

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

May 4, 2021, 2021

Contact: Barbara Beckert, barbara.beckert@drwi.org, 414-292-2724

Disability Vote Coalition Thanks Municipal Clerks

The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition (WDVC) is joining with other organizations to celebrate Municipal Clerks Week, May 2-8, 2021. The 52nd Annual Municipal Clerks Week is celebrated throughout the United States, Canada and 15 other countries and recognizes the essential role Municipal Clerks play in local government, and administering our elections.

The WDVC thanks Wisconsin clerks for their hard work to ensure our elections are accessible for voters with disabilities and to safeguard the health, safety, and rights of voters during the pandemic.

We invited community members to recognize their municipal clerk and received 76 responses recognizing 44 municipal clerks across Wisconsin. Submissions recognizing Wisconsin clerks may be viewed on our website at disabilityvote.org/ and on our Facebook page.

Municipal Clerks went above and beyond during the 2020 and 2021 elections to ensure that voters had the freedom to vote safely during the pandemic. We applaud their efforts to ensure our elections were accessible to voters with disabilities by assisting voters to request and return absentee ballots, providing absentee drop boxes, offering early voting, providing curbside voting, setting up accessible voting machines, addressing polling place accessibility, training poll workers on disability related accommodations, and addressing health and safety concerns.





Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities and Disability Rights Wisconsin
A significant number of Wisconsin voters have a disability. According to the
American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), approximately 23%
of the electorate in November election were individuals with some type of
disability, including disabilities acquired through aging. This is a diverse
group of voters. It includes people who are blind and low vision, deaf and
hard of hearing, with intellectual and developmental disabilities, physical
disabilities, mental health disabilities, complex medical needs, and chronic
health conditions. Many older adults have disabilities acquired through
aging, although they may not formally identify as a person with a disability.
People with disabilities intersect all walks of life, all professions, across all
races, religions, ethnicities, gender identities, sexual orientations, and
socioeconomic classes.

The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition commends Wisconsin Municipal Clerks for their dedication and commitment. We welcome opportunities to partner with them to ensure our elections are welcoming and accessible to voters with a disability.

About the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition

The WDVC is a non-partisan effort to help ensure full participation in the entire electoral process of voters with disabilities, including registering to vote, casting a vote, and accessing polling places. . The Coalition is coordinated by Disability Rights Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities. Members include people with disabilities, and community agencies including Access to Independence, Wisconsin Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired, NAMI Wisconsin, People First Wisconsin, Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers, Independence First, Wisconsin Association of the Deaf, and many others.