

Disability Rights South Dakota
PAVA PROGRAM
FY 18 PRIORITIES

People with disabilities will be free from abuse, neglect and rights violations

PRIORITY ONE: Participate in advocacy and education efforts revolving around Help America Vote Act (HAVA) implementation efforts in South Dakota.

- Assist individuals with disabilities in filing complaints under the State based administrative grievance procedure required by HAVA and represent individuals with disabilities in any hearing that may be held regarding the complaint. 42 USC 15461

People with disabilities will fully exercise their individual and constitutional rights.

PRIORITY TWO: Increase individuals with disabilities' awareness of their right to register and to vote.

- Provide trainings and outreach with voter registration booths and events.
- Provide education, training and assistance to individuals with disabilities to promote their participation in the electoral process.
- Distribute pamphlets on voting rights and how to vote to community service providers, Transition Services Liaison Project, vocational rehabilitation, nursing home facilities, community mental health providers, and Human Services Center.
- Collaborate with school districts to incorporate voting rights and how to vote training in students' transition plan.
- Provide voter registration forms to individuals upon request and assist, if needed, in completing and mailing.

PRIORITY THREE: Ensure individuals residing in facilities are aware of their rights to register and to vote.

- Collaborate with DRSD programs during monitoring of facilities to ensure all individuals there are aware of their voting rights and are able to exercise them as they wish.
- Collaborate with mental health facilities, community residential mental health programs, and psychiatric residential treatment facilities for juveniles to provide information, trainings on the right to register and to vote.
- Collaborate with nursing facility activities directors to promote resident voting under SDCL 12.19-9.1. *

PRIORITY FOUR: Ensure accessibility to polling places and South Dakota online voter information.

- Collaborate with Secretary of State's Office (SOS), Bureau of Information and Technology (BIT) and PAAT Program to ensure websites for election information are properly tagged for identification, download, and printing utilizing assistive technology.
- PAVA staff will receive training and technical assistance on voting issues, including accessible voting equipment and systems. PAVA staff will share this information with others through trainings, the South Dakota Report, DRSD webpage, and other methods.

* 12-19-9.1. Nursing facility, assisted living center, or hospital having multiple absentee ballot requests. If there is any nursing facility, assisted living center, or hospital, as defined in § 34-12-1.1, within any county from which there might reasonably be expected to be five or more absentee applications, the county auditor shall notify the person in charge of that facility and the chair of the county central committee of each party and any other person who has filed a request to be notified of the date and time at which representatives of the auditor's office will be present to assist the residents of that facility to vote, utilizing the absentee procedure. Any political party, independent candidate, and nonpolitical candidate may assign a person to accompany the auditor's representatives. At the date and time announced, the auditor's representative and the representatives of the parties, independent candidates, and nonpolitical candidates shall deliver ballots to and assist all persons at that facility who desire such assistance and who have applied for absentee ballots. This section applies only to a general election. If a person in charge of an election conducts absentee voting at a nursing facility, assisted living center, or hospital as defined in § 34-12-1.1, the voter shall complete a combined absentee ballot application/return envelope and the identification and affidavit requirements provided in § 12-19-2.1 are waived.