



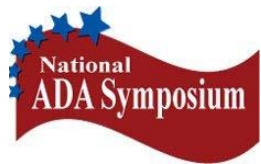
# Access New England

A publication of the New England ADA Center

March 2013

## Quick Links

**Introductory Architectural Plan  
Reading Workshop**  
April 24, 2013  
Brockton, MA



May 12-15  
San Antonio, Texas

**High Rise Evacuation for People  
with Disabilities**  
Free Webinar  
April 10th at 2pm EDT

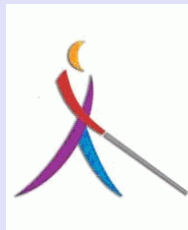
**Free Online Web Courses  
and Information  
Available 24/7**

Disability Rights Web Course

ADA Employment Web Course

ADA Checklist

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



## The National Federation of the Blind of New Hampshire Prepares for its 57th Annual State Convention

Join the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) of New Hampshire as the organization holds its 57th annual state convention at the Holiday Inn Concord, New Hampshire, Friday, April 5 through Sunday, April 7.

Are you or do you know a blind student? Do you have a blind child or other family member or know someone who does? Come meet new people and get helpful information!

The exhibit hall will feature a wide variety of vendors, organizations and state agencies from across New Hampshire. There will also be a lively discussion with NFB New Hampshire's Students and Parents of Blind Children divisions, fun nightly activities, door prizes and awards, a banquet on Saturday evening and much more!

Additional event information:

- Costs: \$15 Registration (includes pizza lunch Saturday) due at registration table upon arrival
- \$35.00 Banquet Dinner per person (Saturday night)
- Room Rates: contact hotel directly at (603) 224-9534 and mention you are with the NFB New Hampshire.

[Read more at the NFB New Hampshire website.](#)



People without disabilities: 7.9%  
People with disabilities: 12.3%

## Stay Connected:



## Dr. Jonathan Lazar Speaks About Societal Discrimination Against People with Disabilities Due to Inaccessible Websites

On March 6, 2013, Dr. Jonathan Lazar spoke at the Institute for Human Centered Design about the issue of discrimination against people with disabilities due to inaccessible web sites.

A current recipient of a Shutzer Fellowship at Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study Harvard University, Dr. Lazar spoke about his efforts to improve understanding of the relationship between web-based interfaces that are inaccessible to people with disabilities, and how those inaccessible interfaces lead to forms of discrimination that are illegal under US law. Currently collaborating with the Harvard Law School Project on Disability, Dr. Lazar plans to produce a book based on this work.



## Free Fair Housing Accessibility Training in Boston

The New England Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Office and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development offer a Fair Housing Act accessibility training session. The course will be presented by Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST, an initiative by HUD to promote compliance with the Fair Housing Act design and construction requirements. The session will cover an overview of the Fair Housing Act's Design and Construction requirements, Accessible Routes, and Accessible Public and Common Use Areas.

### **Date and location:**

Date: May 23, 2013

Time: 8:00am - 4:30pm

Location: Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. Federal Building, 1st Floor Auditorium

Address: 10 Causeway Street

City: Boston

State: MA

Country: U.S.A.

### **Contact Information:**

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Email: [jritzu@lcmarchitects.com](mailto:jritzu@lcmarchitects.com)



[Register at Fair Housing Accessibility FIRST](#)

[View the training flyer.](#)



## Mobility Impairment Reduces Access to Subspecialty Medical Care

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that all medical practitioners be prepared to provide all patients "full and equal access to their health care services and facilities." Yet, many practices cannot accommodate patients with mobility impairment. As a result, individuals with varying degrees of mobility impairment may be denied the care that they need.

A study in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* looked at access to medical care for people with mobility impairments by assessing 256 subspecialty medical practices in Atlanta, Georgia; Dallas and Houston, Texas; Portland, Oregon; and Boston, Massachusetts. [Read more about study.](#)



Senator Elizabeth Warren and New England ADA Center Project Director Oce Harrison.

## Senator Elizabeth Warren Addresses the New England Council

The New England Council was pleased to host newly-elected Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) at one of her first speaking engagements since taking office in January. At a Congressional Roundtable Breakfast at the Seaport Hotel in Boston, the Senator discussed her views on how government can help support economic growth, stressing good regulations and investment in infrastructure and research and development. Nearly 300 NEC members were in attendance, making this one of the Council's largest Congressional Roundtable events to date. [Read Senator Warren's prepared remarks.](#)



## Stories from Other States



### Senator Tom Harkin Introduces Legislation to Expand Captioning and Improve Access to Movies

Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA), Senate sponsor of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP), introduced two bills that will expand access to captioning and image narration in movie theaters and airplanes.

"More than two decades have passed since the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and in that time we have seen a transformation of our physical landscape—from curb cuts to wheelchair ramps, buses with lifts to automatic doors—our communities are more accessible than ever for our neighbors with disabilities," Harkin said. "However, we still have more to do. These bills will allow Americans with visual or hearing impairments to enjoy going to the movies and watching in-flight entertainment, through captioning and video description, just as they can at home." [Read the full story.](#)



### Labor Department Assistant Secretary Kathy Martinez in Support of Equal Opportunities to Participate in School Sports

U.S. Department of Labor's Assistant Secretary Kathy Martinez writes about her life experience as a person who was born blind and who learned how to sail. In her blog post Martinez describes how she joined the Boy Scouts' Sea Explorers program as a teenager where she learned to sail alongside people with and without disabilities. A [recent directive](#) from the U.S. Department of Education clarifies the responsibilities of schools to give students with disabilities equal opportunities to participate in school athletics. Division. [Read](#)

[the full blog post.](#)



## Identical Lawsuits Filed Against Eight Hotels Under Recent Pool Lift Regulation

The first eight reported lawsuits have been filed against eight different hotels over their alleged failure to install pool lifts for the disabled. The lawsuits rely on the Department of Justice's (DOJ) 2010 regulation under Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which went into effect January 31, 2013. [Read the full story.](#)



## HUD Announces App Meant to Help in Fight Against Housing Discrimination

The Department of Housing and Urban Development officially launched an app in an effort to give average Americans greater access to information about fair housing practices.

John Trasviña, HUD's assistant secretary for fair housing and equal opportunity, said that he hopes the app will help to "bring us into the 21st century" and not require people to call the department's hotline or deal with a paper complaint.

"It's using the latest technology to make sure we're accessible to people around the country," he said. [Read the full story.](#)



## New Report Exposes Top Three Disability Hiring Myths

A [newly released report from The Conference Board](#) underscores what Think Beyond the Label have been saying: You CAN quantify the value that people with disabilities bring to a company.

In "Leveling the Playing Field: Attracting, Engaging, and Advancing People with Disabilities," The Conference Board, a non-profit business association, explores how people with disabilities can be part of the "talent solution" for corporations. Companies that participated included Alcoa, Bayer, CVS Caremark, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Discovery Communications, Goldman Sachs & Co., KPMG LLP, Lockheed Martin, Mattel, NY Life Insurance, Office of the Comptroller of Currency, Pennsylvania Department of Labor, U.S. Department

of Defense, and Waste Management, Inc. [Read the full story.](#)

# New England Center



A project of the  
Institute for Human Centered Design



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