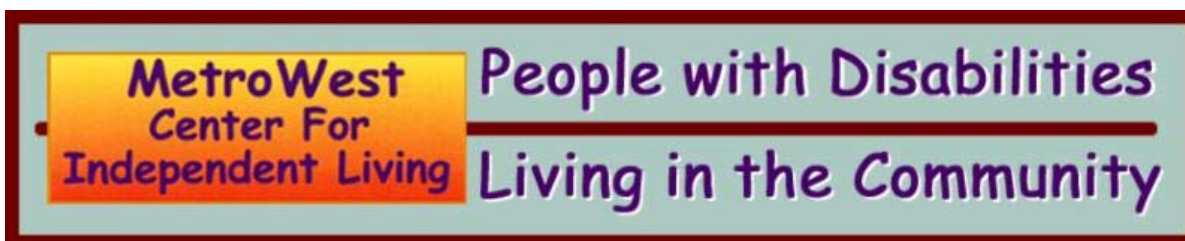


News from MWCIL - July 2018



Hope you made it through our first heat wave of the summer unscathed.

We are anxiously awaiting the finalized budget from the State House, and are hoping that the AAB bill gets a vote. See below for how you can help with the AAB bill!

As we enter the summer, all kinds of issues are heating up. People with disabilities are being attacked from many different sides by the federal government. Our civil rights are in jeopardy as they try to overturn the ADA, roll back protections for kids with disabilities in education, and force people to work in order to qualify for Medicaid. These attacks are unprecedented, requiring all of us to rally together and protect our rights. What can you do to fight back? Get involved, become part of the process, make sure you, your friends and family are registered to vote, and vote for candidates who support your rights and services. Don't mourn: organize like your life depends on it, *because it does!*

We also hope you can get out and enjoy the kayaking in Natick (see below) this summer!

Paul Spooner,  
Executive Director



Evening Primrose

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## ***Architectural Access Board Bill S. 1379 and H.2498***

***Please continue to contact your state representatives and ask them to support the AAB bill.*** This bill is not a budget item, and will cost the state *no* money! Yet the bill will *greatly* increase the number of accessible housing units and accessible jobs. In our minds, it's a no-brainer. We have two more weeks of the legislative session and we need to get this bill voted on, and passed.

Are you in Representative Sanchez's district (Boston and Brookline)? Even if you are not, if you have a story about how this bill would help you, please call his office, too! 617-722-2990 [Jeffrey.sanchez@mahouse.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.sanchez@mahouse.gov).

Download the [flyer](#) from IL Education Day.



Ashley and David talk to Rep Lewis about the AAB bill

### ***Accessible Kayaking in Natick!***

DCR's Universal Access Program will be offering accessible kayaking at Lake Cochituate this summer! In past summers, MWCIL kayaked with DCR at our ADA Celebrations - they are *wonderful!*

**When:**

Mondays - July 16, 22, 30 and August 6, 13 and 20  
9:45 a.m. - 3:15 a.m.

**Cost:**

\$5 per person per session

**Where:**

Cochituate State Park  
43 Commonwealth Road  
Natick

**Registration:**

Preregistration required.  
Call All Out Adventures at 413-584-2052

**More Information:**

Download the [Accessible-kayaking.doc](#) flyer.



Carmen kayaks at ADA Celebration

### ***1199SEIU Summer BBQs***

1199SEIU is having a series of Summer Unity BBQs around the state to promote the new PCA Directory and bring union workers together with other members of the community.

Join 1199SEIU healthcare and homecare workers, our families and community advocates at our Summer Unity Barbecues! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors to build community and enjoy the free food and entertainment.

While you are there, sign up for the new PCA Directory *and* register to vote at a REV UP MA table.

Access community resources including a job fair, and learn about other organizations that can help you and your family

**Worcester:** July 14, Crompton Park, 27 Endicott Street, noon-4

For more information Ada Taveras 617-571-9942 [adalgisa.taveras@1199.org](mailto:adalgisa.taveras@1199.org)

**New Bedford:** July 22, Hazelwood Park, 623 Brock Ave, noon-5

For more information Lisa Lemieux 774-328-0394 [lisa.lemieux@1199.org](mailto:lisa.lemieux@1199.org)

**Springfield:** August 4, Mount Calvary Baptist Church, 17 John Street, 11-2

For more information Kindalay Cummings 508-735-9399

[kindalay.akers@1199.org](mailto:kindalay.akers@1199.org), Amber Cano Martin 413-426-4959,

[amber.martin@1199.org](mailto:amber.martin@1199.org)

**Brockton:** August 10, Location TBD, 2-6

For more information Dana Alas 585-205-1311 [dana.alas@1199.org](mailto:dana.alas@1199.org)

**Boston:** August 18, Franklin Park - noon-5

For more information Nancy Luc 617-284-1143 [nancy.luc@1199.org](mailto:nancy.luc@1199.org)

**Lawrence:** August 18, Manchester Park, 77 Manchester St, noon-5

For more information Diana Richard 508-641-3603

[diana.richard@1199.org](mailto:diana.richard@1199.org)

Rebecca Gutman

VP Homecare, 1199SEIU

108 Myrtle Street, 4th Floor

Quincy, MA

617-284-1133

### ***REV UP Massachusetts***

The May Voter Summit was inspiring. We learned that the MA election officials from Secretary Bill Galvin's office are committed to accessible elections. We also learned that too many barriers remain in some locations and for some individuals.

People with Disabilities are under-represented at the polls. If we all turn out, we can make a difference. REV UP MA is moving forward with two goals - register more people, and Get Out The Vote.



Please join us in celebrating **National Disability Voter Registration Week - July 16-20** - by attending an event, registering to vote, and getting your friends and families registered to vote!

For information on local events, visit [revupma.org/wp/events](http://revupma.org/wp/events).



Charlie Carr emphasizes the importance of voter turnout

### ***ADA Celebration - Boston***

**July 24 @ 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm**

Celebrate the 28th anniversary of the ADA!



2011 Celebration at City Hall Plaza

ADA Celebration Day is a free event for children, families, and individuals of all abilities. Join us for food, music, a resource fair, friends, and fun. ADA Celebration Day is a yearly celebration of the signing of the Americans with

Disabilities Act. Each year, we honor a local organization that has made an impact on accessibility or inclusion in Boston. ADA Celebration Day is an event for people of all ages and all abilities to come together and celebrate a milestone in the disability community.

[Pre-Register and request accommodations:](#)

\*\* Pre-Registration is not required to attend  
\* Wheelchair Access \* ASL \* CART \* Scent-free \*

To request additional accommodations, follow the link above, or contact the Boston Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities at: 617-635-3682 or [disability@boston.gov](mailto:disability@boston.gov)

### ***Disability Writing & Journalism Guidelines***

[The Center for Disability Rights](#) has published a guide for journalists on writing about disabilities. In addition to practical lists of appropriate phrases vs. words to avoid, the article goes into depth on how and why to approach writing. A good read for everyone, this article should be required for all journalists and politicians!

### ***Filing an ADA Complaint is Easier Than You Think***

by Mary Keating, April 13, 2018 from  
[www.newmobility.com](http://www.newmobility.com)

Of course, if you run across a barrier in MetroWest, and the owner or manager is not convinced by your request, you should contact David Correia, Advocacy Director at MetroWest Center for Independent Living. But if you are somewhere else, this guide to filing an ADA complaint will step you through the process.

Thanks to New Mobility - The magazine for active wheelchair users.



David, Correia Advocacy  
Director

## ***Google Maps Transit - Introducing "wheelchair accessible" routes in transit navigation***

by Rio Akasaka on March 15, 2018

"Google Maps was built to help people navigate and explore the world, providing directions, worldwide, to people traveling by car, bicycle or on foot. But in city centers, buses and trains are often the best way to get around, which presents a challenge for people who use wheelchairs or with other mobility needs. Information about which stations and routes are wheelchair friendly isn't always readily available or easy to find. To make public transit work for everyone, today we're introducing "wheelchair accessible" routes in transit navigation to make getting around easier for those with mobility needs.

To access the "wheelchair accessible" routes, type your desired destination into Google Maps. Tap "Directions" then select the public transportation icon. Then tap "Options" and under the Routes section, you'll find "wheelchair accessible" as a new route type. When you select this option, Google Maps will show you a list of possible routes that take mobility needs into consideration. Starting today, this feature is rolling out in major metropolitan transit centers around the world, starting with London, New York, Tokyo, Mexico City, Boston, and Sydney. We're looking forward to working with additional transit agencies in the coming months to bring more wheelchair accessible routes to Google Maps."

For more information, visit [www.blog.google/products/maps/introducing-wheelchair-accessible-routes-transit-navigation/](http://www.blog.google/products/maps/introducing-wheelchair-accessible-routes-transit-navigation/)

## **Activist Resources and Directories**

### ***National Contact Information***

[Directory of House of Representatives](#)

[Directory of Senators](#)



**Senator Edward J. Markey**

Address:  
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510  
Phone:  
(202) 224-2742  
Contact:  
[www.markey.senate.gov/contact](http://www.markey.senate.gov/contact)  
Website:  
<http://www.markey.senate.gov/>

**Senator Elizabeth Warren**

Address:  
317 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510  
Phone:  
(202) 224-4543  
Contact:  
[www.warren.senate.gov/?p=email\\_senator](http://www.warren.senate.gov/?p=email_senator)  
Website:  
<http://www.warren.senate.gov/>

***State Government Contact Information***

[Directories of State Senators and Representatives](#)

[Contact Governor Baker](#)

[WhereDoIVoteMa.com](#) - Enter your address, and get a list of all of your elected officials.

***National Resources***

**Indivisible** - A practical guide for resisting the Trump agenda - Former congressional staffers reveal best practices for making Congress listen. [Download the pdf](#) or [Visit the website](#).

**Save My Care** - a movement to bring together families, advocates and health care providers to protect the health and financial security of all Americans. [Visit the website](#).

**National Council on Independent Living** has Action Alerts for issues on the table in Washington. [Visit the Advocacy Monitor webpage](#).

Join REV UP - Make the disability vote count!

For more information, visit [www.revupma.org](http://www.revupma.org).



### ***Disability Pride Toolkit***

[NCIL](#) (National Council on Independent Living) has compiled a [Disability Pride Toolkit and Resource Guide](#).

This guide delves into what Disability Pride is, and why it is so important. The difference between the Medical Model and the Independent Living paradigm offer a framework of the disparities between how society works and how it should work.

The guide also offers many resources and ideas on how to advance the discussion and how to educate others. *We highly recommend this toolkit and resource guide for anyone who wants to be active in the fight for disability rights!*



**MetroWest Center for Independent Living**

Website: [www.mwcil.org](http://www.mwcil.org)

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

**P**hone: (508)875-7853

**A**ddress: 280 Irving Street, Framingham, MA 01702

**F**acebook: 

Sign up for our Newsletters and Action Alerts.

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| [www.mwcil.org](http://www.mwcil.org) | [FaceBook](#)



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