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ALABAMA DISABILITIES ADVOCACY PROGRAM  
August 26, 2014

The Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP) is part of the nation's federally-funded protection and advocacy (P&A) system. ADAP provides legal services to Alabamians with disabilities to protect, promote and expand their rights. ADAP's vision is one of a society in which persons with disabilities are valued and exercise self-determination through meaningful choices, and have equality of opportunity. ADAP is part of the [National Disability Rights Network \(NDRN\)](#).

Find us on the Web  
[www.adap.net](http://www.adap.net)

## ADAP Public Meeting - September 5, 2014

**Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program  
Public Meeting to Set Advocacy Priorities for FY 2015-2017**

The Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP) provides legal advocacy services to eligible Alabamians with disabilities to protect and promote their civil rights.

To set the agency's advocacy priorities for FY 2015-2017, ADAP is hosting a meeting where members of the public are invited to share their thoughts on ADAP's work on behalf of persons with disabilities. (ADAP's proposed priorities FY 2015-17 are listed below).

**ADAP Public Meeting  
September 5, 2014  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Birmingham  
120 Oslo Circle - Birmingham, AL**

Individuals wanting to attend this meeting who need accommodations due to disability should contact Vicki Hubbard by email at [vhubbard@adap.ua.edu](mailto:vhubbard@adap.ua.edu) or by phone at 1-800-826-1675 by September 1, 2014. Individuals who plan to address the group will need to sign up in advance at the meeting. There will be a five (5) minute limit.

If you cannot attend this meeting but would like to share your views about ADAP's work, you can provide comments via phone, letter, or through an on-line survey:

- To provide comments by phone, call 800-826-1675
- To provide comments by letter, write ADAP/Public Meeting Comments at Box 870395, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
- To provide comments through an anonymous on-line survey, log onto ADAP's website at <http://www.adap.net>.

For additional information contact ADAP at 205-348-4928 or 800-826-1675 or find us on the web at <http://www.adap.net>

## ADAP Proposed Priorities FY 15-17

### **Priority 1: Consumer and Self-advocate Engagement**

ADAP will strengthen the disability civil rights movement in Alabama by supporting and empowering persons with disabilities to speak for themselves and address policy and programming decisions that affect them.

### **Priority 2: Well-being in Facilities**

Adults and youth with disabilities in congregate and residential facilities will be free from abuse and neglect and civil rights violations.

### **Priority 3: DD Definition**

The State of Alabama will expand its definition of developmental disabilities (DD) to include and serve persons with all types of DDs.

### **Priority 4: Medicaid Managed Care**

Adults and youth with disabilities will receive appropriate medical care and treatment.

### **Priority 5: Nursing Homes**

End unnecessary institutionalization of adults and youth with disabilities in nursing homes.

### **Priority 6: Integrated Employment**

Adults and youth with disabilities will have meaningful access to integrated employment and be paid at least minimum wage.

### **Priority 7: Mental Health**

Adults and youth with mental health and behavioral disorders will receive appropriate care in the most integrated setting.

### **Priority 8: Community Access**

Adults and youth with disabilities will have full physical and program access in all aspects of community life.

### **Priority 9: Education**

Youth with disabilities will receive a free appropriate public education in their least restrictive environment.



## Special Education in Alabama: A Right Not a Favor



ADAP is pleased to announce the publication of the newest edition of its popular special education parent manual – “Special Education in Alabama: A Right Not a Favor” (RNF).

RNF helps families and child advocates understand how to access special education services and ensure that eligible children with disabilities are provided the free, appropriate public education to which they are entitled. The manual is written in lay-friendly terms and is filled with helpful advocacy tips and resources.

Publication of RNF was underwritten by a generous grant from the [Alabama Council on Developmental Disabilities](#).

The first edition of RNF was published in the mid-80’s. Since its last revision and printing in 2007, 50,000 free copies have been distributed across the state.

To view the manual on-line, click [here](#). To order copies, click [here](#).



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