



# Disability Rights FLORIDA

## Seeking the Treasure of Inclusion, Self- Determination and Equality

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Advocacy. Equality. Dignity.

# Your Quest Guides



**Laura  
Long  
Sword**



**Wendy  
Wanderer  
of the  
Seven Seas**



# Objectives



- Describe the history of the Protection and Advocacy (P&A) System and Client Assistance Program (CAP).
- Provide information about Disability Rights Florida intake process.
- Obtain a working knowledge of the goals and objectives of Disability Rights Florida.
- Share information about key disability resources and referrals in other states.

# P & A History



P&A

Protection & Advocacy

# P & A History Lesson





# Mission



To advance the quality of life, dignity, equality, self determination, and freedom of choice of persons with disabilities through collaboration, education, advocacy, as well as legal and legislative strategies.



# Goals and Objectives



- Protect the Rights of all individuals with disabilities
- Ensure full participation by individuals with disabilities in the community by applying state and federal remedies to implement systemic reform of benefits, programs, housing, employment, services, transportation, and recreation
- Protect individuals with disabilities in facilities from abuse and neglect
- Individuals with disabilities shall have knowledge of available resources, rights and responsibilities

# Priorities



- Abuse, neglect or rights violations for individuals who live in institutional and residential settings.
- Community placement.
- Access to publicly funded benefits and services, particularly home and community based services.
- Self-empowerment and rights of individuals to gain greater control over important life decisions.
- Control over use of public benefits and personal assets.



# Priorities



- Equal access to public and private programs and services, including businesses, transportation, post-secondary education, housing, and assistive technology.
- Access to vocational rehabilitation and blind services.
- Access to a free and appropriate public education in the most inclusive environment.
- Least restrictive alternatives to guardianship.
- Voting rights and civic participation.

# Ten Steps to Effective Self-Advocacy



## STEP 4: Be Effective on the Phone



- Prepare key points
- Prepare most important questions
- Clear and focused
- Listen carefully

4. When preparing for a phone call write down the key points you want to say and your most important questions.

# Services



- Information and referrals
- Self-advocacy support
- Technical assistance
- Investigations into complaints of abuse, neglect and rights violations
- Dispute resolution support
- Negotiation and mediation support
- Advocacy services

# Grants



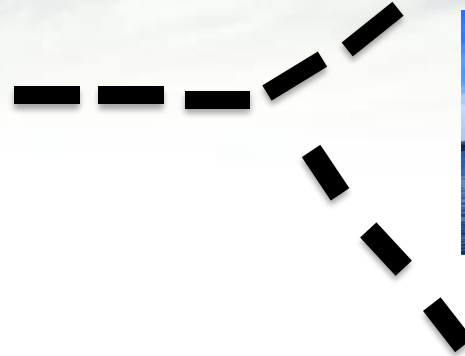
- PAIMI
- PAIR
- PADD
- PABSS
- PAAT
- PATBI
- PAVA
- CAP



Violation Mountains



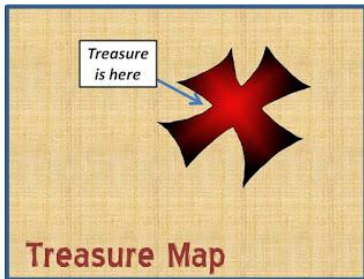
Intake River



Port Referral



Treasure of Inclusion, Self-Determination and Equality found



Legal Lagoon

Supervisor Falls



# Disability Resources



- National Disability Rights Network
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Job Accommodation Network
- Centers for Independent Living
- Aging and Disability Resource Centers
- Consumer Organizations
- ADA Hotline
- National ADA Network

# Contact Us

2473 Care Dr., Suite 200  
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Toll Free 1-800-342-0823  
TDD 1-800-346-4127  
Fax 850-488-8640

[www.disabilityrightsflorida.org](http://www.disabilityrightsflorida.org)

