

# UNITED SPINAL ASSOCIATION

## State and Local Advocacy Menu



### CARE SUPPORT

- State legislation to increase PCA pay and benefits
- State legislation to allow family members to be PCA with pay and benefits
- State legislation for Person Centered Care
- State Legislation that requires certified nurses to be trained in transferring
- Student incentives/apprenticeship or training program for caregivers

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- State Disaster plan
  - Plan ensures transportation of all essential medical equipment and service animals
  - Plan ensures standard for water rescue
  - Other actions you think are important to the plan for your specific types of natural disasters
- State legislation to require accessible emergency shelters - ADA compliance
- Mandated First Responder training that includes knowledge regarding helping disabled
- State/county list of where those with disabilities live so they can be prioritized and taken to a shelter in an emergency
- Distribute education on how to take care of oneself in an emergency
- Speak to emergency preparedness coordinators in states about their plans for the disability community
- Ensuring appropriate jurisdictions have a high-rise evacuation plan for people with disabilities

### WHEELCHAIRS

- Wheelchair repair and insurance coverage bills according to United Spinal's principles
- Expanding insurance coverage for wheelchairs and wheelchair components from "in home" only to include those wheelchairs and wheelchair components with functionality outside the home/for outdoor recreational activity

### EMPLOYMENT

- State legislation to phase out the subminimum wage for people with disabilities
- State enforcement of ADA compliance within states regarding employment
  - Find another legislative avenue if it technically is not in violation of the ADA

### HEALTH CARE

- State legislation to ensure use of telehealth free of pre-pandemic restrictions
- Structural and environmental barriers for quality healthcare (transportation, inaccessible provider offices and equipment, physician's lack of SCI knowledge)

### HOUSING

- Guaranteed access to accessible housing (homes) by state
- Funding options for accessible modifications in a home
- State-based incentives for construction of accessible housing
- Lifting restrictions on construction of secondary dwellings

### OUTDOOR ACCESS

- Work with state/local parks departments on accessibility of built/natural infrastructure in the park system
- Work with state/local parks departments on availability and maintenance of adaptive equipment at state/local parks

### PARKING

- Administrative action by state DMV or state legislation to add questions about accessible parking spaces and access aisles to state driving exams
- Administrative action by state attorney general or state legislation to give law enforcement authority to conduct parking enforcement of accessible parking spaces in private lots/garages
- Advocating for statewide PSAs regarding accessible parking
- Enforcement of maintaining accessible parking during a snowfall/timely snow removal and making sure curb cuts are not blocked

### TRANSPORTATION

- Enforcement of accessible ADA compliant public transportation
- Increased funding for and improvement of paratransit services

### MEDICAID

- Removing/increasing asset and income limits
- Medicaid buy-in

### RESEARCH

- Preserve/increase funding for state SCI/D medical research programs

### REHAB

- Advocating for supplemental rehab options (funding/reimbursement) – inpatient and outpatient

### DISABILITY RIGHTS

- Legislation against institutional bias in funding for Home and Community Based Services