

Jefferson Area Disability Services Board

c/o Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission

401 East Water Street, PO Box 1505, Charlottesville, VA 22902

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2009 Needs Assessment Survey

Every three years, the Jefferson Area Disability Services Board (DSB) assesses the needs of people with **physical and sensory** (hearing, sight, etc.) disabilities in the Thomas Jefferson Planning District (the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson).

This information is used to:

- Guide the activities of the DSB
- Inform local officials of needs within their jurisdictions
- Advise state agencies

If you feel you have a physical and/or sensory disability, please take the time to fill out the following questions. If you only have another type of disability such as an intellectual disability, mental health or substance abuse issues, the agency that covers those services is Region 10 at (434) 972-1800. If you feel that you have both physical/sensory and another type of disability, we welcome your input. You may also fill out the survey for a friend or family member.

Demographic Data:

Year of Birth: _____ Gender: M___ F___

Highest Level of Education (check here if currently enrolled):

- No schooling completed
- Pre-K
- Kindergarten – 5th grade
- 6th – 8th grade
- 9th – 10th grade
- 11th – 12th grade (no diploma)
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Some college
- Associate degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Postgraduate degree

I live in:

- Albemarle County
- City of Charlottesville
- Fluvanna County
- Greene County
- Louisa County
- Nelson County

Current Living Arrangement:

- Own house/apt/condo
- Rent
- Group Home
- Nursing Home
- Parent/relative/friend
- Homeless
- Other: _____

Employment Status (check all that apply):

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time | <input type="checkbox"/> Student | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired | <input type="checkbox"/> Looking for a job |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer | <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed | <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to work |

Race (check all that apply):

- White
- Black/African-American
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- Some Other Race
- Check if you identify as Hispanic or Latino.

Race (check the one you most identify with):

- White
- Black/African-American
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- Some Other Race

Type of Disability (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blind / Vision Impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual Disability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf / Hard of Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Medical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speech Impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physically Disabled (including mobility impaired and MCS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brain Injury | |

Services:

Please indicate which of these services you're currently using (see attachment for definitions):

- Assistive Technology
- Case Management
- Counseling
- Education
- Employment Services
- Family Support Services
- Housing
- Independent Living Services
- Medical & Therapeutic Services
- Personal Assistance Services
- Training
- Transportation
- Communication Access
- Emergency Preparedness

Please rate your satisfaction with the services you're receiving, with 5 being very satisfied and 1, not satisfied at all:

Assistive Technology	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Case Management	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Counseling	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Education	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Employment Services	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Family Support Services	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Housing	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Independent Living Services	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Medical & Therapeutic Services	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Personal Assistance Services	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Training	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Transportation	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Communication Access	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving
Emergency Preparedness	1	2	3	4	5	Not receiving

What do you feel are the top five areas of greatest need? Please number 1-5, with 1 being most important:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| _____ Assistive Technology | _____ Independent Living Services |
| _____ Case Management | _____ Medical & Therapeutic Services |
| _____ Counseling | _____ Personal Assistance Services |
| _____ Education | _____ Training |
| _____ Employment Services | _____ Transportation |
| _____ Family Support Services | _____ Communication Access |
| _____ Housing | _____ Emergency Preparedness |

Are there other services that you feel should be offered that aren't listed? Please explain:

Future Goals

What do you want to achieve in your future? _____

What barriers might keep you from reaching your goals? _____

What do you need to reach your goals? _____

Comments

Please share any other thoughts you have about the needs of people with physical, visual or hearing disabilities and available services in our region. Feel free to attach another sheet if you need more space.

Contact Information (Optional):

Please complete & return by April 20, 2009 - Jefferson Area Disability Services Board

By mail: PO Box 1505, Charlottesville, VA 22902

In person: to the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission, 401 East Water Street,
Downtown Charlottesville

By fax: (434) 979-1597

On the web: <http://www.tjpd.org/housing/dsb/dsb.asp>

Or give the survey to your case manager.

Thank you for your help!

Core Service Area Definitions

Assistive Technology is defined in the Technology-Related Assistance for individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988 as any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capacities of individuals with disabilities. Some key areas for considering assistive technology include: augmentative communication, mobility/seating, leisure and recreation, computers, and job site modification.

Case Management is a dynamic collaborative process which utilizes and builds on the strengths and resources of consumers to assist them in identifying their needs, accessing and coordinating services, and achieving their goals. It includes major collaborative components of case advocacy, assessment, planning, facilitation and monitoring.

Counseling is both a service and the context in which needs are assessed and information and other services provided. It is by establishing a relationship between an individual or family members and a service provider that the opportunity for service planning and provision occurs.

Education All children with disabilities have the right to a free and appropriate education. Services may include special education, speech and language services, occupational and physical therapy, transportation, provision of assistive technology, and transition services.

Employment Services encompass an array of prevocational and vocational preparation activities, new technologies which allow individuals with severe disabilities to compete in the work place, and work site adaptations. Also included in this category of services are job development, placement, supported and sheltered employment, and employer support services to promote hiring and adjustment of persons with disabilities, as well as basic accessibility of work sites.

Family Support is a flexible and varied network of solutions and information useful for maintaining a family when one of its members has a disability. Family support is a philosophy that permeates the delivery of all other services to persons with disabilities. Family support services differ from family to family.

Housing The Disability Commission identified two areas of concern with respect to housing for persons with physical and sensory disabilities. There is a general need for affordable, accessible housing. There is also a need for congregate living options for persons needing assistance and supervision.

Independent Living services include information & referral, independent living skills training, peer counseling, advocacy, community education, and a variety of other services designed to assist persons with disabilities to lead independent lifestyles and access their communities. Centers for Independent Living are the primary source for these community based services. Independent living also includes access to shopping, entertainment, and other services, including parking for those services. Access to and for service animals is also included in this category.

Medical & Therapeutic Persons with physical and sensory disabilities are likely to need health care services to treat existing conditions and to prevent future health problems. Primary concerns presented to the Disability Commission included lack of trained health care providers, limited medical-surgical care for medically indigent children with disabilities, availability, and cost of private health care insurance, and the high cost of medical care.

Personal Assistance services are those services, which make it possible for individuals with severe physical functional limitations to more fully participate in all aspects of daily living and to access other services and opportunities. Personal assistance services include help with activities of daily living such as bathing, communicating, cooking, dressing, eating, housekeeping, toileting, and transportation.

Training refers to the development of qualified service providers, including educators, skilled medical practitioners, interpreters, in-home caregivers, and rehabilitation engineers. Pre-service training refers to training programs and accreditation standards that prepare individuals, including those with disabilities, for entry into service programs. In-service training refers to upgrading knowledge and skills and embracing new strategies and technologies.

Transportation services provide individuals the means of moving from place to place to satisfy some need. Paratransit services refer to on-demand, non-fixed route transportation in an accessible vehicle.

Communication Access includes the removal of communication barriers through the provision of auxiliary aids, alternate formats, and interpreting services when necessary and requested to ensure effective communication

Emergency Preparedness is a community's emergency services ability to handle; planning for; and awareness/training of those with physical/sensory disabilities before, during, and/or after an emergency. To ensure communities are prepared to address the needs of persons with disabilities during emergencies or natural disaster (tornado, flood, hurricane, ice/snow storm).