Police violated civil rights

People with behavioral health disabilities are among whom the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) and City of Minneapolis discriminated against. An 89-page report from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) describes in great detail the longstanding issues of misconduct.

The DOJ also announced that city and MPD leaders agree in principle to resolve the issues found through a court-enforceable consent decree with an independent monitor. This is an option to contested litigation, which could take many years to resolve.

“George Floyd’s death had an irreparable impact on his family, on the Minneapolis community, on our country, and on the world,” said Attorney General Merrick B. Garland. “The patterns and practices of conduct the Justice Department observed during our investigation are deeply disturbing. They erode the community’s trust in law enforcement. And they made what happened to George Floyd possible. Today, we have completed our investigation, but this is only the first step. We will continue to work with the city and the MPD toward ensuring that MPD officers have the support and resources they need to do their jobs effectively and lawfully as we work together toward meaningful and durable reform.

“The findings present a sobering picture of a flawed system—but today we turn towards change through justice,” said First Assistant U.S. Attorney Ann Bledsoe for the District of Minnesota. “This thorough investigation is the foundation to make fair and lawful policing a reality for our entire community.”

The report was released June 16 by Garland. Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey has already pledged to address the problems. Doing so could take many months and cost millions of dollars.

The report describes how police used excessive force against residents from 2016 to 2022, and violated their constitutional and federal rights. The report also recommends several ways that city officials can address the situation.

The DOJ report outlines four primary categories of violations. Those are:

1. Both the police and city officials are found to violated the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in situations involving people with behavioral health disabilities. People who were having mental health crises and being arrested were found to have posed no threats to others in many situations. But police used tasers, chokeholds and other forcible measures of arrest in these cases.

2. MPD was found to have used excessive force, caused unnecessary death, struck people who were restrained and not given needed medical aid to people in custody. The best-known of these cases was the May 2020 police killing of George Floyd, who was accused of using a counterfeit $20 bill in a south Minneapolis store.

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Huppert will highlight Access Press celebration

by Access Press staff and Board

Award-winning broadcast journalist and longtime producer/host of KARE TV’s Land of 10,000 Stories, Huppert will enccre the November 3 Access Press Award Celebration! The event will be held at the university of Minnesota McNamara Center. Huppert is a skilled storyteller, award-winning journalist and longtime producer/host of KARE TV’s Land of 10,000 Stories. He’ll share a compilation of some of his stories featuring people who live with disabilities.

Huppert will also discuss the role of Access Press as an essential and crucial source of information for Minnesotans with disabilities and the general public. Huppert has been described as “one of the most admired and celebrated TV reporters in the country” by the Star Tribune. During his 40-year career in television news, Huppert has become widely known for his work as a video storyteller and teacher.

He is marking his 28th year at KARE. In addition to his reporting duties, Huppert serves as National Storytelling Coach for the 49 newsrooms of TEGNA, KARE’s owner.

He has presented hundreds of visual storytelling workshops across the United States and abroad. He has served for nearly three decades as a faculty member at the Advanced Storytelling Workshop, sponsored by the National Press Photographers Association. His work as a reporter has earned some.

Lengthy case based on living choices is settled

by Jane McClure

A settlement in a lengthy federal court case centered on living choices won approval June 15. While intervenors didn’t get what they sought in the class action case of Murphy versus Harpstead, they are using the court case to mobilize on issues and draw new people into self-advocacy.

At issue was a legal settlement negotiated by the Disability Law Center and the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), and whether that settlement addressed issues raised by the Disability Law Center on behalf of Minnesotans with disabilities who want to live in the least restrictive settings possible.

U.S. District Court Judge Donovan Frank’s ruling concludes that the settlement warrants approval. While many issues raised by those parties have merit, those claims are outside of the case’s scope. Frank agrees with the plaintiff’s contention that the lawsuit is not about addressing staff shortages or how the state funds waiver services.

The case is about whether the agreement is fair, adequate and reasonable, Frank said. It’s not about where a better deal could have been negotiated between the Disability Law Center and the Minnesota Department of Human Services.
Summertime and the living is not so easy for those of us living with disabilities.

Those of us with all kinds of disabilities cannot just walk away if a scooter jumps up in front of or behind us. We cannot navigate around parked bikes and scooters or vehicles that are flat on the sidewalk. Many of us cannot lift or move those abandoned scooters and bikes.

Minneapolis hospitals had costs beyond disabling injuries for Minnesotans.

Groups statewide had bused themselves with education about helping polio patients. They raised money to help provide care. A look at newspapers statewide showed basketball tournaments, luncheons, style shows, auctions and other fundraisers held to raise money. The high costs of care overwhelmed many volunteer groups. The January 15, 1953 Winona Republic, a newspaper printed in southern Minnesota that was distributed throughout the state, included an article about the Winona News. The article was titled, “Winona to Hold $15,000 Charity Party to Aid Paralyzed Patients.” The party was held on January 15, 1953. The proceeds from the party went to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The hospital raised $17,500, which was enough to help provide care for the patients. The hospital also raised $2,000 for the March of Dimes campaign. That money was quickly spent. The March of Dimes was a national campaign that raised money to help polio patients. The hospital also raised $10,000 for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The hospital raised $17,500, which was enough to help provide care for the patients. The hospital also raised $2,000 for the March of Dimes campaign. That money was quickly spent. The March of Dimes was a national campaign that raised money to help polio patients.

The History Note is a monthly column produced in conjunction with the Minnesota Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities. Past History Notes and other material may be found at www.mndc.org. 

HISTORY NOTE

1950s polio epidemic had costs beyond disabling injuries for Minnesotans.

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A pooled trust preserves money and protects eligibility for benefits You can avoid the need to spend down financial assets in order to qualify for benefits with a Pooled Trust account. For almost four decades, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota has been helping individuals with disabilities preserve financial assets while protecting eligibility for benefits such as Medicaid (medical assistance), Social Security Income or other public benefits.

A Pooled Trust account is a financial investment tool containing the assets of an individual with disabilities. It can preserve financial assets — like proceeds from the sale of a house or an inheritance — that would otherwise need to be part of a spend down to qualify for benefits. An individual’s funds are “pooled” together with the resources of other individuals for investment purposes – that is the Pooled Trust. Each individual has their own account within the Pooled Trust that contains their financial assets. A Pooled Trust account can be established and funded by the individual or by family and friends. The funds can only be used for the benefit of the beneficiary – helping protect individuals from potential exploitation and improving quality of life.

Consider these real-life illustrations of how individuals chose to spend funds from the LSS Pooled Trust accounts:

- D’Angelo purchased his own car, fulfilling a dream fueled by the mutual love of cars he shared with his father.
- Emma was thrilled when she got to meet “Elvis” – at an Elvis festival. Bringing home souvenirs and purchasing meals of her choice while traveling made her trip more memorable.
- Born with Down syndrome and autism, Indigo found great pleasure in working with horses as well as improved coordination and speech with Equine therapy.
- Skye’s mental health improved significantly when they purchased their own home after an auto accident left them with a traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress and depression.

*Names have been changed to protect privacy.

Example of expenses that can be paid from a Pooled Trust:

- Funds from Pooled Trust accounts can be used for many things that make life more pleasurable.
- Beneficiaries can command better interest rates compared to many other investment options.
- Therapeutic or medical services not covered by benefits can help improve overall health and well-being; many can be funded from a Pooled Trust account.
- LSS Pooled Trust experts – we take care of the details so you don’t have to.
- We work closely with attorneys and other professionals.
- We are knowledgeable about Medicaid and Social Security so you don’t need to keep up on any changes. We will ensure disbursements from your account meet all legal requirements to protect your eligibility for benefits.
- Two kinds of LSS Pooled Trusts:
  - Special Needs and Supplemental Needs: Pooled Trusts are designed specifically to help people with disabilities and must be administered by a non-profit organization.
  - Special Needs/First-party: the funds in the trust account come from personal injury settlements, retroactive disability payments, an inheritance or savings.
  - Supplemental Needs /Third-party: the funds in the trust account come from family and friends to provide financial gifts or an inheritance.

Protect your future. Putting money in a Pooled Trust instead of doing a spend down or risking losing benefits makes good sense for supporting a future financial future. It can provide the freedom to purchase experiences like vacations or educational opportunities that might otherwise be unaffordable. Therapeutic or medical services not covered by benefits can help improve overall health and well-being. And, we have time-tested financial and health and wellness programs that inspire hope, change lives and build community. Statewide, the organization seeks to foster safe and supportive homes for children, restore health and wellness in families, empower people with disabilities to live the lives they imagine, and promote health, independence and quality of life for older adults.

Learn more about LSS Pooled Trust, visit lsspooledtrust.org/access

Know someone who has made a difference in the lives of Minnesotans with disabilities? Nominate that person for the Access Press Charlie Smith Award! Nominations are due at 5 p.m. Monday, July 31
LIVING CHOICE

From page 1

Services. The decision allowing the court’s ruling today is meant to minimize the lived experiences of the objectors or any class member.”

Frank said in his ruling. “People with disabilities confront stigma and discrimination on a regular basis. It is a shameful part of our country’s past and present. While many issues remain that are separate from this litigation, the court is hopeful that this agreement will create positive change. And the court sincerely hopes that the objectors, plaintiffs, and intervenors within the disability rights community will continue to advocate for their rights. Ultimately, we will all benefit by how we respond to our most vulnerable members of our society.”

The decision approving the settlement for the Community Residential Facilities case is made on the basis of the following facts and comments from a total of 14 objectors.

Hoping over the comments was the state’s Ombudsman Plan, which requires people with disabilities to live in the least restrictive setting possible.

The settlement was approved in the case of Murphy versus Harpstead, which has gone on for almost seven years. He said “The costs, risks, and delays of trial and appeal are enormous high . . . . the case has been hotly contested from the beginning. Without settlement, it is likely that this case would continue to drag on for years and require millions of additional dollars in attorney’s fees. Defendant has indicated that if she lost trial, she would appeal the case which would result in further delay. It is also possible that after trial and appeal a third discovery period would be necessary, which would be both costly and time consuming. In the meantime, the case would receive nothing.”

The settlement provides what is called injunctive relief. This type of settlement puts specific requirements on a defendant. In this case the settlement has resulted in DHS taking actions in five categories: inform and education, train, assess, provide services and measure outcomes. These will bring a wide range of changes to DHS policies and procedures when considering a disabled person’s living situation.

The settlement and documentation fill almost 100 pages. It covers people ages 18 and older who are eligible for and who have received a disability waiver, live in a licensed community residential setting, and have not been given the opportunity and choice to live in the most integrated residential setting appropriate to their needs.

The settlement was reached through mediation and includes more than a dozen provisions that would have to be followed, to ensure that affected people know their rights to move out of their current homes and enter alternative settings.

The settlement requires additional steps in the housing choice and assessment process. Providing this information and service would require specific steps to be followed in MnCHOICES assessments, training for MnCHOICES assessors, specific tasks for case managers, and business that lack connections to local news and advertising sources.

We'll re-evaluate those decisions at the end of the year. That's all too true for many businesses. That's all too true for many publications.

We're grateful for the support that allows us to do this. Access Press thanks our advertisers and donors. We don't take any of you for granted.

My lifetime has been spent working in newspapers when I was 12. I turned 65 in June and extend thanks to all who have helped us reach our 30th birthday fundraiser for Access Press.

HUPPERT

From page 1

of journalism’s highest honors, including 22 National Edward R. Murrow Awards, 15 National Association of Broadcasters Awards, Delta Chi Awards, the Scripps Howard Award, the national Emmy for feature reporting and 24 regional Emmys.

In 2023, the Radio Television Digital News Association Foundation presented Huppert with its Lifetime Achievement Award. Also in 2023, the National Press Photographers Association inducted Huppert into the Founder’s Award, the NPPA’s highest honor. This fall, Huppert will be inducted into the Minnesota Broadcasters Hall of Fame. In 2021, Huppert was inducted into the Emmy Silver Circle, recognizing career contributions to the media industry.

Prior to his arrival at KARE, he worked at WTTI-TV in Milwaukee, KETV in Omaha, and WSPA-TV in Misquamic, Wisconsin.

Huppert grew up on a dairy farm in Wisconsin and graduated with a journalism degree from UW-River Falls, where he was named the university’s 2020 distinguished alumnus.

The event also features the presentation of the Charlie Smith Award, which is presented by the founding editors of Access Press. Nominees should be Minnesota individuals or groups working to improve the lives of Minnesota’s people with disabilities. Deadline to submit nominations is 5 p.m. July 1.

More information and applications are available.

Past winners said the award was a meaningful tribute. “Charlie was a good friend, who lived by grit and determination,” said Margot Imdieke Cross, the first award winner in 2003. “His goal at Access Press was to share our stories and experiences, thereby overcoming our communication barriers. Receiving the first Charlie Smith Award was a huge honor and I will continue to remember Charlie with fondness and respect.”

Jeff Bangsberg won the award in 2011. “It was an honor to receive this award because I had a tremendous amount of respect and admiration for Charlie Smith,” he said. “It also meant a lot to be recognized by the disability community for my years of work in promoting public policies for Minnesotans with disabilities. I was humbled to see all the people who came to the event that night.”

For an award form, contact us a newspaper at CS/Nonmembers@accesspress.org to receive a form. If help is needed with a form call 651-644-2133 ext. 1 for assistance or accommodations.

Plan ahead to attend this fun event. It starts at 5:30 p.m. Friday November 3 with a reception and registration. The dinner and program are at 6:30 p.m. The program and website are available on the website and program for the evening. A scholarship ticket, for those who would otherwise be unable to attend, is $75 per person.

Individual tickets are $75. A table for eight is $600. A scholarship ticket, for someone who might otherwise be unable to attend, is also $75 per person.

Read more about our first responders on page 6 and our communication and support network on page 7. For more information and donor opportunities, please contact Jane Larson or Catherine Hunter at Support@AccessPress.org

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Minnesota prep athletes wrap up 2022-2023 adapted sports seasons

Summer ends the 2022-2023 adapted sports season for Minnesota prep athletes in track and field, bowling and softball.

Track and field: athletes compete in wheelchair races. Softball: tournaments for athletes with physical (PI) and cognitive (CI) disabilities. Bowling: adds a third category for athletes on the autism spectrum (PIA).

Athletes roll to several titles

In the track and field state meet at St. Michael-Albertville, the state meet awarded triple titles for athletes and four titles for one competitor.

In Class AA boys’ competition, Wayzata’s Michael Allen won the 100, 800 and 1,600 meter races and shot put. Wayzata teammate Macalister Hedke won 200 meters and discus crowns, and placed second in shot put. Hedke and Logan Hovanesz, Elk River, also second in 200 meter.

Fairmont sophomore Nelson Remington won 100, 200 and 800 meters in boys’ AA competition. Devion Filzen, Winona, was second. Filzen won the boys’ AA shot put.

Familiar names appeared in Class A boys’ competition. Sophomore Tyler Gunnarson, St. Charles won 100 and 200 meter races, and妓女sen4, Northfield, won the 10,000 meter race. River Valley finishing second and third. Gunnarson also won 500 meters.

In girls’ competition, and parental peer Peyton hold many state wheelchair race records.

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MN Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities
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www.mn.gov/deaf-commission

Information/Referral Resources
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Many Thanks to the University of Minnesota Institute for Community Integration (ICI) and Disability Resource Center (DRC) for sponsorship in hosting the Access Press Banquet at the McNamara Alumni Center on November 3.

For information on sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jane Larson or Catherine Hunter by email at Support@AccessPress.org.

Tax deductible donations of scholarship tickets at $75 per ticket or $500 for a table of 8. These donations will be used to provide seats at the table for members of our community who would be otherwise unable to attend the Access Press Banquet.
Spinal implant scrutinized

The first-of-its-kind clinical trial at HCMC in Minneapolis is giving hope to people with spinal cord injuries. While relatives and friends are amazed by her newfound movements, LaBo said she is pleased that it will continue to be available as funding allows. The research is clear, time spent in the outdoors has great benefits for health and well-being.

For more information on MDH’s telehealth research and the preliminary telehealth report, visit available at https://health.state.mn.us/data/economics/telehealth/index.html.

Check on mail status

Minnesotans with Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare can now look up the month they can expect their health insurance renewal forms to arrive in the mail. People can look up their renewal month at mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage.

To use the lookup, people must enter the case number printed on their notices or premium bills and the member number listed on their Minnesota Health Care Program card. If a person doesn’t know their case or member number, they can call their county or Tribal worker.

When the forms arrive, it’s essential to complete and return them promptly with any necessary documentation. If people who are eligible don’t return the forms, they may lose their health insurance.

Keeping health insurance makes it easier to get health care and avoids making health disparities worse.

“It’s so important for people to be ready to take action when their renewal forms arrive in the mail,” said Human Services Commissioner Jodi Harpstead. “The renewal lookup lets them know when to watch their mail so they can do everything possible to keep their health insurance.”

The timing of a person’s Medical Assistance renewal is based on the month they first got insurance. If someone became eligible in August 2019, their renewal month will be November. If they can expect forms to arrive in the mail in December.

People with MinnesotaCare can expect to receive their renewal forms by November.

One in four Minnesotans has insurance through Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare. State, county and Tribal workers will be checking eligibility for 1.5 million people in monthly batches through May 2024.

DHS has implemented user-friendly ways to reach people about their renewals, including text messages reminding people to watch their mail and submit forms on time. Individuals can also complete the renewal process by submitting documents online or over the phone.

Find out more about renewals at https://www.mndnr.gov/accesspress/
Proud To Be Me was written by Gillette Children’s pediatric hand surgeons Ann Van Heest, MD and Deborah Rohin, MD. It is illustrated by Rick Korab. Proud To Be Me is a board book that teaches children about physical differences and promotes self-confidence. Whether it’s a surgery that gave a child a thumb, a guide dog that helps them see or a prosthesis that allows them to run, Proud To Be Me teaches children to love and accept themselves for who they are.

The book uses simple text and easy-to-understand illustrations to encourage children to be proud of their differences. It is the fourth book published by Gillette Press, founded by Gillette Children’s Hospital in St. Paul. It is one of the only children’s hospitals in the world that publishes books for children, families and professionals.

Proud To Be Me teaches toddlers about physical differences in multiple different body parts (finger, hair, eye, ears, legs, feet) showcasing that our differences make us unique and something to be proud of, the authors said. Advocacy and celebrating differences are vital in fostering a world that embraces inclusivity.

Proud To Be Me was funded by the James House, MD, MS, Fund for Hand and Upper Extremity Excellence at Gillette Children’s Healthcare Press and the Gillette Children’s Healthcare Press Foundation.

The book is a board book that is perfect for children aged 2 to 5 years old. It is written in English and available for purchase on Amazon. Gillette Press is a non-profit organization that publishes books on a variety of medical conditions treated at Gillette Children’s.

The proceeds from the sale of Proud To Be Me will be used to support Gillette’s mission to provide the best care and support to children with disabilities. Gillette Children’s is dedicated to creating greater understanding of complex medical conditions. Gillette Press was established in March 2020, right before the pandemic, to coincide with the publication of Spaetic Dilemma. In June 2021, Pure Grit: Stories of Remarkable People Living with Physical Disability was published. It’s Okay to Ask is an earlier publication that was translated to Spanish in 2023. Over the next two years the press will publish further books on conditions treated at Gillette Children’s.

Gillette Children’s specializes in treating children who have brain, bone and movement conditions.

Proud To Be Me is currently available at Amazon. It is also available for pre-order on the Gillette Children’s website. Gillette Press is a non-profit organization that publishes books on a variety of medical conditions treated at Gillette Children’s.

Gillette Children’s Healthcare Press has released Proud To Be Me, a colorful new board book designed to teach toddlers about children of all abilities. Proud To Be Me was written by Gillette Children’s pediatric hand surgeons Ann Van Heest, MD and Deborah Rohin, MD. It is illustrated by Rick Korab. Proud To Be Me is a board book that teaches children about physical differences and promotes self-confidence. Whether it’s a surgery that gave a child a thumb, a guide dog that helps them see or a prosthesis that allows them to run, Proud To Be Me teaches children to love and accept themselves for who they are.

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Afternoon Report* Monday – Friday 4 p.m. in the Behavioral Crisis BRC team, COPE, to expand their capacity. The DOJ report mentions that mental health specific responses like the BCR have greater potential, but the city must address capacity and resources. The DOJ will reach out to members of the Minneapolis community to gain input on remedies to the report’s findings. Individuals may also submit recommendations by email at Community.

**All times listed are Central Standard Time.**
Abbreviations: V – violent content    R – racial epithets    L – strong language    S – sexual situation    G – gory descriptions

countercultural poetics of one of the most exciting young voices in contemporary feminism about the reigning orthodoxies. Read by Laura Young. Nine broadcasts; begins Mon, July 17. – S, G

**Good Night Owl** Monday – Friday 10 p.m. Killers of a Certain Age, fiction by Deanna Raybourn, 2022. The Golden Girls meets James Bond in this thriller about four old friends who can’t just retire. Read by Jodi Lindskog. 11 broadcasts; begins Mon, July 11. – G

**RTF After Hours** Monday – Friday 11 p.m. The Butcher and the Wren, fiction by Alaina Urquhart, 2022. A thrilling debut novel from the dueling perspectives of a notorious serial killer and the medical examiner following where his track of victims leads. Read by Jam Gregorich. Six broadcasts; begins Tue, July 4. – L

**Rainbow Rock** Monday – Friday 6 p.m. Kidnapping the President, nonfiction by John Harper, 2022. A fearless, black-bag publication facts the bloody history behind this Hollywood noir. Read by John Potts. 10 broadcasts; begins Thu, July 27. – L, S, V, G

**Off the Shelf** Monday – Friday 8 p.m. Very Cold People, fiction by Katherine Boo, 2022. A deeply critical look at the journey of (and out of) the fictions of the pre-digital era: from roller skating to the marriage of convenience. Read by Holly Sylvester. Seven broadcasts; begins Mon, July 10. – L, S, V, G

**Potpourri** Monday – Friday 9 p.m. Rainbow Rock, fiction by Hayley Campbell, 2022. A deeply critical look at the journey of (and out of) the fictions of the pre-digital era: from roller skating to the marriage of convenience. Read by Holly Sylvester. Seven broadcasts; begins Thu, July 27. – L, S, V, G

**Monday – Friday 7 p.m.**


- The Wintering Place, nonfiction by Tina Brown, 2022. The inside story of the British royal family’s battle to overcome the dramas of their marriage. Read by Michele Potts. 13 broadcasts; begins Thu, July 20. – S, V, G


- The DOJ report mentions that mental health specific responses like the BCR have greater potential, but the city must address capacity and resources. The DOJ will reach out to members of the Minneapolis community to gain input on remedies to the report’s findings. Individuals may also submit recommendations by email at Community.

- Monday – Friday 11 p.m.

- Very Cold People, fiction by Katherine Boo, 2022. A deeply critical look at the journey of (and out of) the fictions of the pre-digital era: from roller skating to the marriage of convenience. Read by Holly Sylvester. Seven broadcasts; begins Mon, July 10. – L, S, V, G

- The Great North, 4 p.m. Sun

- To Marry and to Meddle, nonfiction by Michelle Junten, 2022. 13 broadcasts; begins Wed, July 12. – L

- Toxic Positivity, noon Sun

- For the Younger Set, 11 a.m. Sun, begins Tue, July 4. – L

- Part of Your World

- Monday – Friday 11 p.m.


- The DOJ report mentions that mental health specific responses like the BCR have greater potential, but the city must address capacity and resources. The DOJ will reach out to members of the Minneapolis community to gain input on remedies to the report’s findings. Individuals may also submit recommendations by email at Community.
Learn to be a more effective advocate for yourself or others through Partners in Policymaking

The Minnesota Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities is now accepting applications for the Partners in Policymaking Class 41 advocacy and leadership training program. Deadline is July 14, so don’t delay.

Partners in Policymaking is a leadership training program for parents of young children with disabilities and adults with disabilities. Created by the Minnesota Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities 35 years ago, the Partners program has been offered nationally and internationally. Through informative and interactive sessions, Partners teaches leadership skills and the process of developing partnerships with elected officials and other policymakers who make decisions about services that Minnesotans with disabilities use. Partners is accessible, interactive, and empowering.

Since 1987, more than 1,100 self-advocates and parents have graduated in Minnesota and more than 29,000 people worldwide. Many of the known Minnesota disability rights advocates are graduates of the program.

To participate, the Partners program requires:

- A commitment to attend all eight sessions and to do required homework.
- An interest in learning and practicing new skills in a comfortable and safe environment.
- A desire to build and strengthen a network of people from diverse cultural backgrounds and life experiences.
- A willingness to learn from national and state experts who share our vision and values.

Classes are held in Bloomington. Many expenses are covered. Class size is limited to 35 people.

For a list of frequently asked questions, list of session dates and locations, as well as apply online, visit the Class 41 website at https://mn.gov/mdcd/partners/policymaking/class41/index.html or contact Brenton Rice at brenton@TOGevents.com or call 651-242-6586.
Accessible, Affordable Housing

• For adults with qualifying disabilities.
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• Locations also available in many other states. Income limits apply.
• Immediate openings in Hibbing, Willmar and Hibbing, Minnesota

Affordable Senior Apartments

• For qualifying senior households age 62 or better.
• Metro & Greater MN locations available. Income limits apply.
• Accessible apartments, available for seniors in these locations.
• Immediate openings in Worthington and Albert Lea, Minnesota

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• 24-hour Assisted Living Services
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• Resident Community Setting (Adult Foster Care)
• Eligibility for or selection of ASI services is not required to qualify for housing. ASI services are not available in all locations.

Services openings. Call Today!

Accessible Space, Inc.
Call 800-466-7722
TTY/TDD 800-627-3529

Celebrate Disability Pride Month!

More than 61 million Americans identify as having a disability. Celebrate Disability Pride this July to give the disability community the moment in the spotlight it deserves.

Scan the QR code or visit gillette.mn/advocates to learn more and get involved.

CELEBRATING 33 YEARS OF THE ADA

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DIGNITY
SELF-DETERMINATION
FOR ALL

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