



# KANSAS DISABILITY CAUCUS

*We the People...*

**Our Rights, Our Responsibilities, Our Lives!**

**2020 Kansas Disability Caucus**

**Concurrent Session Request For Proposal**

**August 12th-14th, 2020**

**Capitol Plaza, Topeka, KS**

*The purpose of the Kansas Disability Caucus is to provide opportunities for Kansans with disabilities to learn, share, and provide solutions to issues faced by the disability community.*

In 1988 ninety people attended the first Kansas Disability Caucus in Salina, KS. The outcome of these individuals coming together was a united charge to pass the first consumer directed personal care assistance program in Kansas. It has been common to have leaders in the disability rights movement, such as Ed Roberts, Andy Imparato, and Kelly Buckland speak at the Caucus in the past. One of the vital pieces of the KS Disability Caucus has always been to have participants divide into three regions where we gather their concerns on issues or barriers to their independence and potential solutions they may have. Another important part is the ability for participants to gain information about topics and issues occurring that affect Kansans with disabilities and our rights to live independently in our communities and make choices in our lives.

The 2020 Kansas Disability Caucus theme is *We the People...Our Rights, Our Responsibilities, Our Lives!* being held in Topeka, KS on **August 12th-14th, 2020**. On July 26, 1990 the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on disability, was signed into law by George H.W. Bush. This year will be the 30th Anniversary of this very important law to millions of Americans with disabilities. When looking at before and after the ADA became law, many changes have occurred to improve life for people with disabilities. Physical and program access has advanced a great deal. There is much to celebrate! Although while celebrating the advancements, we must recognize all the barriers that still exist. Many people with disabilities are not given the freedom to receive the long term services and supports they need to live outside of an institutional setting. Many currently living in the community are not receiving what they need to be successful in living in their home. Individuals with disabilities still experience barriers in our communities that prohibit us from employment, education, healthcare, shopping, travel, etc. There are other barriers to inclusion experienced by people with disabilities that are supposed to be protected by other civil rights laws that continue to have barriers, such as housing, and fall short of meeting our needs and complying with said laws.

The Kansas Disability Caucus believes the strength of the voice of the disability community falls back on the power of our VOTE at elections. The Caucus will be held right after the Primary Election, so we will need to push hard before the General Election in November. We must breathe power into the grassroots of our community to get people with disabilities and our supporters registered to vote, educated about the issues and solutions, and then get out the VOTE. The disability community is the largest minority in the country. We **CAN** make a difference if we **VOTE!**

The Kansas Disability Caucus for 2020 is hoping to educate participants about the civil rights of people with disabilities on an array of issues to be better informed of how to protect our rights. We are looking for information on programs and services that will improve the independence and freedom of Kansans with disabilities to be able to live inclusively in our communities. Our goal is for participants to be better informed and empowered to leave confident that the disability community can make a difference at the polls, starting with each of us, by using our voting power.

It is with these goals in mind that the KS Disability Caucus seeks proposals for sessions at our 2020 Disability Caucus. Presenters and facilitators are not exempt from registration fees. Presenters must register and pay for all days they plan to attend; presenters that attend only their session and no other events do not need to pay. The Caucus is unable to pay travel expenses or honorarium to any presenter or facilitator.

Our attendees expect, and learn best when provided with print outs of presentation slides and relevant handout materials. To increase education and the application of concepts, we strongly

encourage presenters to provide handouts. All handouts must be available in accessible formats. Accessible formats include: Braille, Large Print (18 point bold), Audio (read aloud on USB), Electronic (plain text on USB), and Plain Language versions (Contact SACK for assistance at [janderson@thearcdcks.org](mailto:janderson@thearcdcks.org)). Learning sessions run for 75 minutes each.

**Deadline for Submission is March 13, 2020.** No proposals will be accepted after 11:59 p.m. Central time on this date.

The Caucus Board will carefully review each proposal and select those that are, as a whole, relevant to this year's Caucus theme and are valuable to a cross-section of various participants, including individuals with all types of disabilities, disability advocates, community based organization staff, and providers. The Caucus Board will choose with no preference or bias. When decisions have been made, you will be contacted by Lou Ann Kibbee. Please submit your proposal by email as well as any questions to Lou Ann Kibbee [louannk@skionline.com](mailto:louannk@skionline.com) with "**Caucus Proposal**" in subject line. The proposal submission form is below.

# *We the People...*

## **Our Rights, Our Responsibilities, Our Lives!**

**2020 Kansas Disability Caucus**

**Concurrent Session Request For Proposal**

**August 12th-14th, 2020**

**Capitol Plaza, Topeka, KS**

### **Concurrent Session Request for Proposal Form**

**Deadline for Submission is March 13, 2020**

Please be sure that all presenters agree to present and to the conditions set forth in this document. We will provide a table, two chairs, two microphones, a flipchart and markers, and a projector, screen, and laptop computer for each workshop.

#### **Audio-Visual Aids \***

No Additional Equipment

Need Projector & Screen

**Title of Session:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Session Organizer (First and Last Name):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please list each presenter and include the presenter's name, title, organization, and a brief biography (100 words or less)

Please provide a brief summary of your session. If accepted, this summary will be printed in the Caucus Program to advertise your session to our attendees (100 words or less):

What are the three main "learning objectives" of your proposed session? What will participants gain as a result of attending your proposed session?

Why are you the best person to conduct this proposed session? Describe your history, involvement and/or experience in the Disability Movement and why you think you would be a good presenter or facilitator? (100 words or less)

Briefly describe how your session will be interactive. How will you engage your participants so that they will be active participants in the session?

How will your session meet or address the Caucus theme of "*We the People....Our Rights, Our Responsibilities, Our Lives!*"?

Your name below indicates your understanding of all that has been presented above and certifies that you are the session organizer (contact person) for the session title you have proposed. If you have any questions about this form or the work of the Caucus Board, please contact Lou Ann Kibbee [louannk@skionline.com](mailto:louannk@skionline.com)

Sign Here \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_