



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 27, 2009 1:30 - 3 pm

Barrington Public Library's Gallery Room, 281 County Road, Barrington
Hosted by the Statewide Independent Living Council

Monday July 27, 2009 4 - 6 pm

RI Department of Administration's 2nd floor Conference Room A, One Capitol Hill, Providence
Hosted by the RI Department of Health's Office of Special Healthcare Needs

Tuesday July 28, 2009 3 - 5 pm

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

Wednesday July 29, 2009 4 - 6 pm

Neighborhood Guild, 325 Columbia St, Wakefield
Hosted by the RI Parent Information Network

Thursday July 30, 2009 10 am - Noon

Cumberland Public Library's Hayden Meeting Center Rms. 1 & 2, 1464 Diamond Hill Road, Cumberland
Hosted by Rhodes to Independence @ URI's College of Pharmacy

Thursday July 30, 2009 3 - 5 pm

Middletown Public Library's Community Room, 700 West Main Road, Middletown
Hosted by the RI Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society

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 9th 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 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.