate a balanced regional transportation system in the national capital area. Today, Metrorail serves 86 stations and has 106 miles of track. Metrobus serves the nation's capital 24 hours a day, seven days a week with 1,500 buses. Metrorail and Metrobus serve a population of 3.4 million within a 1,500-square mile jurisdiction. Metro began its paratransit service, MetroAccess, in 1994; it provides about 1.5 million trips per year.

**Address:** 600 5th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

**Phone:** (202) 637-7000; **TTY:** (202) 638-3780

**Website:** <http://wmata.com/>

### **MetroAccess**

MetroAccess is a shared ride transportation service for people who are unable to use fixed-route public transit due to disability. "Shared ride" means that multiple passengers may ride together in the same vehicle. The service provides daily trips throughout the Washington Metropolitan region, including the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia. Rides are offered in the same service areas and during the same hours of operation as Metrorail and Metrobus. MetroAccess is a service of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro), and is the region's complementary paratransit service offered in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**Phone:** (301)562-5360; **TTY:** (301)588-7535 |

MetroAccess customer service representatives are available during all MetroAccess operating hours. Call 301-562-5360, press 2 for trip status, and then press 2 to speak to a customer service representative.

**Website:** [http://www.wmata.com/accessibility/metroaccess\\_service/](http://www.wmata.com/accessibility/metroaccess_service/)

### **Eligibility for Paratransit / Reduced Fare through WMATA**

**Website:** [http://wmata.com/accessibility/metroaccess\\_eligibility.cfm](http://wmata.com/accessibility/metroaccess_eligibility.cfm)

### **Metro Access Customer Guide**

This is the complete guide for Metro Access customers.

**Website:** [http://wmata.com/accessibility/metroaccess\\_service/customer\\_guide.cfm](http://wmata.com/accessibility/metroaccess_service/customer_guide.cfm)

### **Accessible Transportation Options for People with Disabilities and Senior Citizens In the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area**

This directory will help people with disabilities and senior citizens coordinate their transportation needs. It includes a comprehensive listing of public transportation options available in the District of Columbia, Maryland (the counties of Montgomery, Prince George's, Anne Arundel, and Baltimore, and Baltimore

City and Central Maryland) and Virginia (the counties of Arlington and Fairfax, and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls Church).

**Website:** [http://wmata.com/accessibility/doc/Accessible\\_Transportation\\_Options.pdf](http://wmata.com/accessibility/doc/Accessible_Transportation_Options.pdf)

### **The Transportation Planning Board**

The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region, and plays an important role as the regional forum for transportation planning. Members of the TPB include representatives of local governments; state transportation agencies; the Maryland and Virginia General Assemblies; the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA); and non-voting members from the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority and federal agencies.

**Address:** The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

777 North Capitol Street, NE Suite300, Washington, D.C. 20002

**Phone:** (202) 962-3200; **Fax:** (202) 962-3202; **TDD:** (202) 962-3212

**E-mail:** [tpbcoordination@mwkog.org](mailto:tpbcoordination@mwkog.org)

**Website:** [www.mwkog.org/transportation](http://www.mwkog.org/transportation)

### **Roll DC: Wheelchair Accessible Taxi**

Roll DC is the Transportation Planning Board's pilot project to provide wheelchair accessible taxi service in the District of Columbia. Yellow and Royal cab are now offering service with new Toyota Sienna modified minivans.

**Website:** <http://www.mwkog.org/tpbcoordination/projects/taxi.asp>

**Website on wheelchair accessible cabs:** <http://www.dcyellowcab.com/wheelchaircabs/>

**Yellow Cab:** (202) 544-1213 [www.dcyellowcab.com](http://www.dcyellowcab.com)

**Royal Cab:** (202) 398-0500 [www.dctaxionline.com](http://www.dctaxionline.com)

### **Taxi Card**

CabCard is a re-loadable prepaid card issued by Yellow Cab Co. of DC Inc. that can be used to pay for a taxi ride. Since the CabCard is prepaid you can spend up to the value placed on the card. Each time you use your card, the transaction amount is automatically deducted from the balance of the card.

**Website:** <http://www.dcyellowcab.com/taxicard/>

## **[Back to the Table of Contents](#)**

## ***Federal Laws, Agencies, National Organizations and Online Resources***

### **The Federal Transit Administration (FTA)**

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity and access for persons with disabilities. The Federal Transit Administration works to ensure nondiscriminatory transportation in support of our mission to enhance the social and economic quality of life for all Americans. The FTA Office of Civil Rights is responsible for civil rights compliance and monitoring to ensure nondiscriminatory provision of transit services.

**Region Contact Address:** 1760 Market Street, Suite 500, Philadelphia, PA 19103-4124  
**Phone:** (215) 656-7100; **Fax:** (215) 656-7260; **TDD:** (215) 656-7269  
**Website:** <http://www.fta.dot.gov/civilrights/12325.html>

### **U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)**

The mission of the Department is to: Serve the United States by ensuring a fast, safe, efficient, accessible and convenient transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people, today and into the future.

**Address:** 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE, Washington, DC 20590  
**Phone:** 202-366-4000  
**Website:** <http://www.dot.gov/>

### **Accessibility: Equal Access to Transportation**

U.S. Department of Transportation Resource page on Accessible Transportation

**Website:** [http://www.dot.gov/citizen\\_services/disability/disability.html](http://www.dot.gov/citizen_services/disability/disability.html)

### **United We Ride**

United We Ride (UWR) is a federal interagency initiative aimed at improving the availability, quality, and efficient delivery of transportation services for older adults, people with disabilities, and individuals with lower incomes.

**Phone:** (800) 527-8279  
**Website:** [http://www.unitedweride.gov/1\\_3\\_ENG\\_HTML.htm](http://www.unitedweride.gov/1_3_ENG_HTML.htm)

### **National Center for Accessible Transportation**

At Oregon State University, the National Center for Accessible Transportation (NCAT) is conducting basic research on accessibility issues and developing practical, cost-effective improvements in transportation technologies, with the goal of making transportation more accessible for everyone.

**Address:** 220 Owen Hall, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-3212  
**Phone:** (541) 737-4982; **Fax:** (541) 737-3052  
**Email:** [ncat@oregonstate.edu](mailto:ncat@oregonstate.edu)  
**Website:** <http://ncat.oregonstate.edu/?p=about/index>

### **Easter Seals Project Action**

Easter Seals' mission is to promote universal access to transportation for people with disabilities under federal law and beyond by partnering with transportation providers, the disability community and others through the provision of training, technical assistance, applied research, outreach and communication.

**Address:** 1425 K Street, NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005  
**Phone:** (800) 659-6428  
**Website:** <http://www.projectaction.org/ResourcesPublications/FindingAccessibleTransportation.aspx>

### **Project Action Resources on Accessible Transportation**

Finding Accessible Transportation for Travel Resources, publications, Air Travel Information and Assistance, Nationwide Accessible Van and Equipment Rentals. Organizations That Promote Accessible Travel, additional online resources

**Website:**

<http://www.projectaction.org/ResourcesPublications/FindingAccessibleTransportation.aspx>

### **Easter Seals Travel Training**

Easter Seals Project ACTION offers training, an online community, and resources dedicated to the practice of travel training.

**Website:** <http://www.projectaction.org/Training/TravelTraining.aspx>

### **Public Transportation: A Route to Freedom**

Teaching curriculum for helping individuals with disabilities use public transportation.

**Website:**

[http://projectaction.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ESPA\\_Route\\_to\\_Freedom\\_curriculum&autologin=trueUS](http://projectaction.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ESPA_Route_to_Freedom_curriculum&autologin=trueUS)

### **US Department of Transportation: Equal Rights to Transportation**

A list of resources and links about accessible transportation

**Website:** [http://www.dot.gov/citizen\\_services/disability/disability.html](http://www.dot.gov/citizen_services/disability/disability.html)

### **The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Paratransit**

Brief description of the Americans with Disabilities Act as it relates to public transportation and paratransit.

**Website:** <http://www.projectaction.org/TransportationtheADA.aspx>

[Back to the Table of Contents](#)

## **Housing**

### ***DC Laws, Agencies, Organizations, and Other DC Housing Resources***

#### **The DC Human Rights Act of 1977**

The DC Human Rights Act of 1977 provides additional protections not covered under the Fair Housing Act (read a description of the Fair Housing Act below). It protects on the basis of age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, family responsibility, matriculation, political affiliation, source of income, or place of residence or business.

**Website:**

<http://www.ohr.washingtondc.gov/ohr/cwp/view,a,3,q,491858,ohrNav,%7C30953%7C.asp>

### **District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA)**

The DCHA District of Columbia Housing Authority provides quality affordable housing to extremely low-through moderate-income households, fosters sustainable communities, and cultivates opportunities for residents to improve their lives.

**Address:** 1133 North Capitol Street N.E. Washington, DC 20002

**Phone:** (202) 535-1000

**Website:** <http://www.dchousing.org>

### **District of Columbia Department of Housing and Community Development**

The mission of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is to create and preserve opportunities for affordable housing and economic development and to revitalize underserved communities in the District of Columbia. DHCD focuses on three strategic objectives:

1. preserving and increasing the supply of quality affordable housing;
2. increasing homeownership opportunities; and
3. revitalizing neighborhoods, promoting community development, and providing economic opportunities.

DHCD Housing Resource Center is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

**Address:** 1800 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue SE (corner of Good Hope and MLK)

**Phone:** (202) 442-7200; **Fax:** (202) 645-6727; **TTY:** 711

**E-mail:** [dhcd@dc.gov](mailto:dhcd@dc.gov)

**Website:** <http://dhcd.dc.gov/>

### **DC Housing Search.org**

DCHousingSearch.org, the District's online housing locator service is available free of charge to individuals and property owners/managers. Individuals can browse up-to-date, detailed listings to find available affordable and Section 8 rental and for sale properties that meet their housing needs. Property managers and landlords can use the service to list available units and showcase features including number of bedrooms and baths; rent and deposit information; location (with map link); special amenities; and accessibility for people with disabilities.

Also at DCHousingSearch.org, individuals can connect people to other housing resources through website links and provides helpful tools for renters such as an affordability calculator, rental checklist, and renter rights and responsibilities information.

DCHousingSearch.org is funded through the Department of Housing and Community Development (<http://www.dhcd.dc.gov/>).

**Website:** [http://www.socialserve.com/tenant/DC/Search.html?city\\_id=51879&ch=DC](http://www.socialserve.com/tenant/DC/Search.html?city_id=51879&ch=DC)

### **Department HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agencies in DC**

**Website:**

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/hcs.cfm?webListAction=search&searchstate=DC>

## **Rental Help in DC**

HUD helps apartment owners offer reduced rents to low-income tenants. To apply, contact or visit the management office of each apartment building that interests you.

**Website:** <http://www.hud.gov/local/index.cfm?state=dc&topic=renting>

## **HUD Affordable Housing Search for Individuals with Disabilities (Section 8)**

This online search tool will help you find subsidized apartments in Washington, D.C.

**Website:** <http://www.hud.gov/apps/section8/step2.cfm?state=DC>

## **One DC**

ONE DC's community development work centers on popular education, community organizing, and alternative economic development projects.

**Address:** 614 S Street NW Washington DC 20001

**Phone:** (202) 232-2915; (202) 667-5196

**Website:** <http://www.onedonline.org/>

[Back to the Table of Contents](#)

## ***Federal Laws, Agencies, National Organizations, and Other Organizations***

### **Fair Housing Act**

The Fair Housing Act, as amended in 1988, prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, and national origin. Its coverage includes private housing, housing that receives Federal financial assistance, and State and local government housing. It is unlawful to discriminate in any aspect of selling or renting housing or to deny a dwelling to a buyer or renter because of the disability of that individual, an individual associated with the buyer or renter, or an individual who intends to live in the residence. Other covered activities include, for example, financing, zoning practices, new construction design, and advertising. The Fair Housing Act requires owners of housing facilities to make reasonable exceptions in their policies and operations to afford people with disabilities equal housing opportunities. The Fair Housing Act also requires landlords to allow tenants with disabilities to make reasonable access-related modifications to their private living space, as well as to common use spaces. (The landlord is not required to pay for the changes.) The Act further requires that new multifamily housing with four or more units be designed and built to allow access for persons with disabilities. For more information or to file a complaint, contact:

**Address:** Office of Compliance and Disability Rights Division

Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

451 7th Street, S.W., Room 5242, Washington, D.C. 20410

**Phone:** (800) 669-9777; (800) 927-9275 (TTY)

**Website:** [www.hud.gov/offices/fheo](http://www.hud.gov/offices/fheo)

The Department of Justice can also file cases involving a pattern or practice of discrimination. The Fair Housing Act may also be enforced through private lawsuits.

For questions about the accessibility provisions of the Fair Housing Act, contact Fair Housing FIRST at:

**Phone** (888) 341-7781 (voice/TTY)

**Website:** [www.fairhousingfirst.org](http://www.fairhousingfirst.org)

### **The Civil Rights Act of 1866**

The Civil Rights Act of 1866 states that ALL housing—public and privately owned or managed, must be sold or rented without regard to a person’s race or color.

### **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

HUD’s mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes: utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination; and transform the way HUD does business

**Address:** 451 7th Street S.W., Washington, DC 20410

**Telephone:** (202) 708-1112; **TTY:** (202) 708-1455

**Website:** <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD>

### **Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST**

Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST is an initiative designed to promote compliance with the Fair Housing Act design and construction requirements. The program offers comprehensive and detailed instruction programs, useful online web resources, and a toll-free information line for technical guidance and support.

**Website:** <http://www.fairhousingfirst.org/>

### **National Housing Trust Fund**

The Trust Fund is a permanent federal fund authorized by the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (HERA). It provides grants to states to increase and preserve the supply of rental housing for extremely low- and very low-income families, including homeless families, and to increase homeownership for extremely low-income families and individuals.

**Website:** <http://www.ncsha.org/advocacy-issues/housing-trust-fund>

### **Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc. (TAC)**

TAC a national non-profit organization that supports the efforts of public and non-profit agencies to successfully plan and implement the design, financing, and management of public sector human services, mental health, substance abuse, and health care strategies. TAC also provides policy development, consultation, and technical assistance to help expand affordable housing and permanent supportive housing for people with disabilities, people who are homeless, and other households with special needs. TAC is also a nationally recognized leader in providing HUD Homeless Technical Assistance and VA Homeless Technical Assistance.

**Address:** 451 7th Street S.W., Washington, DC 20410

**Telephone:** (202) 708-1112; **TTY:** (202) 708-1455

**Website:** <http://www.tacinc.org/>

### **Want housing opportunities to change?**

There are many varieties of housing options for individuals with disabilities and older adults, depending on the needs of the individual and locality. And there is a great deal of discussion and disagreement of what is optimal and what is unacceptable. If you are interested in change you may want to connect with an advocacy group addressing housing. Here is a sampling of advocacy organizations looking at rights of people with disabilities, including community living, supports in the community, and choice.

### **ADAPT**

ADAPT is a national grass-roots community that organizes disability rights activists. To read their position on Accessible, Affordable Integrated Housing

**Address:** 201 S Cherokee, Denver, CO 80223

**Phone:** (303) 733-9324

**E-mail:** [adapt@adapt.org](mailto:adapt@adapt.org)

**Website:** <http://www.adapt.org/aaa.php>

### **Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities – Housing Task Force**

The CCD Housing Task Force works with Congress and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to increase access to decent, safe and affordable housing for all people with disabilities and to protect the rights guaranteed under the Fair Housing Act.

**E-mail:** [info@c-c-d.org](mailto:info@c-c-d.org) or contact Chair Member T.J. Sutcliffe at [sutcliffe@thearc.org](mailto:sutcliffe@thearc.org)

**Website:** [http://www.c-c-d.org/task\\_forces/housing/tf-housing.htm](http://www.c-c-d.org/task_forces/housing/tf-housing.htm)

### **Concrete Change**

Concrete Change is an international network whose goal is making ALL new homes visitable, not just “special” homes. Being at the party, the meeting, the family reunion . . . not isolated. Our method is policy, because the market alone is not enough to address the segregation, public health problems and fiscal waste of continuing to build houses with no access.

**Address:** 600 Dancing Fox Road, Decatur, GA 30032

**Phone:** (404) 378-7455

**Website:** <http://concretechange.org/>

### **Concrete Change Milestones**

This timeline documents the progress made by Concrete Change in their advocacy efforts in the “visitability” movement.

**Website:** <http://concretechange.org/about-us/milestones/>

## **Basic Access in All New Houses: 9 Myths and Facts about Visitability**

**Website:** [http://concretechange.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/9 Myths and Facts About Visitability - 2011.pdf](http://concretechange.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/9_Myths_and_Facts_About_Visitability_-_2011.pdf)

## **Basic Home Access, Visit-Able Communities**

This document explains basic home access, the benefits of basic home access, and what is already being done to make key access features a standard practice in new houses.

**Website:** [http://concretechange.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Basic Home Access - 2011.pdf](http://concretechange.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Basic_Home_Access_-_2011.pdf)

## **Opening Doors**

Opening Doors is a housing initiative designed to provide information and technical assistance on affordable housing issues to people with disabilities, their families, advocates, and service providers across the United States.

**E-mail:** [info@tacinc.org](mailto:info@tacinc.org)

**Website:** [http://www.c-c-d.org/task\\_forces/housing/intro\\_page.htm](http://www.c-c-d.org/task_forces/housing/intro_page.htm)

## **American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) Statement on Housing**

AAPD is a cross-disability membership organization that organizes the disability community to be a powerful voice for change – politically, economically, and socially.

**Website:** <http://www.aapd.com/what-we-do/housing/>

## **[Back to the Table of Contents](#)**

## ***Resources from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)***

### **General Resources from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

**Website:** <http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page/portal/HUD/resources>

### **Section 8 Assisted Housing Vouchers and the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997**

**Website:** <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/omhar/readingrm/mahra.pdf>

### **Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program**

HUD provides interest-free capital advances to nonprofit sponsors to help them finance the development of rental housing such as independent living projects, condominium units and small group homes with the availability of supportive services for persons with disabilities.

**Website:** <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/mfh/progdesc/disab811.cfm>

## **Section 8 Assisted Housing Vouchers and the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997**

**Website:** <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/omhar/readingrm/mahra.pdf>

### **FAQ about HUD Designated Housing Vouchers**

**Website:** <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/hcv/pwd/designated.cfm>

### **HUD Resources for Individuals with Disabilities**

This page is designed to answer frequently asked questions on the housing rights of people with disabilities and the responsibilities of housing providers and building and design professionals under federal law.

**Website:**

[http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page/portal/HUD/topics/information\\_for\\_disabled\\_persons](http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page/portal/HUD/topics/information_for_disabled_persons)

**Website:**

[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/about/fact\\_sheet](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/about/fact_sheet)

### **HUD's Public Housing Program**

Answers to frequently asked questions about public housing.

**Website:** [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/topics/rental\\_assistance/phprog](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/topics/rental_assistance/phprog)

### **Joint Statement of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Justice Reasonable Accommodations under the Fair Housing Act**

This statement provides technical assistance regarding the rights and obligations of persons with disabilities and housing providers under the Act relating to reasonable accommodations.

**Website:** <http://www.hud.gov/offices/fheo/library/huddoistatement.pdf>

### **[Back to the Table of Contents](#)**

### ***Other Housing Resources***

#### **The Section 8 Project-Based Voucher Program: Creating New Housing Opportunities for People with Disabilities**

**Website:** [http://www.c-c-d.org/task\\_forces/housing/od-April06.htm](http://www.c-c-d.org/task_forces/housing/od-April06.htm)

#### **Housing & Mortgages for People with Disabilities**

This guide is for home-buyers with disabilities. Learn more about the five important steps in buying a home and about financial assistance programs that are available for people with disabilities.

**Website:** <http://www.mortgageloan.com/disabilities/>

### **The State of Housing in America in the 21st Century: A Disability Perspective (510 pages)**

This report looks at the state of housing for people with disabilities with the intent to provide recommendations that can improve housing opportunities. The research contained in this report provides a comprehensive overview of the state of housing in the 21st century and answers important questions about the current housing needs and options for people with disabilities living in the United States.

**Website:** <http://www.ncd.gov/publications/2010/Jan192010>

### **Disability.gov Resources on Housing for individuals with disabilities and their families.**

**Website:**

<https://www.disability.gov/search/list?fq=topics%3A%22Housing%22&facetPrefix=1%2FHousing&fq=locations%3A%22District+of+Columbia%22+locations%3A%22Anational>

### **Housing Vouchers Fact Sheet from HUD**

“The housing choice voucher program is the federal government's major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. Since housing assistance is provided on behalf of the family or individual, participants are able to find their own housing, including single-family homes, townhouses and apartments.” Click the link below to learn more.

**Website:**

[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/about/fact\\_sheet](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/about/fact_sheet)

### **Finding Financial Help and Resources, from the Maternal and Child Health Library at Georgetown University**

These tools help to locate child support enforcement, employment, financial assistance, food, home energy, housing, legal assistance, and other social services.

**Website:** [http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp\\_community.html#Financial](http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp_community.html#Financial)

### **Easter Seals and the CENTURY 21® System's Easy Access Housing for Easier Living Program**

“An adaptable house has certain structural features that make it possible to modify to accommodate people with a wide range of physical abilities. The adaptable house is a lifetime living house. It's similar to insurance for people in that if they, or someone close to them, become disabled or experience a change in their physical abilities, they can modify the house to accommodate their needs. An accessible house or dwelling is equipped with specific features to accommodate people with permanent disabilities or declining physical abilities.” Learn about adaptable and accessible homes from this Easter Seals web page.

**Website:**

[http://www.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ntlc\\_easyaccesshousing\\_tips\\_adaptable](http://www.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ntlc_easyaccesshousing_tips_adaptable)

[Back to the Table of Contents](#)

## Independent Living

### ***DC Agencies and Organizations***

#### **DC Statewide Independent Living Council (DCSILC)**

Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs) advise Centers for Independent Living on issues, identify the need for expanded independent living services, and create a State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL), which sets priorities and achieves needed funding for Centers statewide. SILCs take it as their mission to be a driving force in the development of Centers for Independent Living, providing assistance to new communities and advanced training and technical assistance to established CILs.

**Address:** 1125 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

**Phone:** (202) 442-8748; **Fax:** (202) 442-8725

**E-mail:** [dcsilc@msn.com](mailto:dcsilc@msn.com)

#### **DC Center for Independent Living, Inc., (DCCIL)**

The DC Center for Independent Living, Inc., (DCCIL) is a consumer controlled, cross disability, community based, private non-profit organization that promotes independent life styles for persons with significant disabilities in the District of Columbia. The District of Columbia Center for Independent Living (DCCIL) Inc. was established in April 1981 to promote independent life styles for people with significant disabilities, to assist persons with significant disabilities to meet their selected independent living goals, and to mainstream people with disabilities into society.

**Address:** 1400 Florida Avenue Northeast, Suite 3A, Washington, DC 20002

**Phone:** (202) 388-0033; **TTY:** (202) 388-0277; **Fax:** (202) 398-3018

**E-mail:** [rsimms@dccil.org](mailto:rsimms@dccil.org)

#### **DCCIL Anacostia-Satellite Office**

**Address:** 2443 Good Hope Road, Southeast, Washington, DC 20020

**Phone:** (202) 889-5802; **TTY:** (202) 889-0866; **Fax:** (202) 889-1159

**E-mail:** [rsimms@dccil.org](mailto:rsimms@dccil.org)

**Website:** <http://www.dccil.org/>

#### **Independent Living Services through the Rehabilitation Services Administration in the DC Department of Disability Services**

The RSA Independent Living Services (ILS) program promotes self-sufficiency despite the presence of one or more significant disabilities.

**Address:** 1125 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

**Phone:** (202) 730-1700; **TTY:** (202) 730-1516; **Fax:** (202) 730-1843

**E-mail:** [dds@dc.gov](mailto:dds@dc.gov)

**Website:**

<http://dds.dc.gov/DC/DDS/Rehabilitation+Services+Administration/About+RSA/Programs+Offered/Independent+Living>

### **Olmstead Community Integration Initiative: One Community for All**

The DC Olmstead Community Integration Plan, One Community for All is a policy document that details the rights of each person with a disability to self-determination in the District of Columbia. One Community for All endeavors to meet the needs and preferences of the individual while allowing him or her to choose where s/he wants to live in the community with the appropriate supports and services consistent with the Olmstead decision and the resources available to the District to serve such individuals, taking into account the needs of others. The Plan is a living document, providing specific goals, action steps, and tools, while allowing for better flexibility and improved services for individuals with disabilities.

**Website:**

<http://odr.dc.gov/DC/ODR/ODR%20Publication%20Files/Olmstead%20Community%20Integration%20Initiative.pdf>

[Back to the Table of Contents](#)

### ***Federal Agencies and National Organizations***

#### **National Council on Independent Living (NCIL)**

This is a membership organization that advances independent living and the rights of people with disabilities through consumer-driven advocacy.

**Address:** 1710 Rhode Island Avenue Northwest / Fifth Floor Washington, D.C. 20036

**Phone:** 202-207-0334; **Fax:** 202-207-0341; **TTY:** 202-207-0340; **Toll Free:** 877-525-3400

**Website:** <http://www.ncil.org/>

#### **Independent Living Research Utilization (ILRU)**

The ILRU (Independent Living Research Utilization) program is a national center for information, training, research, and technical assistance in independent living. Its goal is to expand the body of knowledge in independent living and to improve utilization of results of research programs and demonstration projects in this field.

**Address:** 2323 S. Shepherd, Suite 1000, Houston, Texas 77019

**Phone:** (713) 520-0232 (Voice/TTY); **Fax:** (713) 520-5785

**E-mail:** [ilru@ilru.org](mailto:ilru@ilru.org)

**Website:** <http://www.ilru.org>

#### **State Independent Living Services, IL State Grants from Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Service (OSERS), U.S. Department of Education**

This program supports state centers and councils that provide independent living services, directly or through grant or contract, and demonstrate ways to expand and improve them.

**Website:** <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/rsailstate/index.html>

#### **Administration on Community Living at DHHS**

The goal of this new agency is to increase access to community supports and full participation, while focusing attention and resources on the unique needs of older Americans and people with disabilities.

**Address:** U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201

**Website:** <http://www.hhs.gov/acl/index.html>

### **Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL)**

APRIL is a national grass roots, consumer controlled, nonprofit membership organization consisting of centers for independent living, their satellites and branch offices, statewide independent living councils, other organizations and individuals concerned with the independent living issues of people with disabilities living in rural America.

**Address:** 2001 Pershing Circle, Suite 200, North Little Rock, AR 72114

**Phone:** (501) 753-3400; **Fax:** (501) 753-3406

**Website:** <http://www.april-rural.org>

### **National Organization to End the Waitlists (NOEWAIT)**

NOEWAIT is a grass-root, national, social justice movement organized to ensure full opportunity, choices, freedom, and self-determination for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in every community by eliminating wait lists for services in every state.

**Website:** <http://www.noewait.net/>

### **Consumer Consortium on Assisted Living (CCAL)**

This is a national nonprofit consumer-based organization nationwide focused on the needs, rights and protection of assisted living consumers, their caregivers and loved ones.

**Address:** 2342 Oak Street, Falls Church, VA 22046

**E-mail:** [info@ccal.org](mailto:info@ccal.org)

**Website:** <http://www.ccal.org/>

### **Clearinghouse for Home and Community Based Services**

HCBS.org is the premier clearinghouse promoting the development and expansion of home and community-based services for people of all ages who depend on these supports to live in their homes and participate fully in community life. HCBS.org provides program developers, policy makers, researchers, funding organizations, advocacy groups, and others engaged in systems change with timely access to information, tools, data, and state-produced resources on best practices.

**Address:** Boston College GSSW, Haley House  
314 Hammond Street, Chestnut Hill, MA 02062

**Phone:** (617) 552-3484

**E-mail:** [webmaster@hcbs.org](mailto:webmaster@hcbs.org)

**Website:** <http://www.hcbs.org/>

[Back to the Table of Contents](#)

## ***Other Independent Living Resources***

### **Making the Move to Managing Your Own Personal Assistance Services (PAS)**

#### **A Toolkit for Youth with Disabilities Transitioning to Adulthood**

This guide assists youth, and adults too, in strengthening some of the most fundamental skills essential for successfully managing their own personal assistant services (PAS): effective communication, time-management, working with others, and establishing professional relationships. Such skills are key to not only enhancing independence, but also thriving in the workplace and growing professionally.

**Website:** <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/PAS-Toolkit>

### **Independent Living Checklist**

Being more independent means taking an active role in your health and wellness, personal care, job training, school work, and other areas of your life. This checklist has some questions to ask yourself to see whether you are prepared to live more independently. You may not be able to answer “yes” (or “always”) to every question listed, but you should be familiar with where to go for assistance services.

**Website:** [http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/IndependentChecklist\\_PAS.pdf](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/IndependentChecklist_PAS.pdf)

### **Identifying What to Look for in a Personal Assistant**

As part of the transition to adulthood, you may need personal assistance services. The next step is to figure out potential assistants’ responsibilities and hours of work. The information below can help you get started in determining what you want and need from your assistants, as well as in communicating with your assistants once they start working. Since you are now the boss, it’s important to establish and maintain good communication with your employees.

**Website:** [http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/Identifying\\_PAS.pdf](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/Identifying_PAS.pdf)

### **Hiring and Managing Personal Assistants**

This manual was developed by The Arc Michigan to promote self-determination through meaningful consumer direction and control.

**Website:** [http://www.hcbs.org/files/194/9690/HiringManaging\\_ARC\\_MI\\_test.pdf](http://www.hcbs.org/files/194/9690/HiringManaging_ARC_MI_test.pdf)

### **Thinking Outside the Box: Service Dogs**

The tools to help people with disabilities live independently don’t just come in the form of other people or services. Over the last 20 years, a growing number of people with disabilities have come to rely on animals, such as dogs, monkeys, and ponies, for assistance. Since space is limited, the discussion here will focus on dogs. But before considering whether a dog might help you be more independent, it’s important to make the distinction between assistance dogs and service dogs.

**Website:** [http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/outsidetheBox\\_PAS.pdf](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/sites/default/files/outsidetheBox_PAS.pdf)

## **Independent Living Glossary of Terms**

Terms and definitions relating to independent living.

**Website:** <http://www.getriil.org/glossary.html>

## **How to Pursue Supported Living Workbook**

This booklet explains supported living and helps you decide whether or not supported living is right for you or your family member. It also talks about how to get supported living services and how to find a supported living agency.

**Website:** <http://www.allenshea.com/CIRCL/sls50guide.pdf>

## **The Community Choice Act: A Vision for Attendant Services and Supports (from Adapt)**

The following two links provide information on the Community Choice Act, which is a United States federal legislative initiative introduced by Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa.

**Website:** <http://www.adapt.org/freeourpeople/download/CCAsum08a.pdf>

## **The Community Choice Act: A Community-Based Alternative to Nursing Homes and Institutions for People with Disabilities**

**Website:** <http://www.adapt.org/cca/>

[Back to the Table of Contents](#)