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Election Season is Upon Us, Get Educated!

Montana Disability Voices (MDV) is a new statewide, non-partisan coalition of non-profit organizations, including: Summit Independent Living, Montana's four Centers for Independent Living, Arc of Montana, Disability Right Montana, Mental Health America of Montana, the Montana Association for Behavior Analysis, the Montana Council on Developmental Disabilities, Parents Let's Unite for Kids (PLUK), and the University of Montana Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities. As a coalition, MDV encourages informed and active participation in government and works to increase understanding of major public issues and influences public policy regarding disabilities through education and advocacy.

MDV is committed to educating legislators on issues that are important to individuals with disabilities throughout Montana as well as ensuring that voters with disabilities know how their legislators stand on those issues.

During the month of September, MDV hosted five Montana legislative candidate forums across the state. These candidate forums were held in Kalispell, Missoula, Great Falls, Helena, and Billings. MDV also conducted a legislative candidate survey to 231 legislative candidates of which, 52 responded.

Between the candidate forums and the legislative candidate survey, MDV provided an opportunity for legislative candidates to engage and share information with voters regarding issues affecting over 150,000 Montana adults and children living with disabilities.

With the general election quickly approaching, it is important that voters know where their candidates stand on issues important to them. If you would like to view any of the candidate forms or download MDV's Disability Voter Guide, please visit <https://www.mtdisabilityvoices.org>.

On the MDV website you will also find ways to interact with the coalition on social media, be able to check your voter registration status, download disability population maps, and more. MDV's goal in providing this information to both legislators and voters with disabilities is to improve the lives of adults and children living with disabilities by working together to build a movement.



Register! Educate! Vote!  Use your Power!

REV UP!

MAKE THE **DISABILITY VOTE** COUNT

BECOME A DISABILITY ADVOCATE

With the 2019 Montana Legislative Session fast approaching it is vitally important for you, your loved ones, and your friends to get involved with protecting the programs and services that thousands of Montanans with disabilities depend on to live active and productive lives. Programs that provide the basis for individuals to be involved in their communities.

Montana Centers for Independent Living

MTCIL

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On Montana Centers for Independent Living Action Alert System, which you can find online at <http://cqrcengage.com/summitilc>, you will find many opportunities to get involved in the upcoming legislative session, follow our local, state, and national advocacy efforts, as well as look up and contact your elected officials.

By signing up as an advocate on our Action Alert site you will be able to stay up to date on the many issues that affect the lives of Montanans with disabilities that arise during the legislative session. You will also be able to take action on those issues right from our Action Alert website. It's that simple. No more trying to hunt down contact information for your legislator as we provide that for you.

To become an advocate, just navigate to <http://cqrcengage.com/summitilc/app/register?1&m=152685>, fill in your contact information, check the email opt-in box, and congratulations, you're now an advocate!

It's Your Right to Vote Privately!

Even if you have a physical disability or are unable to read or write, you are still entitled to cast a private ballot!

Every polling place in Montana also must have at least one specialized voting machine that enables people with disabilities to vote independently and privately.

The Secretary of State's office and the 56 counties of Montana have teamed up to offer the ES&S AutoMARK™, electronic ballot-marking technology that allows voters with disabilities and other special needs to mark a ballot privately and independently when using an optical scan voting system.

When using the AutoMARK, you vote on the same ballot that all other voters are using. The AutoMARK does not store any votes, it simply assists you to mark your ballot. The AutoMARK is easy to use. Let the Election Judge at your polling place know if you would like to vote on the AutoMARK.

The ES&S AutoMARK™ voter assist terminal is a ballot-marking system designed to provide privacy and accessibility to voters who are blind, vision-impaired, or have a disability or condition that would make it difficult or impossible to mark a ballot in the usual way. The technology also provides language assistance to voters who are more comfortable speaking a different language or who need help to better understand written instructions.

There are also additional ways to vote an accessible, private ballot such as requesting an email ballot, designating an agent, and more. See page 5 for more information on additional accessible voting options.



Mental Health Services in Missoula

Adults:

- **National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI)**
202 Brooks St. Room 210 (St. Paul's Lutheran Church)
Missoula, MT 59801
- **Three Rivers Mental Health**
715 Kensington Ave. Suite 248
Missoula, MT 59801
- **Western Montana Mental Health Services (WMMHS)**
1315 Wyoming St.
Missoula MT 59801
- **Winds of Change**
1120 Cedar St
Missoula, MT 59802
- **We Care Behavioral Health, LLC**
2825 Stockyard Road Suite J6
Missoula, MT 59808
- **Sunburst Foundation**
1511 S Russell St
Missoula, MT 59801

Youth:

- **Youth Dynamics**
619 SW Higgins Suites D & E
Missoula, MT 59803
- **Western Montana Mental Health Services (WMMHS)**
1305 Wyoming St.
Missoula, MT 59801
- **Partnership for Children**
2825 Stockyard Road #A11
Missoula, MT 59808

Suicide prevention/awareness

- <http://suicidepreventionhotline.org/>
- <http://crisistextline.org/>
- <http://missoulacounty.us/government/health/health-department/healthypeople-healthy-families/suicideprevention>

Mental Health Support Services

- <http://mentalhealthfirstaid.org>
- <http://missoulahealth.com/mental-health>

Mental Health Services in Montana

- <http://mtdh.ruralinstitute.umt.edu>
- <https://wsaa-montana.org/resources/>
- <https://montanamentalhealth.org/resources-and-services-montana>
- <http://dphhs.mt.gov/amdd/Mentalhealthservices>
- <https://montana.providence.org/locations-directory/u/urgent-mental-health-clinic>

Mental Health Services for Veterans

- <https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/>

NATIONAL

SUICIDE

PREVENTION

LIFELINE™

I-800-273-TALK

www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

SUMMIT STAFF

Missoula County

- Executive Director**
Mike Mayer
- Program Manager**
Jude Monson
- Program Support Specialist**
Mike Giddings
- SD-CFC/PAS Program Manager**
Beth Anderson
- SD-CFC/PAS Coordinator**
Carrie Dyrud
- SD-CFC/PAS Coordinator**
Becca Kwon
- SD-CFC/PAS Assistant/Insurance**
Sally Wahl
- Advocacy Coordinator**
Travis Hoffman
- Peer Advocacy Coordinator**
Chris Clasby
- People First Advisor/IL Specialist**
Andrea Dahl
- Independent Living Specialist**
Tyler Stosich
- Community Living Specialist**
Bronwyn Troutman
- Youth Coordinator**
Michael Beers
- BASE Coordinator**
John Howard
- Youth Specialist**
Cara Wherley
- Secretary**
Kathy Boyer
- Financial Officer**
Scott Fels
- Assistant Bookkeeper**
Victoria Lahr

Flathead County



- Coordinator**
Lynae West
- Independent Living Specialist**
Robert Olson
- Independent Living Specialist**
Dayna Guffey
- SD-CFC/PAS Specialist**
Aleyna Raymond

Ravalli County

- Coordinator**
Kwanele Ngema
- Independent Living Specialist**
Anna Barnes
- People First Advisor/IL Specialist**
Mary Millin

Lake County

- Coordinator**
Susan Morris
- Independent Living Specialist**
Betty LaFountain
- Peer Support Specialist**
Michelle Williamson

NEW SUMMIT STAFF

Anna Barnes, Independent Living Specialist, Hamilton



Hello! My name is Anna Barnes and I describe myself as a farm girl at heart who loves learning. I am a people person who enjoys adventures, singing, reading, healthful living, kids, cooking and family time. We have used these values and experiences to serve our community.

My family includes George, my spouse of 38 years, and children Joseph and Audrey who are both married. I have three grandchildren. We have built homes, hunted, fished, and had every kind of ranch animal. I'm a proud graduate of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in California.

After beginning teaching and starting a family, we moved to Hamilton in 1991 for adventure and to continue teaching all ages. I enjoyed taking my classes on outdoor adventures any chance I could. The National Institute of Learning Disabilities in Virginia expanded my teaching skills to serve specific needs.

I recently joined Summit as an Independent Living Specialist in Hamilton to work with people and learn new skills. In this role I am currently providing Pre-Employment Transitions Services (Pre-ETS) to the students at Hamilton High School, and I love the students!

LOOKING FOR SUMMIT EVENTS?

To make it easier to find Summit events that are being held throughout Western Montana, we are now listing all of our events on our website. To find a Summit event or class happening near you please go to:

www.summitilc.org/calendar

SUMMIT BOARD



- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Steve Hackler | Joe Stone |
| Molly Blair | Meg Whicher |
| Jenny Montgomery | Susanne Meikle |
| Mark Cash | |

Summit Wordsearch

Montana Trees

Ponderosa
 Douglas
 Lodgepole
 Larch
 Aspen

White
 Tamarac
 Yellow
 Western
 Spruce



X	X	H	S	N	E	E	D	W	N	L	J	R	W	T
V	L	J	N	X	N	I	L	G	E	N	H	E	B	A
S	C	W	T	E	I	G	Y	O	E	S	S	R	V	E
P	D	S	G	S	P	E	O	Y	P	Z	T	S	P	T
R	H	C	R	A	L	S	D	O	S	E	A	E	I	Z
U	F	E	Y	K	A	T	A	Q	O	L	G	S	R	F
C	B	A	G	E	B	T	I	L	G	E	N	D	H	N
E	N	U	C	Y	A	Q	Q	U	E	T	D	B	O	M
N	M	Y	K	I	S	Q	O	A	T	I	W	T	Q	L
A	T	C	Z	H	I	D	R	Q	J	H	G	Y	O	G
U	T	A	M	A	R	A	C	K	C	W	E	S	N	E
L	H	H	N	L	F	B	Z	U	I	L	S	I	D	G
A	S	O	R	E	D	N	O	P	L	X	U	Y	R	L
J	D	Q	M	Q	C	M	P	O	M	I	X	K	G	R
A	X	I	G	E	X	L	W	T	I	X	K	M	I	N



Confirm voter registration

Check the My Voter page at <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/> for your current registration status. Ensure residential and mailing addresses are correct.

Options for convenient voting

Apply for an absentee ballot, if you wish to, at <https://sosmt.gov/elections/absentee/>. Absentee voting allows voters to receive their ballots via mail, which in turn give the elector time to study and research their ballot. Absentee ballots may be picked up at the Missoula County Fairgrounds in person 30 days prior to election.

ID requirements at the polls

Know what to bring to the polls on Election Day. Montana law requires a form of photo ID or government document with name and address.

Late registration

The deadline to register as a voter in Montana is 30 days prior to Election Day. However, Montana law permits an elector to register or change the elector's voter registration information after the close of regular registration and vote in the election beginning 29 days prior to the election. Late registration is open from Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. On the Monday before the Election, late registration closes at noon and reopens on Election day from 7 a.m. until close of polls at 8 p.m. If you are a late registrant, contact your county election office at <https://sosmt.gov/Portals/142/Elections/Forms/electionadministrators.pdf> to find out how you can receive an absentee ballot.

To avoid lines, do not wait until Election Day to register to vote!

Know your polling places

If voting at the polls on Election Day, know where to go ahead of time.

Know polling place hours of operations

Polling places are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day

Accessible voting

Polling places are ADA accessible and equipped with AutoMark voting machines, allowing individuals to independently mark their ballot. Other forms of accessible voting also exist such as requesting an electronic ballot or designating an agent to help you throughout the voting process. To learn more about your accessible voting options, please visit <https://sosmt.gov/elections/disabilities/>.

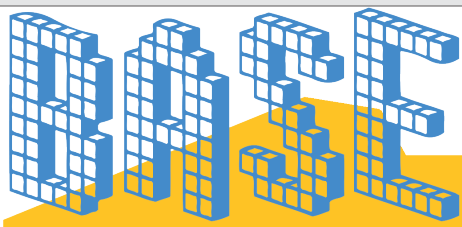
Become acquainted with issues and candidates on the ballot

Ballots can be reviewed prior to Election Day. Review the sample ballot online in order to familiarize yourself with layout and selection. Quick Tip: Print a sample ballot & mark it before going to the polls. This will shorten your time in the booth and help keep polling center lines moving. To view the 2018 Montana Voter Information Pamphlet, please visit <https://sosmt.gov/elections/>. The pamphlet will also be available in audio format in October 2018.



Important Election Calendar Dates

- October 9 - Close of regular voter registration
- October 10 - Late voter registration begins
- November 6 - **Election Day!**



725 West Alder, # 4

BASE stands for home base, like in hide and go seek. In life, you have to establish a BASE first, that's where we come in.

BASE EVENTS

Game Night (GN)

- Thursdays weekly, 2 p.m.- 6 p.m.

Youth Opening Doors through Advocacy (YODA)

- 2nd & 4th Tues. monthly, 3:30p.m. - 6 p.m.

Base Art Group (BAG)

- Fridays weekly, 1p.m. - 5 p.m.

Adaptive Yoga

- Wednesdays 4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Family Fun Friday

October 19 from 6:30p.m. - 8 p.m.

725 West Alder St. Suite #4



Stand up comedy,
improv, sketch, poetry,
dance and song!!

Halloween Themed

Information:

Please contact Summit at 728-1630 ext. 161



To donate to BASE go to:
www.BASEMissoula.org
phone: 406-215-1080

CLASSIFIED ADS

Spitfire ex 1420 Mobility Scooter

Almost new \$200obo, call Deloris 777-7089

Nova Walker, Quontum 600 power wheelchair, Hurricane Mobility Scooter, Commode, 2 Transfer Benches, Beezy Manual Wheelchair

call Gary 224-5527

Wheelchair Accessible Duplex

For Rent - Brand new, 3 bedroom 2 bath, roll in shower, \$1400/mo. Call Glenn 544-1361.

Quickie Wheelchair

\$500 OBO. Call Janet (406) 721-3751

Symmetry Stander

Call Madison (406) 670-9388

Braun Vangater Wheelchair Lift

Almost new wheelchair lift with 600 LB capacity. \$2000 OBO. Call or text Tyler 406-925-9846

Summit Pinnacle Chair stair lift

Gently used, works great. 2 remotes. Straight line - mount rope L. Pick up in Missoula. \$1,300 OBO. Call Diane at 360-4061.

Garaventa Super-Trac Portable Wheelchair Lift for stairs. Purchased new for \$12,000 and used only a few times. Will sell for \$2,500 OBO. Contact Jacob Francom, Troy Public Schools, jfrancom@troyk12.org, (406) 295-4520.

Acorn Stair lift

For going up to 6 stairs while seated. \$500 OBO. Call John at 546-7003.

To get listed contact Tyler Stosich at (406) 728-1630 or email tstosich@summitilc.org.

Or, list and find items on the MonTECH exchange:

<http://montech.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/mtdb/>

To get involved or to share ideas of new BASE programs, contact BASE jhoward@summitilc.org or by visiting www.basemissoula.org

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SUMMIT INDEPENDENT LIVING

700 SW Higgins, Suite. 101
Missoula, MT 59803

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Building Awareness, Advocating Change

THE SUMMIT INDEPENDENT

October 2018

This publication is available in alternative format on request. Please call 1 (800) 398-9002.

Opportunities to Participate in Research Projects!

Participants must have a physical disability, age 21 or older, and live in the Missoula area or Ravalli County.

The Home Usability Program:

Help UM researchers learn about barriers experienced by people with disabilities.

Answer survey questions about how you live in your home and community.

Receive up to \$110 over a 6-month period for completing surveys.



The Out and About Program:

Meet with Summit staff members for goal setting skills training.

Set 2 goals related to increasing community participation.

Receive \$30 for completing 3 surveys over a 6-month period.



For more information call: 406-728-1630

You can always sign up to get this newsletter by email by contacting: missoula@summitilc.org