

TTY numbers are noted where there are dedicated lines. When there is no TTY number listed, use Maryland Relay at 711 or 800-735-2258.

Advance Directive Forms

MD Attorney General's Office 410-576-6300; 888-743-0023

Americans with Disabilities Act

ADA Information Center (*Mid-Atlantic Region*) 301-217-0124; 800-949-4232
 ADA Information Line (*U.S. Dept. of Justice*) 800-514-0301; 800-514-0383 (TTY)
 Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund 800-348-4232; 510-644-2555
 Maryland Coalition for ADA Education 410-571-9320; 410-974-6139
 888-272-3449

Assistive Technology

ABLEDATA (*database of a.t. & rehab. equipment*) 800-227-0216
 Job Accommodation Network 800-526-7234
 Learning Independence Through Computers (*LINC*) 410-659-5462
 MD Technology Assistance Program 800-832-4827

Communication

Maryland Relay Service 711 (within MD)
Assists phone contact between TTY users and users of standard phones 800-735-2258 (outside MD)
 Speech to Speech Service 800-785-5630
Assists with phone conversations for individuals with difficult to understand speech

Disability Information/Education/Advocacy

Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Maryland 800-467-0075
 American Association on Mental Retardation 800-424-3688
 American Council of the Blind 800-424-8666
 American Foundation for the Blind 800-232-5463
 Arc of Maryland (*formerly the Assoc. for Retarded Citizens*) 410-571-9320; 410-974-6139
 888-272-3449
 Autism Society of America 800-338-8476
 Brain Injury Association of Maryland 800-221-6443
 Centers for Independent Living:
 MCIL Making Choices for Independent Living 410-444-1400
 (*Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard Counties*)
 Independence Now (*P.G. & Montgomery Counties*) 301-587-4162; 301-277-2839
 Resources for Independence 301-784-1774; 800-371-1986
 (*Garrett, Allegany, Washington, and Frederick Co.*)

Center for L.I.F.E. (Charles, St. Mary's, Calvert Counties)	301-884-4498
Easter Seals Society	410-298-0991; 800-862-1377
Eastern Shore Center for Independent Living (Dorchester, Talbot, Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester Counties)	410-221-7701; 800-705-7944 410-221-5140 (TTY)
Epilepsy Association of the Eastern Shore	800-776-5694
Epilepsy Foundation of the Chesapeake Region	800-492-2523
The Freedom Center (Carroll and Frederick Counties)	301-846-7811
Learning Disabilities Association of Maryland	301-549-2213
Maryland ADAPT	410/666-5484
Maryland Disability Forum	410-444-1400 (c/o MCIL Resources)
National Association for the Dually Diagnosed	800-331-5362
National Brain Injury Association	800-444-6443
National Down Syndrome Congress	800-232-6372
National Down Syndrome Society	800-221-4602
National Center for the Blind	410-659-9314
Nat'l Info Ctr for Children and Youth with Disabilities	800-695-0285
National Multiple Sclerosis Society/MD Chapter	410-527-1770; 800-344-4867
Prader-Willi Syndrome Association Service Coordination	800-926-4797 301-663-0909; 301-663-0936 (TTY) 410-882-4710
Spina Bifida Association of Maryland	410-671-0047
Spinal Cord Injury Network	800-716-1393
TASH — Disability Advocacy Worldwide	410-828-8274; 800-482-8274
Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc. (Publish a national TTY directory)	301-589-3786; 301-589-3006 (TTY)
United Cerebral Palsy Association	800-872-5827

Disability Service Providers

Many private agencies in Maryland that provide community services for people with disabilities belong to these professional associations. Contact them to learn about agencies near you. You can also contact the Developmental Disabilities Administration for a complete listing of community agencies it licenses and funds.

Maryland Association of Community Services for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (MACS)	410-518-9874
Maryland Association of Psychiatric Support Services (MAPSS)	410-788-1865

Education Advocacy

Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Education	410-859-5400; 800-899-8837
Maryland Disability Law Center	See listing under "Legal"
Parents Place of Maryland	410-859-5300; 800-394-5694

Financial Planning

For a list of certified planners in your area and information on selecting a planner:

Institute of Certified Financial Planners	800-282-7526
International Association for Financial Planning	800-945-4237
National Association of Personal Financial Advisors	888-333-6659

(Fee-only planners not compensated by commissions)

For additional help and to check on a financial planner's disciplinary & complaint history:

MD Attorney General's Office/Securities Division	410-576-6360, 410-576-6372 (TTY)
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Health Care

Complaints/Concerns for individuals with private insurance:

Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's Office	410-528-1840
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Questions/Concerns/Complaints for individuals with HealthChoice (Medicaid):

Health Choice Enrollee Action Line	800-284-4510
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Questions regarding the Maryland Children's Health Program:

(Health benefits for pregnant women, and children up to age 19 in families with low to moderate income)	800-456-8900
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Housing

Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc. <i>(Statewide fair housing advocacy)</i>	410-243-6007; 800-487-6007
Fair Housing Information Clearinghouse	800-343-3442; 800-483-2209 (TTY)
Maryland Center for Community Development/ Housing Counselor Hotline <i>(homeownership)</i>	410-752-6223; 800-949-6223
MD Department of Housing and Community Development operates the <i>Homeownership for People with Disabilities Program</i> , which offers low interest rate mortgages.	410-514-7530 http://www.dhcd.state.md.us (click on "Buying a Home")
MD Home of Your Own Coalition <i>(homeownership)</i> c/o the MD D.D. Council	410-333-3688; 800-305-6441

Legal

Bazon Center for Mental Health Law	202-467-5730
Legal Aid Bureau of Maryland	410- 539-5340; 800-666-8330
Maryland Disability Law Center	410-727-6352; 800-233-7201
Maryland Volunteer Lawyer Service	410-547-6537
Service Coordination <i>(contact for a list of attorneys who have indicated an interest in estate planning with families with children with developmental disabilities. Note: the DD Council does not endorse any attorneys.)</i>	410-882-4710

Local Offices for Individuals with Disabilities

Anne Arundel County - ADA Office	410-222-4383; 410-222-4355 (TTY)
Baltimore City - Handicapped Services	410-396-1915
Baltimore City - Mayor's Commission on Disabilities	410-396-9944
Baltimore County - Commission on Disabilities	410-887-3580; 410-887-2799 (TTY)
Carroll County - ADA Coordinator	410-848-9707
Frederick County - Commission on Disabilities	301-694-1663; 301-694-1070 (TTY)
Harford County - Disabilities Coordinator	410-638-3373; 410-638-3086 (TTY)
Howard County - Commission on Disability Issues	410-313-6402; 410-313-6401 (TTY)
Montgomery County - Commission on People with Dis.	301-217-1256; 301-217-1236 (TTY)
Prince George' County - Disability Services	301-883-5160; 301-925-5167 (TTY)
St. Mary's County - Committee for the Disabled	301-475-4632
Talbot County - Department of Social Services	410-820-6699
Washington County - Disabilities Coordinator	301-791-3383

Maryland State Agencies

Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)	410-767-5600
Central MD Regional Office	410-902-4500
Western MD Regional Office	301-791-4670
Southern MD Regional Office	301-362-5100
Eastern Shore Regional Office	410-334-6920
Governor's Committee for Employment of People with Disabilities	410-333-2263; 800-637-4113
Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities	410-333-3098; 800-637-4113
Maryland Department of Aging	410-767-1100; 800-243-3425 410-767-1083 (TTY)
Maryland State Department of Education	
Division of Special Education	410-767-0244
Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program	800-535-0182
Resource Centers for Families and Schools	800-535-0182
Family Support Network	800-535-0182
Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)	888-554-0334; 410-554-9411 (TTY)
Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, & St. Mary's Counties	410-974-7604; 410-974-7742 (TTY)
Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Montgomery, & Washington Counties	301-791-4764; 301-791-4764 (TTY)
Baltimore City	410-333-6199; 410-333-6128 (TTY)
Baltimore, Harford, & Howard Counties	410-321-2395; 410-321-4035 (TTY)
Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, & Worcester Counties	410-543-6909; 410-546-9171 (TTY)
Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA)	410-767-6611

Miscellaneous

Maryland Trust for Retarded Citizens <i>Provides assistance and service monitoring upon the death or disability of a parent. Private pay.</i>	410-876-1836; 1-800-323-9407
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Personal Assistance Services

Personal assistance services are tasks performed for a person with a disability by another person. They include things such as assistance with bathing, dressing, eating, getting in and out of bed, shopping, meal preparation, and house cleaning. Refer to “A Consumer’s Guide to Personal Assistance Services in Maryland” in Appendix D for more information. There are several sources for PAS in Maryland:

Attendant Care Program: 410-767-7422

In-Home Aid Services Program:

Delivered through local Departments of Social Services (DSS). To learn where your local DSS office is, contact the MD Department of Human Resources:

410-767-7000; 800-332-6347
410-767-7025 (TTY)
800-732-7850 (Spanish)

Medical Assistance Personal Care Program:

Available through local Health Departments. To learn where your local health department is, check the phone book or contact the MD Department of Health and Mental Hygiene:

410-767-6860

Pooled Trusts (known at time of publication)

Penn-Mar Organization 410-343-1069; 888-273-4507
(A developmental disability service provider)

Public Benefits

For information, assistance, and training about SSI, SSDI, Medicaid, Medicare, work incentives, and Maryland Children’s Health Care Program, contact:

Benefits INfoSource 800-704-7113 (daytime)
888-838-1776 (week nights/Sat.)

In addition to Benefits INFO Source, MCIL (Making Choices for Independent Living) can also assist with questions about public benefits. 410-444-1400

For information about SSI, SSDI, Medicare and other Social Security benefits and for information on local Social Security offices:

Social Security Administration 800-772-1213 (24 hours/day)
800-325-0778 (TTY: M-F, 7a-7p)

For information and publications about Medicare:

Medicare Hotline 800-638-6833; 800-820-1202 (TTY)

For information about Medicaid contact your local Department of Social Services (DSS). To learn where your local DSS office is, contact:

MD Department of Human Resources 410-767-7000; 800-332-6347
410-767-7025 (TTY), 800-732-7850 (Spanish)

Rental Assistance Programs (Section 8 certificates/vouchers)

Eligible low-income people can apply to receive rental assistance through the Section 8 program. Waiting lists vary by county and are often very long, so don't wait until you are ready to rent to apply. The following organizations administer the program. Some only cover certain areas of their counties. Call for more information.

Allegany County	301-777-2372; 301-759-2792
Anne Arundel County	410-222-6200
Baltimore City	410-396-4046
Baltimore County	410-887-4000
Calvert County	410-535-5010
Caroline County	410-479-3566
Carroll County	410-848-9707
Cecil County	410-996-5245
Charles County	410-934-9305
Dorchester County	800-445-4340
Frederick County	301-694-1061
Garrett County	301-334-9431
Harford County	410-638-3045
Howard County	410-313-6320
Kent County	410-479-3566
Montgomery County	301-929-6700
Prince George's County	301-883-5501
Queen Anne's County	410-758-3977
Somerset County	410-651-1818
St. Mary's County	410-475-4405
Talbot County	410-822-5015
Washington County	301-791-3168
Wicomico County	410-749-1383
Worcester County	800-445-4340
City of Annapolis	410-267-8000
Crisfield	410-968-0289
Cumberland	301-759-6450
Easton	410-822-8738
Elkton	410-398-5018
Frederick City	301- 662-8173
Hagerstown	301-797-6363
Havre de Grace	410-939-2097
Pocomoke City	410-957-1633
Princess Anne	410-651-1818
Snow Hill	410-632-2080
St. Michaels	410-745-5121

Service Planning/Futures Planning

Talk with families and professionals you know for ideas and assistance. Also, check with the following type organizations for direct assistance or a referral. The ability of individual organizations to assist you will depend on their staffing, funding, and geographic area of service.

Disability advocacy organizations

See “Disability Information/ Education/Advocacy” and “Local Offices for Individuals with Disabilities” above

Disability service providers

Contact DDA Regional Offices for list and see “Disability Service Providers” above

Service Coordination/ Case Management agencies

County Health Departments
in Southern MD and on the Eastern Shore

Contact DDA Regional Offices for information

Service Coordination (*this is the agency's name*)
in Central and Western Maryland

301-663-0909 (Western MD)
410-882-4710 (Central MD)

Private consultants

Ask other families and organizations
for recommendations

Transportation

Note: With demand-response services (also known as paratransit), eligible people schedule pick up times and designate where they are to be picked up and taken. Taxi-voucher programs allow eligible people to use taxis at a reduced fare. Call regarding the eligibility for these services and the geographic areas covered. Dept. of Aging programs listed also serve people with disabilities.

Mass Transit Administration (MTA)

Info. on buses, Light Rail, Metro & MARC train 410-539-5000; 800-543-9809
410-539-3497 (TTY)

Allegany County

AllTrans (demand-response) 301-724-1255

Anne Arundel County

Handy Cab (Taxi-voucher program) 410-222-4222
Annapolis Transit Mobility (demand-response) 410-263-7994, x110

Baltimore City

Dept. of Aging (Taxi-voucher program) 410-396-1578

Baltimore City and parts of Baltimore and A.A. Counties

Call-A-Lift (to arrange for a lift-equipped bus on any regular MTA bus route) 410-682-5438
Reduced Fare Certification 410-767-3441; 410-333-2051 (TTY)
Mobility (demand-response) 410-767-3441; 410-333-2051 (TTY)
Certification 410-767-3441; 410-333-2051 (TTY)
Ride Scheduling 410-727-3535

Baltimore County

CountyRide (demand-response) 410-887-2080; 410-887-3787 (TTY)

Calvert County

Calvert Co. Public Transportation (demand-response) 410-535-1600; 301-855-1243
410-535-0291 / 301-855-1862 (TTY)

Caroline County

Upper Shore Take-a-Ride (demand-response) 410-479-3867

Carroll County

Carroll County Transit (demand-response) 410-876-7433

Cecil County

Dept. of Aging Transportation (demand-response) 410-996-5295

Charles County

VAN GO (demand-response) 301-934-9305; 301-870-3388

Dorchester County

Delmarva Community Services (demand-response) 410-221-1900

Frederick County

TransIT Plus (demand-response) 301-694-2065

Garrett County

Community Action Committee (demand-response) 301-334-9431

Harford County

Harford Co. Transport. Services (demand-response) 410-612-1621; 410-838-2562
410-612-1643 (TTY)

Howard County

Howard Area Transit Service (HATS) 410-313-1919
Demand-response service 410-313-1921
Transportation subsidy program 410-313-6402; 410-313-6401 (TTY)

Kent County

Upper Shore Take-a-Ride (demand-response) 410-778-5187

Montgomery County

Ride-On (public bus system) 301-217-7433; 301-217-2222 (TTY)
Accessible Ride-On Service 301-217-2185; 301-217-2222 (TTY)
MetroAccess Paratransit Service 301-588-8181; 301-588-8186 (TTY)
MetroAccess Fare Subsidy Program 301-217-8500; 301-217-8177 (TTY)
Call 'N' Ride Program (taxi vouchers) 301-948-5409

Prince George's County

Call-A-Bus (demand-response) 301-499-8603
Call-A-Cab (taxi-vouchers) 301-883-5656

Queen Anne's County

County Ride (demand-response) 410-758-2357

Somerset County

Dial-A-Ride (demand-response) 410-651-1505
St. Mary's County
St. Mary's Transit System (demand-response) 301-475-5100

Talbot County

Upper Shore Take-a-Ride (demand-response) 410-822-4155

Washington County

County Commuter 301-791-3047
(100% accessible fixed-route bus system;
demand-response service & taxi vouchers)

Wicomico County

Eastern Shore Human Services (demand-response) 410-742-0404

Worcester County

Commission on Aging (transport to medical appt.) 410-632-1277
Ocean City "The Bus" (demand-response) 410-524-7715

the disability ,rights
education and defense fund
logo

Founded in 1979 by people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities, the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, Inc. (DREDF) is a national law and policy center dedicated to protecting and advancing the civil rights of people with disabilities through legislation, litigation, advocacy, technical assistance, and education and training of attorneys, advocates, persons with disabilities, and parents of children with disabilities.

photograph of pam
steneberg

On March 25, 2006, DREDF and parents of children with disabilities lost one of their fiercest advocates, [Doreen Pamela Steneberg](#)

DREDF Transportation Training - July 11-13, 2006 in Las Vegas, NV

The Pacific ADA&IT Center is hosting a 3-day training on transportation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Marilyn Golden, DREDF's Policy Analyst and a leading expert in the area of transportation and the ADA will conduct the training with Russ Thatcher, a Senior Transportation Planner with TranSystems.

To register, contact the Pacific ADA&IT Center at 1-800-949-4232 or visit www.pacdbtac.org

Attention Parents of Children with Diabetes in California: [Immediate Action Needed](#) to Make Sure Your Child is Safe at School.

The Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Inc. (COPAA) selected DREDF Parent Advocate **Wendy Byrnes** to receive the first **Diane Lipton Award for Outstanding Educational Advocacy**. [Read Wendy Byrnes' Acceptance Speech.](#)

[24 Hour Fitness Welcomes Patrons with Disabilities.](#)

Leading Gym Chain Confirms Philosophy: "Fitness A Way of Life for Everyone"

SHELL GAS STATIONS -- FEEDBACK REQUESTED

By DREDF's Shell Monitoring Team

To wheelchair users and other people with mobility disabilities who use Shell gas stations:

For many years, the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF) has been working to improve the accessibility of thousands of Shell gas stations throughout the United States. Now we need your help.

Under our court-approved Consent Decree, Class experts at Evan Terry Associates have been spot-checking Shell's work by conducting inspections at the allowable number of stations across the country. While these inspections, along with monitoring information the company submits on a quarterly basis, provide us with valuable information about Shell's compliance efforts, we also need to hear from people with disabilities about their experiences, especially at stations we were not able to visit after the work was completed. If you have visited a Shell station recently, please let us know your accessibility experiences, both positive and negative. We are interested in both service issues and architectural issues, inside the convenience store, in restrooms, and outside at pumps, air/water stations, and telephones. Please be sure to include the address of the station you are writing about with as many specifics as you can.

Shell is working very hard to improve accessibility at its stations and is making great improvements in their ability to serve people with mobility disabilities; your feedback is critical to those efforts, and we hope to hear from you.

Please contact us at access@dredf.org or at 800-348-4232 (v/tty).

Please note that not every Shell station in the United States is covered by our Consent Decree, although many are included. If you contact us about a station that is not covered, we will let you know.

Thanks,

DREDF's Shell monitoring team and Lainey Feingold, Co-counsel

[Blind Beneficiaries Sue Social Security Administration - SSA Fails To Provide Accessible Communications](#)

[Unprecedented Class Action Civil Rights Complaint Filed In Federal Court](#)

Children With Diabetes Sue School Districts, State For Assistance; Denial Of Glucose Monitoring and Insulin Administration During the School Day Challenged

[An Important Message to California Families of Children with Diabetes.](#)

DREDF continues to advocate for children with diabetes and seeks information about your experiences with diabetes management services in California public schools.

DREDF filed suit against the Social Security Administration on behalf of individuals with vision impairments.

[American Council of the Blind, et al. vs. Jo Anne B. Barnhart, Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, in her official capacity, and Social Security Administration.](#)

[How to Help People with Disabilities affected by Hurricane Katrina](#)

The disability community has come together to assist people with disabilities in the Gulf States affected by the hurricane. We've gathered the following information for those affected and how to help.

The National Council on Disability compiled this [list of Katrina emergency information for displaced individuals relocated to Texas](#). It also includes more information on missing person registries, jobs, and FEMA assistance.

[On August 2, 2005, the Ninth Circuit US Court of Appeals issued a disappointing opinion in Sanchez v. Johnson \(No. 04-15228\).](#)

Healthcare Access for Women and Girls with Disabilities

DREDF has a project staffed by attorney Rachel E. Brill, an Equal Justice Works Fellow, funded by a

generous grant from Pfizer, Inc. As part of our ongoing efforts to improve healthcare access for people with disabilities, DREDF is interested in contact from women and girls with disabilities who have had difficulties accessing healthcare. The project can provide direct advocacy assistance in California in certain circumstances. Contact [Rachel Brill](#) for more information.