

1-844-DIS-VOTE www.disabilityvote.org

For immediate release July 10, 2019

Contact: Barbara Beckert 414-719-1034 barbara.beckert@drwi.org

Disability Groups Promote Voting Accessibility During National Disability Voter Registration Week

The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition is proud to announce National Disability Voter Registration Week from July 15 to 19.

The week is part of the "REV UP" campaign, a national, nonpartisan effort to increase the participation of people with disabilities in the electoral process and to ensure accessibility of the voting process.

The Coalition will be holding events in Milwaukee, Eau Claire, and Madison throughout the week. The disability community, members of the public, and the media are encouraged to attend and learn more about accessible voting and register to vote.

- Milwaukee's event will be held at Independence First, 540 S. 1st St. on Monday, July 15 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Assistance with voter registration will be provided from 9:30 noon by the League of Women Voters. The event will include remarks from Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition, Independence First, and voters with disabilities. The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition's new video on Voter Registration, developed in partnership with the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf, will be shown.
- Eau Claire's event will be held at the United Cerebral Palsy of West Central Wisconsin (UCP)'s new location at 2153 EastRidge Center on Wednesday, July 17 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will feature remarks from Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition, UCP, Center for Independent Living (CIL) Western Wisconsin and voters with disabilities. The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition's new video on *Voter Registration*, developed in partnership with the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf, will be shown. Assistance with voter registration will be provided by the League of Women Voters.





 Madison's event will be held at the Dane County Farmers' Market on Martin Luther King Blvd. on Wednesday, July 17 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. The League of Women Voters will help register potential voters. In addition, the City Clerk's office will provide a mock election and accessible voting machine demonstrations throughout the day.

Different avenues for voters of all abilities to cast their ballot will be highlighted at all events, and accessible voting machines will be present for demonstration by community members and the media.

In Wisconsin, there are over 340,000 people with disabilities who are eligible to vote. The power of the disability vote increases when we also consider families, friends, advocates, educators, providers, and other individuals that interact with people with disabilities, and vote with our issues in mind. The disability community has a huge stake in the results of the local, state, and federal elections this November, however, many do not make it to the polls. There is incredible potential for the disability community to bring disability issues to the forefront of this election, and to hold elected officials accountable.

- Details about each event are on the Disability Vote Coalition website: www.disabilityvote.org/
- For more information on the REV UP Campaign and National Disability Voter Registration Week, visit <u>AAPD.com/NDVRW</u>.

The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition is a non-partisan effort to increase voter turnout and participation in the electoral process among members of Wisconsin's disability community. It is a project of Disability Rights Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities.

www.disabilityvote.org www.facebook.com/wisconsindisabilityvote