Seeking the Treasure of Inclusion, Self-Determination and Equality

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Your Quest Guides

Laura Long Sword

Wendy Wanderer of the Seven Seas
Objectives

• Describe the history of the Protection and Advocacy (P&A) System and Client Assistance Program (CAP).
• Provide information about Disability Rights Florida intake process.
• Obtain a working knowledge of the goals and objectives of Disability Rights Florida.
• Share information about key disability resources and referrals in other states.
P & A History
THE DOCTOR TOLD ME HE'D JUST BEEN FIRED
Mission

To advance the quality of life, dignity, equality, self determination, and freedom of choice of persons with disabilities through collaboration, education, advocacy, as well as legal and legislative strategies.
Goals and Objectives

- Protect the Rights of all individuals with disabilities
- Ensure full participation by individuals with disabilities in the community by applying state and federal remedies to implement systemic reform of benefits, programs, housing, employment, services, transportation, and recreation
- Protect individuals with disabilities in facilities from abuse and neglect
- Individuals with disabilities shall have knowledge of available resources, rights and responsibilities
Priorities

• Abuse, neglect or rights violations for individuals who live in institutional and residential settings.
• Community placement.
• Access to publicly funded benefits and services, particularly home and community based services.
• Self-empowerment and rights of individuals to gain greater control over important life decisions.
• Control over use of public benefits and personal assets.
Priorities

• Equal access to public and private programs and services, including businesses, transportation, post-secondary education, housing, and assistive technology.
• Access to vocational rehabilitation and blind services.
• Access to a free and appropriate public education in the most inclusive environment.
• Least restrictive alternatives to guardianship.
• Voting rights and civic participation.
Ten Steps to Effective Self-Advocacy

STEP 4: Be Effective on the Phone

- Prepare key points
- Prepare most important questions
- Clear and focused
- Listen carefully

4. When preparing for a phone call, write down the key points you want to say and your most important questions.
Services

- Information and referrals
- Self-advocacy support
- Technical assistance
- Investigations into complaints of abuse, neglect and rights violations
- Dispute resolution support
- Negotiation and mediation support
- Advocacy services
Grants

- PAIMI
- PAIR
- PADD
- PABSS
- PAAT
- PATBI
- PAVA
- CAP
Violation
Mountains

Intake
River

Treasure of
Inclusion, Self-
Determination
and Equality
found

Treasure Map

Port
Referral

Supervisor
Falls

Legal
Lagoon
Disability Resources

• National Disability Rights Network
• Vocational Rehabilitation
• Job Accommodation Network

• Centers for Independent Living
• Aging and Disability Resource Centers
• Consumer Organizations
• ADA Hotline
• National ADA Network
Contact Us

2473 Care Dr., Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Toll Free 1-800-342-0823
TDD 1-800-346-4127
Fax 850-488-8640

www.disabilityrightsflorida.org