

# THE ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENT

- a review of laws, programs, and issues  
affecting the disabled community -



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Vol. 2, Issue 1, Sept. 15, 1978. Published by the Supportive Services Program, Office of Handicapped Students Services, University of Minnesota, Duluth Campus.

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## THE ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENT

The Supportive Services Program, Office of Handicapped Student Services, would like to take this opportunity to welcome those of you who are returning and those of you who are new to UMD.

"The Accessible Environment" is a publication aimed at reviewing the laws, programs, and issues affecting the disabled community. It will also highlight some current programs and concerns which may be important to both persons with and without disabilities.

It is also our hope that this publication can be a channel of communication between you and the UMD Office of Handicapped Student Services. We want to know what your needs and interests are, and with that knowledge we will try our best to act on them and keep you informed on what is being done.

## OFFICE OF HANDICAPPED STUDENT SERVICES

The Office of Handicapped Student Services is located both in Administration Building 102 (James Shearer) and in Library 120 (Randy Vogt). In addition to many other roles, our main goal is to offer assistance in solving problems which are related to disabilities. While we do not function as a rehabilitation service, we are available to assist and facilitate an individual's successful college career. As an example, in planning an academic program you may need a sounding

board for your ideas. Concerns such as schedules, class location, and course requirements are all important considerations in your planning efforts. From time to time problems can, and do, arise with regard to note taking, testing procedures, and reading as a result of a disabling condition. When problems like these come up, this office can serve as a go-between with students and faculty in seeking the best solutions to these problems.

In addition to this publication, our office offers other information and referral services. We have compiled a resource library of information on handicapped issues which would be of interest to persons with and without disabilities. The content of that library resource is listed later in this newsletter. We can also make available to you information on local and state services for persons with disabilities.

We actively encourage anyone, with or without a specific problem or concern, to stop in our offices at any time in order that both of us can be better informed.

## RO-SU

Reach Out-Speak Up (RO-SU) is a student organization which last year took on the goal of making the UMD community more aware of the needs and characteristics of disability groups. The goals for the coming year are wide open for you to decide.

RO-SU (continued)

Watch for a supper meeting sometime during fall quarter to plan for this year.

THE RESOURCE LIBRARY

The Resource Library on Handicapped Issues is located in the verticle files in the "quiet reading room" of the library under the heading of Handicap. The following is a list of materials for your use.

Publications

- ACHIEVEMENT - "The National Voice of the Disabled"
- MAINSTREAM - Public information on Affirmative Action
- ACCENT ON LIVING - Information on services available and items of interest
- PERFORMANCE - The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped
- DISABLED USA - New publication of the President's Committee
- HANDI-CAPTIONS - News from the State Council for the Handicapped.

Handicap Program Newsletters From:

- North Dakota State
- Kent State
- Macomb County Community College
- Southwest Minnesota State University

Committee on Handicapped Student Services Programs in Post-Secondary Education

Other Resource materials on:

Legal Advocacy, Legislation, Services, Mainstreaming, Employment, Accessibility, etc.

UMD ADAPTS STATE HANDICAPPED PARKING SYSTEM

The UMD Parking Committee has adapted the Minnesota State Handicapped Parking System. At various spots on campus you will find a blue and white handicapped parking sign. In order to park at those spaces, a state permit or special handicapped license plate is required. No UMD permit will be required to park at the signs. A \$10 fine will be given to those who are parked illegally.

An application form for the Handicapped Parking Certificate may be obtained by writing to the:

Department of Public Safety  
Driver and Vehicle Services  
Transportation Building  
John Ireland Boulevard  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(612) 296-2021

A handicapped license plate is also available from the local Deputy Registrar of Motor Vehicles. For further information on parking at UMD contact Jim Shearer, 102 Administration Building (8198).

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE TO STRESS ACTION

The 1978 Governor's Conference on Handicapped Children and Adults will be held at the St. Paul Civic Center on September 29th and 30th. The theme for this year will be "Together for Action".

The conference will begin on Friday at 1:00 p.m. with a key note address by David Dawson, Equal Employment Opportunity specialist for the civil rights office of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Mr. Dawson will be speaking on Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its implications for persons who have disabilities.

## GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE (continued)

Directly after Mr. Dawson's address, participants will go to one of twelve concurrent goal workshops. These workshops will be designed to provide information and training to provide participants with the skills to bring about change in the local community. Workshops will cover the following topic areas: civil rights, communication, community alternatives, consumer participation, education, employment, health and insurance, housing, income maintenance, recreation, rehabilitation, and transportation. You will be asked to choose a workshop when you register.

Following the information and training workshops, participants will break down into smaller planning groups. Discussion in these groups will aim at specific action to be taken to achieve goals in the local community. These groups will meet into the evening and again on Saturday morning.

Activities on Saturday morning will also include a special presentation on progress made in the past 15 years in Minnesota by persons who have disabilities. The conference will conclude with a luncheon address by the Governor.

IT IS IMPORTANT if you are planning on being a participant at the conference to register NOW. The Handicap Hot-line Number is 1-800-652-9770. Steve Becker is the person to contact if you are planning to attend. United Cerebral Palsey in Duluth will have a bus going down on Friday and returning on Saturday. Call 722-4018 and ask for Jan to receive more information concerning the bus.

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Handicapped Student Services Program, and the Career Development and Placement Office are currently exploring methods to assist handicapped students with their career planning needs. We have received a grant from the Blandin Foundation to fund the first year of this program.

Beginning this fall, and throughout the year, we will be asking any interested handicapped students at UMD for input into the program. We will be forming an advisory committee, made up of students, staff, and other interested parties during October. More details concerning this new project will follow shortly.

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I would be interested in being on the mailing list for this newsletter.  
 I have some information, articles, etc. that I would like to submit to this newsletter.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Library 134, UMD.