



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Public Forums to Identify the Concerns of People with Disabilities and their Families

Every year during the week of the anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (July 26th) the Governor's Commission on Disabilities and over 20 other state and non-profit agencies conduct a week long series of public forums to hear the concerns of people with disabilities and their families.

The forums are open for anyone to come in and speak; representatives of the sponsoring agencies will be there to listen. It is important for state policy makers and planners to hear from people with disabilities and their families, their concerns about current services, needs that are not being addressed, and suggestions for improving services and expanding opportunities.

Monday July 23, 2012 6 - 8 pm

Warwick Public Library's Community Room, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick
Hosted by the Ocean State Center for Independent Living

Tuesday July 24, 2012 3 - 5 pm

Barrington Public Library's Gallery Room, 281 County Road, Barrington
Hosted by the Brain Injury Association of RI

Tuesday, July 24, 2012 6-8 PM

South Providence Library, 441 Prairie Avenue, Providence
Hosted by RI Department of Health

Wednesday July 25, 2012 3-5 pm

South Kingstown Public Library, 1057 Kingstown Road, Peace Dale
Hosted by the National MS Society, Rhode Island Chapter

Thursday July 26, 2012 3- 5 pm

Woonsocket Harris Public Library, 303 Clinton Street, Woonsocket
Hosted by Perspectives Corporation

Friday July 27, 2012 3 - 5 pm

Middletown Public Library's Community Room, 700 West Main Road, Middletown
Hosted by Looking Upwards &
Opportunities Unlimited for People with Differing Abilities

The RI Statewide Independent Living Council requests your assistance.

Your Voice Matters - please take a 10 minute survey - www.RISILC.org/survey

Comments may be made in person during the hearing, or you can e-mail disabilities@gcd.ri.gov,
fax 462-0106 or mail them by August 2nd to

Governor's Commission on Disabilities

John O. Pastore Center, 41 Cherry Dale Court,
Cranston, RI 02920-3049

We ask that you use unscented personal care products. Please realize that what may seem to you to be a mild fragrance can constitute a toxic exposure for a person with an environmental illness.

CART Recorders (real-time captioning) and assistive listening devices will be at all sites, courtesy of the Office of Rehabilitation Services / Assistive Technology Access Partnership.

The RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will provide sign language interpreters; contact the CDHH (voice) 222-1204 or (tty) 222-1205 to confirm which forums will have interpreters.

When making the ADA reservation with RIde to get to and from the public forum, tell the RIde reservationist (1-800-479-6902) that this trip is for the Governor's Commission's Public Forums in order to guarantee your return trip, after normal RIde hours of operation. The ADA fare is still applicable.

For more information or to request accommodation needed, please call: 462-0100 at least 3 business days in advance; arrangements will be provided at no cost.

Requests for language interpreting should be made to 462-2130 at least 3 business days in advance.

The Public Forums' additional sponsors are the: Brain Injury Association of RI; In-Sight; James L. Maher Center; National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island; Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island; Ocean State Center for Independent Living; Perspectives Corporation; RI Disability Law Center;