



Access New England

A publication of the New England ADA Center

June 2013

Quick Links

**The New England ADA Center
and the
Institute for Human Center Design offer
an
Introductory Architectural Plan Reading
Workshop
July 10, 2013**

**20th Annual Mid-Atlantic
ADA Update Conference**

September 18 & 19, 2013 Baltimore,
Maryland



Jillian Shedd and Charles Saia at the 9th Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Welcome Charles J. Saia, New Executive Director of the New Hampshire Governor's Commission on Disability

The New Hampshire Governor's Commission on Disability (GCD) is very pleased to announce and welcome our new Executive Director, Mr. Charles J. Saia, Esq., who was approved by a meeting of the Commission on May 7, 2013. Mr. Saia commenced his tenure at the GCD on May 17, 2013.

Mr. Saia is bright and articulate and has been active both personally and professionally for many years to the disability community. He has connections to people who experience

**Free Online Web Courses
and Information**

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[Disability Rights Web Course](#)

[ADA Employment Web Course](#)

[ADA Checklist](#)

**May 2013 Unemployment Rate for
People with Disabilities (Not
Seasonally Adjusted)**

People without disabilities: 7.0%

People with disabilities: 13.6%

Stay Connected:



disabilities and, throughout his legal career, has garnered exposure to the issues which people with disabilities encounter. Although a practicing attorney since 1988 in the private sector, Mr. Saia has worked for the State of New Hampshire since 2010.



Kristen McCosh, Boston's
Commissioner for Persons with
Disabilities

**Charlestown, Massachusetts
Playground to be All
Inclusive - a \$1.6m Waterfront
Site Where Children of all
Abilities Can Romp Side-by-
Side!**

A waterfront slice of Charlestown, Massachusetts located next to the new Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital is being transformed into a \$1.6 million playground that will allow children with disabilities to play alongside other children without anyone knowing the difference.

Plans for the playground call for what is known as inclusive design, an approach to building spaces that all people can access and experience the same way regardless of age or disability. That means no separate accommodations for people who are handicapped.

"You wouldn't have to choose to go to an accessible playground which may not have all the features that a typical child would want," says Kristen McCosh, Boston's commissioner for persons with disabilities. Rather, the plans "incorporate the accessible components into a typical playground so that a family could play together," McCosh says. [Read the full story.](#)

New England ADA Center
and IHCD offer Field-Based



Training Day at Worcester, Massachusetts City Hall

Stephen Stolberg, member of the City Commission on Disability, and Scott Ricker, community advocate, check door clearances at Worcester City Hall.

Staff from the New England ADA Center and the Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD) facilitated a day of field-based accessibility training at historic Worcester, Massachusetts City Hall. Other participants included community advocates, employees from the City of Worcester and Worcester's

Disability Commission, and members of the Massachusetts Office on Disability. The review included all municipal offices, city council chambers, the outdoor plaza and underground parking. We are grateful to everyone who took part and hope the training will help inform key decision makers.



IHCD and the New England ADA Center Attend Vocational Rehabilitation Resource Fair at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital

Pictured L-R are Ana Julian from the New England ADA Center, Willa Crolius and Ruth Super from IHCD and David E. Storto, President of Partners Continuing Care and the Spaulding Rehabilitation Network. Photo by Gregory O'Quinn.

On Monday, June 17, staff from the Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD) and the New England ADA Center participated in a vocational rehabilitation resource fair at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital's stunning new facility in Charlestown, Massachusetts. Other participating organizations included the

Massachusetts Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission and Easter Seals. IHCD and New England ADA Center staff had the opportunity to converse with patients and staff while presenting a

wide range of materials dealing with topics such as universal design and the Americans with Disabilities Act.



Job Posting: Massachusetts Office On Disability Seeks ADA Information Technology Specialist

The Massachusetts Office on Disability is looking to hire a program manager who will serve as a primary resource within the Commonwealth for technical assistance and project management regarding the impact of disability laws on the acquisition, deployment and utilization of information technology.

The individual will work with the Massachusetts Office on Disability (MOD), the Information Technology Division (ITD) and other executive offices to identify, mitigate and eliminate any barriers preventing access on an equal basis to information technology in the various programs, activities, and services of the Commonwealth. The application deadline is July 17, 2013. [Read the full job description.](#)

Access New England to Debut a New Look in July, 2013!

In keeping with a pending update of the New England ADA Center's web site, next month the Access New England Newsletter will undergo a graphic redesign. We hope the new layout will be both visually appealing and functional as well, making it easier for readers to navigate the site and access information.

Save the Dates! ADA 23rd Anniversary Celebrations Planned for July in New England!

In July a variety of celebrations will be taking place in New England to recognize the 23rd anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Events we have received notice of thus far include the following:

2013 New Hampshire Governor's Accessibility Awards Presentation

**July 23th, 1:00 PM at the New Hampshire State House in the
Executive Council Chamber, 107 North Main Street, Concord New
Hampshire.**

Join Governor Hassan as she presents each award! For more information call the Governor's Commission on Disability at [603-271-2773](tel:603-271-2773).

Comedians with Disabilities - A Panel Discussion

**July 24, 2013, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the New England ADA
Center, 200 Portland Street, Boston.**

Come hear a panel of comedians with disabilities discuss their craft and the importance of the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request accommodations or for more information contact email Willa Crolius or call her at [617 695-1225](tel:617-695-1225), x 235.

ADA Celebration Day - Boston

**July 25, 2013, "Civic Involvement Breakfast", 10:30 AM, Boston
City Hall, 5th Floor and ADA Celebration, 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM,
Boston City Hall Plaza**

A free event for children, families, and individuals of all abilities. Come enjoy music, food, information, friends and fun.

To request accommodations call [617 635-3682](tel:617-635-3682) or [email disability@cityofboston.gov](mailto:disability@cityofboston.gov). For more information and updates, visit www.cityofboston.gov/disability.

Vermont Center for Independent Living Presents An evening with Tom Sullivan

July 26th, 2:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Main Street Landing Black Box Theatre in Burlington, Vermont.

Come celebrate the ADA by spending an evening with Tom Sullivan, renowned blind Entertainer, author and inspirational speaker. For more information [contact Dhiresha Blose at dhireshab@vcil.org](mailto:dhireshab@vcil.org) or [802-224-1803](tel:802-224-1803), or [visit the Main Street Landing web site](#).

Dunn State Park ADA Celebration

Friday, August 2, Dunn State Park

Come celebrate the ADA at Dunn State Park in Gardener, Massachusetts with adaptive sports, live music and food. For more information please contact the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Universal Access Program at [413-545-5353](tel:413-545-5353) voice; [413-577-2200](tel:413-577-2200) TTY, [visit the Universal Access Events web page](#) or the [Dunn State Park web page](#).

Stay tuned! Access New England will send out a special announcement as more details of various celebrations become available.



Stories from Other States



National Council on Disability
Living, Learning & Earning

National Council on Disability joins in celebrating Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month

This June, the National Council on Disability joins the world in celebrating Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month by celebrating our commitment to advancing the rights for all Americans, including LGBT Americans, and LGBT Americans with Disabilities.

The disability community includes all ages, races, and ethnicities, from every socio-economic bracket, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression. Just as a person can become part of the disability community in an instant, a person can also "come out" at any point in their lifetime. This isn't necessarily an either/or equation, often both identities beat within the heart of the same person. [Read the full story.](#)

New England  Center



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