Renaissance Washington, D.C. Downtown Hotel

Get the Full Program and More! Download ‘Guidebook’ from the Apple App Store or the Android Play Store and search for Disability Policy Seminar. Need Help? Visit the Media Table located at the Grand Ballroom Level.
MONDAY—APRIL 13

8:30-9:30 a.m.
Networking Breakfast
Grand Ballroom

9:30-10:30 a.m.
Opening General Session
Making a Difference: How Advocacy Advanced Civil Rights
Grand Ballroom

Learn from a leading advocate the significant changes in federal policy for people with disabilities, as seen through his family’s journey. This session will explore advancing civil rights though the concepts of empathy, compassion, dignity, and the ethical community.

Welcome: Ron Brown, Board President, The Arc
Keynote Address: Rud Turnbull, Co-Founder, The Beach Center on Disability, University of Kansas, UCEDD

10:30-10:45 a.m.
Break

10:45-12:00 p.m.
Don’t Cut Our Lifeline: Advancing Community Living Through Medicaid
Grand Ballroom

Community based services and supports provide lifeline services for people with disabilities and their families. Learn how we are working together and what YOU can do to protect and improve the Medicaid program.

Moderator: Amy Hewitt, Board President, American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD)
Leonardo Cuello, Director, Health Reform, National Health Law Program
Judith Solomon, Vice President for Health Policy, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Shannon Attanasio, Director, Government Affairs, Families USA

12:00-1:30 p.m.
Lunch on Your Own

1:30-2:45 p.m.
CONCURRENT SESSIONS (3)

1) Making Your Hill Visits the Best They Can Be
Congressional AB

Will this be your first time visiting Capitol Hill? Come to this session to learn what to expect when you meet with your Members of Congress and get ideas to maximize the impact of your meeting.

Erika Hagensen, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy, The Arc of North Carolina

2) What to Expect in Federal Education and Employment Policy
Grand Ballroom North & Central

Learn about the current plans for reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (No Child Left Behind), Higher Education Act, and efforts to improve transition into postsecondary education and employment for people with disabilities.

Moderator: Connie Garner, Executive Vice President of Policy, United Cerebral Palsy (UCP)
William Knudsen, Professional Staff Member, Majority, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP)
Jake Cornett, Senior Advisor, Minority, Senate HELP Committee
Brad Thomas, Senior Education Policy Advisor, Majority, House Education and the Workforce Committee
Jacque Chevalier, Senior Education Policy Advisor, Minority, House Education and the Workforce Committee

3) Home and Community Based Settings Rule: Navigating Implementation
Grand Ballroom South

The new settings rule is driving the biggest change to Medicaid home and community-based services since the 1980’s. Come to this session to learn where states stand now.

Moderator: Amie Lulinski, Director of Rights Policy, The Arc
Patricia Nobbie, Program Specialist, Office of Policy Analysis and Development, Administration for Community Living
Rachel Patterson, Director of Public Policy, Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation

2:45-3:15 p.m.
Break
3:15-4:30 p.m.
CONCURRENT SESSIONS (3)

1) Policy is Easy As Pie, If You Know the Recipe
Congressional AB

How does getting involved in policy make a difference? Learn more about what Congress does and why advocacy matters.

*Cathy Enfield*, Vice-President, Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE)
*Liz Weintraub*, Advocacy Specialist, Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)
*Taylor Woodard*, Paul Marchand Intern, The Arc
*Amie Lulinski*, Director of Rights Policy, The Arc

2) New Opportunities in Affordable Housing Policy
Grand Ballroom North & Central

Affordable and accessible housing continues to be one of the biggest challenges facing people with disabilities. Learn about new opportunities in federal affordable housing policy, Congressional action needed, and how you can get involved to expand affordable housing for people with disabilities.

*Moderator: TJ Sutcliffe*, Director of Income and Housing Policy, The Arc
*Andrew Sperling*, Director of Federal Legislative Advocacy, National Alliance on Mental Illness
*Ed Gramlich*, Special Advisor, National Low Income Housing Coalition

3) Strengthening Our Disability Movement
Grand Ballroom South

Come and learn more about the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) priorities to expand advocacy/self-advocacy and create a more diverse community. Join a dialog with Commissioner Aaron Bishop and express your views on making these priorities happen.

*Moderator: Donna Meltzer*, Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD)
*Aaron Bishop*, Commissioner, Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

4:45-6:00 p.m.
State Caucuses
Grand Ballroom

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THE ARC
2015 NATIONAL CONVENTION
Indianapolis, Indiana | October 3-5

Visit www.convention.thearc.org for more information
TUESDAY—APRIL 14

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Networking Breakfast
Grand Ballroom

Meet & Greet Breakfast for Siblings
Congressional C

Meet & Greet Breakfast for Self-Advocates
Congressional AB

The Arc State Presidents and State Executive Directors Meeting
Meeting Room 2

9:00-10:15 a.m.
Social Security: Action Needed in the 114th Congress
Grand Ballroom

Congress must act to ensure that Social Security’s Disability Insurance program can pay all promised benefits after 2016. Learn what’s at stake, what we need Congress to do, and how you can take action to protect Social Security and SSI.

Moderator: Molly Cole, Board President, NACDD
Tom Bethell, Senior Fellow, National Academy of Social Insurance
Nancy J. Altman, Founding-Co-Director, Social Security Works; Co-Chair, Strengthen Social Security Coalition
Rebecca Vallas, Director of Policy, Poverty to Prosperity Program, Center for American Progress

10:15-10:45 a.m.
Break

SAVE THE DATE

Join us for the next Disability Policy Seminar
APRIL 11-13, 2016
Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel
(1) Your Story Is A Policy Story: Sharing Your Experiences To Help Each Other
Congressional AB

Do you have a story to tell? This session will help you understand what Members of Congress need to know and provide tips on how to share your story to improve disability policy.

Michael Gamel-McCormick, Associate Executive Director for Research and Policy, AUCD
Liz Weintraub, Advocacy Specialist, AUCD

(2) The Budget Crisis: What It Means For Disability Programs
Grand Ballroom North and Central

Congress is increasingly focused on federal spending and revenue and the gap between them. Come to this session to understand how much we spend on different programs, how we pay for them, and what this means for disability programs.

Moderators: Annie Acosta, Director of Fiscal and Family Support Policy, The Arc, Kim Musheno, Director of Public Policy, AUCD
Kelly Brown, Professional Staff Member, Minority, Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee
Richelle Friedman, Director of Public Policy, Coalition on Human Needs

(3) Lifeline 101: Learn the Basics of Medicaid and Social Security
Grand Ballroom South

Do you want to better understand how our basic lifeline programs work? This session will cover the basic facts about eligibility and services in Social Security and Medicaid.

Marty Ford, Senior Executive Officer, Public Policy, The Arc
Julie Ward, Director of Health Policy, The Arc
12:15 - 2:30 p.m.
Networking Luncheon and Film Screening
Grand Ballroom

Join us for an advocacy themed Sprout Film Festival. Each film forces us to question myths about people with developmental disabilities. They can be powerful tools in our advocacy efforts to change minds and change lives. Film viewing will begin at approximately 1:00 p.m., giving you plenty of time to pick up your box lunches and network before the films begin.

Moderator: Tia Nelis, Board President, SABE
Harriet S. Yaffe, Film Program Coordinator, Sprout

2:45-4:15 p.m.
Learn From the Past and Engage With The Future
Grand Ballroom

Hear from advocacy stars of the past and future leaders about what made past disability policy advocacy successful. Learn more about tried and true tactics as well as using new technology for future success.

Moderator: Celia Feinstein, Co-Chair, Public Policy Committee, AUCD
Donna Meltzer, Chief Executive Officer, NACDD
Paul Marchand, Chairman Emeritus, Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities
Robert “Bobby” Silverstein, Principal, Powers, Pyles, Sutter, and Verville
Emily Ladau, Owner, Social Justice Media Services
Max Barrows, Board Member, SABE

4:30-6:00 p.m.
Closing Reception
Celebrating the ABLE Act and Bipartisanship
Renaissance Ballroom

ALL DAY
Making a Difference on Capitol Hill

The day is set aside for attending meetings with your Members of Congress. Disability Policy Seminar staff will be available on both the House and Senate sides from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. if you have questions during your Hill visits. The locations are:

On the House Side:
Longworth Cafeteria, Longworth House Office Building (basement level)

On the Senate Side:
American Grille, Hart Senate Office Building (on ground floor between the Hart and Dirksen Senate Office Buildings)

ONLINE EVALUATIONS - WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

• Please complete the Legislative contact report form online or through the DPS Mobile App. Meeting with your Members of Congress is the primary purpose of the Seminar.
• Please complete the Seminar evaluation form online or through the DPS Mobile App to let us know what you think of the program and the accommodations.

www.disabilitypolicyseminar.org

Thank you to our promotional partners:

NACDD
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities

2015 NACDD Annual Conference, Sparks, NV
July 21-23, 2015
“Impacting Communities Side-By-Side”

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SAVE THE DATE!
Join us again April 11-13, 2016.
Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel

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