

UNIVERSITY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.
*Protection and Advocacy Program
for the District of Columbia*

ULS Public Input Survey for Fiscal Year 2011

University Legal Services (“ULS”) is a private, non-profit organization that protects and promotes the rights of persons who have disabilities in the District of Columbia. ULS is authorized to do its work by federal laws that also require that we identify priorities each year that will determine which cases we accept, what kind of training and education we provide, and what systemic issues we will address.

Every year we ask persons who have disabilities, their family members and other interested individuals to tell us what kinds of issues and problems they think ULS should work to improve.

In this survey, we want you to tell us about the most important issues affecting the rights and services of individuals with disabilities in the District of Columbia. Please contact ULS if you would like to complete the survey in an alternate format.

If you would like to see a copy of our current goals, priorities and objectives, you can call (202) 547-0198 to request a copy. You can also download a copy from our website at www.uls-dc.org.

Because ULS cannot address every issue of concern to individuals with disabilities, we are asking for your help in selecting those that are most important. For each category below, please choose the 3 that you consider **most important** by checking the box next to those issues.

Please return the survey to Jane Brown at University Legal Services, 220 I Street, NE., Ste. 130, Washington, D.C. 20002 by October 29, 2010.

Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (“PAIMI”) – The purpose of the PAIMI program is to protect and advocate the rights of individuals with significant mental illness.

Please check the 3 issues that you consider most important:

- Improper seclusion, restraint and involuntary medication
 - Discharge from institutional settings
 - Access to individualized and consumer-directed community-based services and supports
 - Overly restrictive guardianships or non-responsive guardians
 - Poor planning for transitions from the youth-based mental health system to the adult-based mental health system
 - Lack of community-based services for individuals with mental illness who also have a co-occurring intellectual disability, physical disability, or complex medical needs
 - Poor treatment and conditions at community residential facilities, single room occupancies, or group homes
 - Other _____
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Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Development Disabilities (“PADD”) – The purpose of the PADD program is to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities are provided services that promote independence, integration and inclusion in the community.

Please check the 3 issues that you consider most important:

- Abuse and neglect in institutional settings, schools and the community
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- Inaccessible public accommodations, government-funded programs or polling places
- Lack of appropriate community services in the most integrated setting
- Overly restrictive guardianships
- Access to healthcare directives
- Improper seclusion, restraint and involuntary medication
- Inadequate services for individuals diagnosed with both a mental illness and a developmental disability
- Inadequate services or supports from the Department on Disability Services
- Inadequate services or supports from DC Medicaid
- Inadequate community services for individuals with dual diagnoses released from the DC jail or the Federal Bureau of Prisons
- Lack of access to long-term care services in the home funded by DC Medicaid, such as personal care services and supports for people with disabilities seeking alternatives to institutional placements
- Segregation of students with developmental disabilities within the school setting
- Implementation of students' Individualized Education Programs within DCPS
- Poor transition planning services for students aging out of the school system
- Other _____

Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (“PAIR”) – The purpose of the PAIR program is to protect the legal and human rights of individuals with disabilities who are not eligible for services under other protection and advocacy programs.

Please check the 3 issues that you consider most important:

- Inaccessibility in federally funded private and public housing developments for people with disabilities who use wheelchairs
- Inaccessible public accommodations (i.e., privately-managed facilities and services open to the public) and government-funded services, facilities and programs for individuals with mobility, hearing and/or visual disabilities
- Lack of access to long-term care services in the home funded by DC Medicaid, such as personal care services and supports for people with disabilities seeking alternatives to nursing homes
- Lack of supports for individuals with disabilities who are transitioning from nursing homes
- Other _____

Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (“PABSS”) – The purpose of the PABSS program is to provide information and advocacy about obtaining vocational, employment and other supports to any recipient of Supplemental Security Income (“SSI”) or Social Security Disability Income (“SSDI”) who is trying to regain employment.

Please check the 3 issues that you consider most important:

- Inadequate services for beneficiaries returning to work
- Need for education regarding rights and responsibilities in return to work activities
- Need for accommodations from employers
- Assistance in overcoming barriers to employment, such as overpayment problems or loss of benefits
- Other _____

Help America Vote Act (“HAVA”) – The purpose of HAVA is to ensure full participation in the electoral process for individuals with disabilities, including registering to vote, casting a vote and accessing polling places.

Please check the 3 issues that you consider most important:

- Lack of access to voter registration for people with disabilities
- Lack of information about voting rights and responsibilities of DC Board of Elections
- Inaccessible polling places precluding confidential voting by people with mobility, visual, and other disabilities
- Lack of access to voting machines by people with mobility, visual and/or hearing disabilities
- Other _____

Please use this space to provide any additional comments or describe other issues you would like to see ULS address in the upcoming fiscal year:

Please use this space to provide any comments, suggestions or concerns about ULS and the services it provides to individuals with disabilities:

Please check below all descriptions that apply to you. Providing this information is voluntary. The information will assist ULS in ensuring that the survey represents the full diversity of the District of Columbia.

- Person with a disability/consumer
- Family member/guardian/friend
- Representative of a public agency
- Advocate/attorney
- Service Provider
- Teacher
- Legislator
- Other: _____

My primary areas of interest are:

- All disability rights
- Assistive Technology
- Voting Rights
- Employment Discrimination
- Mental Illness
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Public Accommodations
- Developmental Disability

- Social Security/Return to Work
- Special Education

Thank you for your time and assistance! Please return the survey to Jane Brown at University Legal Services, 220 I Street, NE., Ste.130, Washington, D.C. 20002 by October 29, 2010.