



**Survival
Coalition**
of Wisconsin Disability Organizations

P.O. Box 7222, Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Disability Advocacy Day of Action 2022

Welcome to Disability Advocacy Day of Action

March 16, 2022

Agenda

10:00: Welcome

10:15: Issue briefing

11:00: How to tell your story

11:10: Making your call— instructions

11:20: Small group breakouts

You will make calls to 2 legislators today: your state assembly representative and your state senator. (Look for the BLUE sheet in your packet)

Before you start your calls:

➡ Think about the main issue you want to talk about. Look at issues outlined in this Disability Advocacy Day paper so you know what you want to say and think of a personal story about that issue.

How to begin your call:

Hi, I am _____ from _____
(Name) (City)

I'm calling about:

- _____
- _____
- _____

The Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations

is a cross-disability coalition of more than 20 state and local groups. For more than 20 years, Survival has worked to improve policies and practices that support people with disabilities of all ages to be full participants in community life. Many people with disabilities use public programs and services to support them staying healthy, getting a good education and job, and participating in their communities. This paper outlines the top issues for people with disabilities in 2022.

**You are a great
advocate!**

**Let's flood the
Capitol with calls!**

Disability Advocacy Day of Action 2022

Equal Access to Voting

What's Happening?

Many voters with disabilities have barriers to voting. These include polling place accessibility issues, limited access to transportation, lack of photo ID and health or disability related concerns that may limit their ability to vote. Some new bills could create more barriers and make it harder to vote.

What Does it Mean?

- It can be hard for people with disabilities to vote.
- Voting is a constitutional right and people with disabilities should not be left out.
- Voters with disabilities are under-represented at the ballot box. For our democracy to work, it must include all of us.



Make your Call!

What to Ask For?

- Support pro-voter policies that make our elections more accessible.
- Say no to bills that make it harder for people with disabilities to vote.
- Add ADA compliant screen readers to assure accessible absentee ballots.
- Provide funding to expand the Wisconsin Election Commission Polling Place Accessibility Audits and Accessibility Supplies programs.
- Require poll workers to complete training on disability rights and accommodations.
- Expand acceptable photo ID options.
- Fund transportation for voting related activities.
- Expand service hours at the Dept. of Motor Vehicle (DMV) locations and add mobile sites to improve access to photo ID so people with disabilities can exercise their right to vote.

Family Caregiving

What's Happening?

Wisconsin Family Caregivers need help.



What Does it Mean?

- Family caregivers fill in the gaps when the service system fails—doing things like providing care management, transportation, direct care, employment support, education, and day service supports.
- Lots of family caregivers leave their jobs or have to cut work hours because there are no other options for care.
- Family caregivers need breaks. A lack of paid workers is making it impossible for families to take a break.
- Continual stress is damaging the physical and mental health of both family caregivers and the people they care for.
- Family caregivers are aging and many need supports and services themselves to remain at home.
- People who do not have family to help are not able to stay in their own homes and communities.

What to Ask For?

- Support family caregiver tax credits.
- Educate WI employers on how to provide help to employees who are providing care to a family member.
- Increase respite funding throughout Wisconsin.
- Investigate how many hours of care are being provided by family members or are unfulfilled due to lack of paid service providers.
- Invest more money to expand flexible and reliable public transit and specialized transportation.
- Expand who can use Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) to include grandparents, grandchildren, and siblings.



Make your Call!

Direct Care Workforce

What's Happening?

The current workforce shortage means people don't have the supports to stay safe and healthy in their homes.



What Does it Mean?

- Wisconsin elders, kids, and adults with disabilities wait every day for services they need because there are no workers.
- People are being forced to move in to group homes and institutions to get the care they used to get at home.
- People are going without necessary supports like help preparing meals, getting out of bed and at work, affecting their health and safety.
- Caregivers are being stretched too thin, creating health and safety risks for themselves and those they care for.

Make your Call!

What to Ask For?

- Provide emergency funding for community based supports to keep people in their homes.
- Allow low-wage care workers to work and earn more pay without losing health care or childcare help.
- Direct the Dept. of Health Services (DHS) to include community direct care workers and advocates to have a voice in workforce initiatives.
- Direct the Dept. of Workforce Development (DWD) to include the community-based direct care workforce in its Fast Forward grants.
- Fund public schools to make sure they have the staff they need to support kids with disabilities.

Welcome to Disability Advocacy Day 2022

Zoom settings!
¡Ajustes de Zoom!

Using the ASL Interpreter/Usando el intérprete de lengua de señas estadounidense:

1. Look for ASL Interpreter and ASL interpreter.
2. click on the three dots (***) on the upper right corner of their video screen.
3. click "pin video" to see only ASL interpreter. Zoom pins only one person at a time.

1. Busque a los intérpretes de lengua de señas estadounidense, Jill KK y Derrick.
2. Haga clic en los tres puntos (*) en la esquina superior derecha de su pantalla de video.**
3. Haga clic en "pin video" ("fijar video") para ver solo al intérprete. Zoom se fija en una sola persona a la vez.

Accessing Spanish Translation/Acceder a la traducción al español:

1. Click the **Globe** icon at the bottom of the zoom tool bar.
2. Select "Spanish" in language menu.

3. Haga clic en el icono de **Globo en la parte inferior de la barra de herramientas de Zoom.**
4. Seleccione "español" en el menú de idiomas.

Welcome to Disability Advocacy Day of Action!

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Thank you to our Sponsors

Wisconsin BPDD
WISCONSIN BOARD FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

my choice WISCONSIN

disabilityrights WISCONSIN

W CILC

People First Wisconsin
See Our Ability

WPSA
Wisconsin Public Service Agency

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Disability Advocacy Day 2022

Issue Paper

Four issue papers are displayed, each with a title and a brief description of the issue. The papers are: "Disability Advocacy Day of Action 2022", "Disability Advocacy Day of Action 2022", "Disability Advocacy Day of Action 2022", and "Disability Advocacy Day of Action 2022".

3

Take away voting barriers for people with disabilities.

Equal Access to Voting

VOTE

4

Wisconsin family caregivers need help!

Family Caregivers

Illustration of five hands of different colors (red, yellow, green, blue, pink) holding each other, with hearts above them.

5

The workforce shortage means people don't have the supports to stay safe and healthy in their homes.

WORKFORCE

Illustration of a person in a wheelchair with a heart above them.

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Disability Advocacy Day 2022

Let Me Hear You Cheer!



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Disability Advocacy Day of Action 2022

Make Your Call!

How to begin your call:
Hi, I am ____ (Name) ____ from ____ (City) ____
I'm calling about:

Before you start your calls:
⇒ Think about what is the main issue you want to talk about. Look at issues outlined in this Disability Advocacy Day paper so you know what you want to say and think of a personal story about that issue.

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One More Cheer!




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There are 3 issues to choose from! They are all on your D.A.D. issue paper.


Equal Access to Voting



Family Caregivers



Direct Care Workforce



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MAKE YOUR CALL!

You will be calling:
Senator: _____ Phone: _____
Assembly Representative: _____ Phone: _____
email: _____ email: _____

Before you start your calls:
• Pick the issue most important to you:
o Equal Access to Voting
o Family Caregivers
o Direct Care Workforce Crisis
• Use the Tell Your Story Worksheet and Disability Advocacy Day Issue Paper to help you.
• Take a deep breath and make your call.

How to begin your call:
Hi, I am ____ (Name) ____ from ____ (City) ____
I'm calling about: List your important issue here.

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Disability Advocacy Day 2022

Telling Your Personal Story



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**Disability Advocacy Day
2022**

Time to go to your Breakout Room
Thank You for Coming

Make your Calls this afternoon!

Thanks again to our Sponsors: BPDD ♦ DRW ♦ People First Wisconsin ♦
Wisconsin Coalition for Independent Living Centers ♦ Wisconsin Personal Services Association ♦

Tell Your Story Worksheet

Disability Advocacy Day

What issue is important to you?

Circle one of these top issues identified by Survival Coalition:

- ☐ Equal Access to Voting
- ☐ Family Caregivers
- ☐ Direct Care Workforce
- ☐ Other

How does this impact you? (What does it mean?)

How does this issue relate to your daily life?

How could it improve your life?

How could it make your life harder?

What needs to happen? (What to ask for?)

What result would you like?

How will you know when your problem is solved?

What information could help policymakers know why this issue is important to you?

What facts, figures or research could help make your case. Look at the DAD Issue paper for help.

1. Hey, hey, ho, ho! **HEY, HEY, HO, HO!**

COMMUNITY FIRST IS THE WAY TO GO!

2. **NOTHING ABOUT US! WITHOUT US!**

3. Invest: **IN US!**

4. What do we want? **REAL WORK!**

What do we want? **REAL LIVES!**

5. What do we want? **OUR CARE!**

Where do we want it? **AT HOME!**

When do we want it? **NOW!**

6. Bring our people home!

Liberation- **YES!** Discrimination- **NO!**

7. What do we want? **FREEDOM!**

When do we want it? **NOW!**

8. What do we want ? **OUR RIGHTS!**

When do we want them? **NOW!**