

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION FOR EVERYONE



In 2010, the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver program was amended to ensure that individuals receiving services and supports through the federal Medicaid HCBS programs have full access to the benefits of community living, and are able to receive services in the most integrated setting.



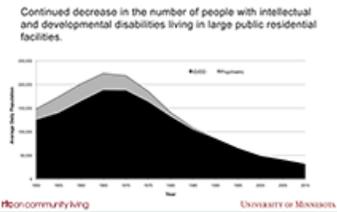
As the Olmstead Ruling becomes understood, its call for integration is changing society. The old structures of segregation are under attack. Sheltered workshops, facility-based day programs, state-run institutions, and group homes are all being challenged and phased out, in favor of programs and support for integrated living and working.

SPREAD THE WORD TO END THE WORD

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2007. It was the first major human rights treaty of the 21st century. By 2014, 143 countries had ratified, including all the countries of North America EXCEPT the United States. While President Barack Obama signed the CRPD in 2009, the US Senate had failed to ratify it as of 2014.



In 2008, the movie "Tropic Thunder" sparked nation-wide protests to stop using disability labels as put-downs, especially the R-word.



In 2011, Alabama became the first state in the South and the twelfth state overall to close all their state operated institutions. That left 29,809 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who were still living in state-run institutions nationwide (compared with 108,165 persons in 1985 and 223,590 persons in 1965).

OLMSTEAD DECISION RIPPLES THROUGH SOCIETY, EXPANDING INTEGRATION



In 2011, only 19.3% of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities participated in integrated employment services. By 2014, 11 states passed "Employment First" legislation, where employment in the general workforce in the first and preferred outcome, regardless of the level of disability.



"If you believe people have no history worth mentioning, it's easy to believe they have no humanity worth defending."
- William Loren Katz

West Virginia is the first state to pass a bill requiring students in the K-12 public school system to study Disability History.



Jenny Hatch, a woman with Down syndrome in Virginia, won a lawsuit against her parents. A judge declared that she can live the life she wants, rejecting a guardianship request from her parents that would have allowed them to keep her in a group home against her will.



A class action lawsuit charged Oregon with violating the ADA and the Rehab Act. The reason: the state did not provide supported employment services to more than 2,300 people with disabilities who work in segregated sheltered workshops.



The ISO (International Organization for Standardization) accepts the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.



In 2014, a federal investigation found that Rhode Island's day activity service system violates the ADA by over use of segregated settings, including sheltered workshops and facility-based day programs, to the exclusion of integrated alternatives, such as supported employment and integrated day services.



2006

West Virginia is the first state to require all students to study disability history.

2007

Global financial crisis leads to fewer services available to people in need.

2008

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ammendment expands coverage to more people.

2009

Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) issues a position paper calling for an end to sub-minimum wages.

2010

The Affordable Care Act increases accessibility and affordability of health insurance.

2011

Alabama becomes the 12th state to close its public institutions housing people with disabilities.

2012

The U.S. Department of Education rules that all students must have equal opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities, including sports.

2014

Rhode Island agrees to landmark settlement regarding sheltered work, addressing the rights of people with disabilities to receive employment and daytime services in the broader community.

The United Nations adopts the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Barack Obama becomes the first African American president of the United States.

