

# Including Older People with Disabilities

## Need information about how the ADA applies to older people?

Many times, older people don't identify themselves as people with disabilities who have rights under the ADA. No matter how they identify, those rights are still available. The ADA National Network can help you understand how your customers can take advantage of their rights under the law. We can also help you understand how your organization can ensure you do what's necessary to meet your obligations to provide access under the law.

### How can the ADA National Network help?

Run into a problem?

While the ADA and other civil rights laws give people with disabilities rights and create obligations for organizations. They don't always get implemented the way that they should. The ADA National Network provides information on how and where to file complaints when someone refuses to accommodate your customers either in the community or while at work.

#### So many laws.

There are a number of laws and regulations that establish rights for people with disabilities in the community. These include the ADA, the Fair Housing Act, the Air Carrier Access Act, and state civil rights laws. The ADA Center can explain the different civil rights laws and

"Aging is not lost youth, but a new stage of opportunity and strength."

**Betty Friedan** 

how those laws apply in different contexts that your customers may face.

#### **Attending local events?**

Municipalities have obligations to ensure that all people, including those with disabilities, can access the programs and service they offer. The ADA National Network can help you understand these requirements. Things like holding events in accessible locations or offering more than one way to communicate can make all the difference to participation.

Older people represent 14.5% of the U.S. population, or about 1 in every 7 Americans. By 2040, this age group is expected to increase to 21.7%.

Administration on Aging, 2016

#### Need an accessible website?

Creating accessible websites can be difficult, but it's always better to plan for accessibility up front. The ADA National Network can explain best practices in web site accessibility so all your customers can easily access information about your programs and services.

Want to know more about how the ADA can support full participation in the community?

Contact the ADA National Network at www.adaTA.org | 1.800.949.4232

The contents of this document were developed under a grant from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR grant number 90DP0088). NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this document do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

