



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

CCD Transportation Task Force 2014 Annual Report

2014 ACTIVITIES

- Advocated for:
 - Accessible Amtrak services & maintenance of minimum \$50 million annual funding for ADA-required upgrades throughout the system.
 - Innovative use of funds & new models for high quality paratransit through Transit Accessibility Innovation Funding (TAIF) Program bill with the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) and other stakeholder partners, and Rep. Langevin's office.
 - Retention of a provision in the Coast Guard Reauthorization bill that would require that survival craft on passenger vessels keep all parts of the passenger's body out of the water.
 - Continued funding for the 5310 Enhanced Mobility Program for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities that provides needed transportation services, including accessible taxis.
 - A robust DOT safety performance measure that addresses the safety of motor vehicle passengers, as well as pedestrians, bicyclists, and mobility device users.
 - Reauthorization of a surface transportation bill that benefits people with disabilities.
 - Necessary funding for public transit and needed programs to ensure transportation for people with disabilities in urban, suburban and rural areas.
- Conducted Hill Visits
 - Met with House Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee Chairman Hunter's Staff RE: Coast Guard Reauthorization bill survival craft provision.
 - Met with Senate Commerce Committee staff re: Coast Guard Reauthorization bill Survival Craft provision
- Conducted DOT & Agency Visits
 - Met with U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Transit Administration officials RE: 5310 Enhanced Mobility Program Meeting and performance measures
 - Attended Amtrak design review in Detroit for new accessible platform
 - Met with Amtrak President Joseph Boardman RE: Amtrak ADA Compliance timelines and recommendations
 - Met with Amtrak officials several times throughout the year to discuss ADA compliance and solutions.
- Submitted Letters & Testimony
 - Task Force Follow Up Letter to Amtrak President Boardman from Meeting with Advocates
 - Task Force Letter Appropriations Committee leadership requesting adequate FY15 funding for DOT programs that benefit people with disabilities.

- Task Force letter to relevant Senators and Representatives requesting that any reauthorization of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) transportation authorization provide adequate funding for transportation programs that serve people with disabilities.
- Submitted testimony in support of funding for transportation programs that benefit people with disabilities for a Senate Banking Committee MAP 21 Hearing
- Submitted comments to the DOT in support of strong safety performance measures. Urged the DOT to consider measures that address motorized as well as non-motorized safety, including bicyclists, pedestrians and motorized mobility device users.
- Additional Highlights
 - Celebrated Marilyn Golden, Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF) – Recipient of White House Champion of Change Award for Transportation Efforts
 - Supported introduction of S. 2887, Senator Harkin’s Accessible Transportation for All Act. The Act would create model accessible car and taxi competitions, create an accessible taxi board and standards, prohibit discrimination, incentive and require plans towards increasing the availability of accessible taxis.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- Convening monthly 2015 Lunch & Learn Transportation Sessions, open to all, geared toward CCD members, partners, etc. Will highlight accessible transportation issues, connection to health, employment, education, etc.
- Continued support of Transit Accessibility Innovation (Funding) Program (TAIF) Bill
- Advocate for surface transportation bills that increase access to safe, affordable transportation for people with disabilities and other populations that lack access, ensure connectivity to work, play, accessible housing, education, etc ... and that ensure people with disabilities are employed in the transportation sector.
- Work with the U.S. DOT on its new Bike/Pedestrian Safety Initiative. DOT will be: undertaking assessments and gathering data to understand non-motorized crashes and safety issues; will work with stakeholders to champion new resources; convene meetings to ID barriers to safety; and ensure there are safe routes to buses and trains. Task Force will be requesting collection of data re: people with disabilities.
- Support increase of accessible taxis and accessible Transportation Network Company (TNC’s, ie Uber, Lyft) services.
- Continued meetings with Amtrak urging ADA compliance and supporting continued funding.

CO-CHAIRS IN 2014:

- Jennifer Dexter, Easter Seals
- Patrick Wojahn, NDRN
- Dara Baldwin, NDRN
- Carol Tyson, United Spinal Association