



**Your Policy, Training and Technical Resource**

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Here is your December 5, 2014 update on the Americans with Disabilities Act 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

## **SHARE YOUR POINT OF VIEW: ADA EMPLOYMENT SURVEY IS NOW LIVE!**

MSCOD contracted with the Improve Group, an external research group from Saint Paul, to study what the employment landscape in Minnesota looks like now that ADA has been law for 25 years. We are asking employers and people with a disability who are employed or seeking employment to complete this survey to inform the public's understanding of ADA's impact. The survey asks about the following:

- Familiarity with ADA and laws regarding employment of people with a disability
- Opinions about ADA and experiences with employment, job-seeking, and hiring
- Changes and experience with employers' Human Resources
- Best practices regarding employing people with disabilities
- Basic demographics

We also ask that you share this survey with everyone you know. All opinions count. The survey can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/ADA25employmentMN>

You may also request a copy of the study's final report! We are excited to learn about your experience with ADA. Responses must be received by **January 17, 2015**. Please contact Andy Mosca at 651-361-7803 with any questions.

## **“STICK PEOPLE” TO DA VINCI: POSTER & VIDEO CONTESTS ARE UNDERWAY!**

In honor of the 25th anniversary of the ADA, MSCOD is sponsoring a poster contest and a video contest to capture what the ADA means to people around the state of Minnesota. We are now accepting entries. We have also changed the deadline to **January 17, 2015!**

Posters and videos submitted should creatively address the following question: “How has the ADA impacted society in general or your life in particular?”

Categories for Participation:

- Students in grades K-4
- Students in grades 5-8
- Students in grades 9-12
- Students in post-secondary education
- Adults – Professional
- Adults – Other

Don't wait too long; no entries will be accepted after January 17. For a complete list of rules, go to the [25th Anniversary ADA Poster and Video Contests](#) page.

Good luck!

## **CALL TO ACTION!**

Were you or your organization instrumental in the passing of the ADA? Do you know someone who was? How has the ADA positively impacted your life? We want to hear your stories!

To tell us your story, or to let us know how you plan to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the ADA, contact David Shaw at [david.a.shaw@state.mn.us](mailto:david.a.shaw@state.mn.us). We hope to hear from you!

## **HERE'S WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON NEXT**

- Seeking national speakers for an ADA Policy Conference on July 9th, 2015
- Finalizing details for the July 26th, 2015 ADA 25th Anniversary Celebration at the Minnesota History Center
- Conducting the ADA survey
- Creating an historical documentary with TPT about Minnesota's implementation of the ADA
- Poster and video contests

## **MORE DETAILS TO COME!**

## **GET INVOLVED!**

Please support our exciting projects as they develop. Volunteer with one of our committees and help plan our celebrations and other activities. Committees meet monthly. Please contact Andrew Mosca at 651-361-7803 or [andrew.mosca@state.mn.us](mailto:andrew.mosca@state.mn.us) for more information about how to become involved.

## **ABOUT THE ADA 25TH ANNIVERSARY LEGACY PROJECT**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) turns 25 years old on July 26, 2015. The Minnesota State Council on Disability (MSCOD) is planning a number of activities leading up to and marking this historic day.

The MSCOD ADA 25 year Anniversary Legacy Project seeks to preserve and raise awareness of Minnesota's role in the development of the ADA as well as celebrate Minnesota's disability cultures in tandem with the 25 year anniversary of the passage of the ADA.

For more information about the Legacy Fund visit <http://www.legacy.leg.mn/>.

MSCOD's Legacy Funds are administered by the Minnesota Humanities Center. Learn more about the Minnesota Humanities Center at <http://www.minnesotahumanities.org/>.

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The Minnesota Historical and Cultural Grants Program has been made possible by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the vote of Minnesotans on November 4, 2008. Administered by the Minnesota Historical Society.