

# Disability Policy Seminar Student/Young Professional Orientation

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# 2014 Disability Policy Seminar

April 7-9 in Washington D.C  
Grand Hyatt  
1000 H Street, NW  
At Metro Center



**AAIDD | The Arc | AUCD | NACDD | SABE | UCP**

# Purpose

- Learn about current federal disability policy issues directly from Hill staff and national experts
- Educate your Members of Congress and staff about what people with disabilities are



experiencing, barriers to full participation, and sharing new research, data, ideas for solutions



# History and Seminar Sponsors

- The Arc of the U.S
- American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD)
- Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)
- National Association of Councils on DD (NACDD)
- Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE)
- United Cerebral Palsy (UCP)
- Sibling Leadership Network (new partner)



# Key Disability Issues 113<sup>th</sup> Congress

## Protect:

- Funding for key disability programs
- Health care reform & implementation
- Medicaid and Medicare
- Social Security

## Reauthorize:

- ESEA, IDEA, HEA
- Workforce Investment Act/Rehab Act
- Combating Autism Act

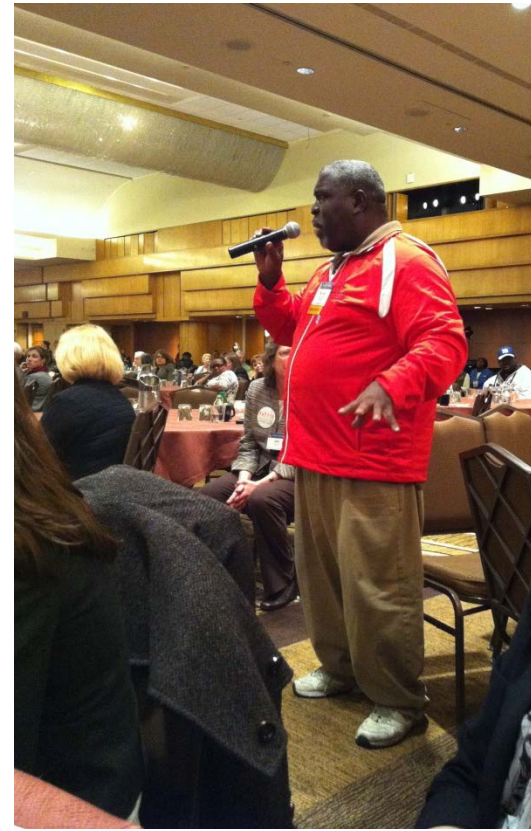
## New:

- ABLE, Restraints & Seclusion, CRPD



# Political Context

- Divided Government and Narrow Majorities
  - Democratic President
  - **Republican Majority House 234-201**
  - Democratic Majority Senate 53-45
- Focus on Debt and Deficit
- Ideologically divided



# Seminar Program Highlights

Sunday	April 6	
Registration Open	4-8	
Trainee Symposium	4-6	Meet Hill staff
Trainee Reception	6-7:30	Network and socialize



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# Highlights for Monday April 7

8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Plenary: Forging a Path Toward Bipartisanship
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Plenary: Advancing our Policy Agenda
1:30 p.m.– 2:45 p.m.	Plenary: Tackling Threats to the Lifeline Programs
3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	1. Concurrent Sessions: How to Have a Successful Hill Visit; 2. ABLE Act: Momentum Builds; and 3. Affordable Care Act Implementation
4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Networking reception





# Highlights for Tuesday, April 8

8:00 a.m.	Meet and Greet Breakfast for Self-Advocates Meet and Greet Breakfast for Siblings
8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	1. Congressional Refresher 2. Autism and Developmental Disability 3. Legislative Approaches to Employment Policy
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Plenary: Defending Social Security
12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Luncheon
2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	1. Concurrent Sessions: Basics of Social Security and Medicaid 2. Improving Education Policy and Stopping the Use of Restraints and Seclusion 3. Impacting Policy by Telling Your Story
4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.	State Caucuses – organize for Hill visits



# Hill Day!

Wednesday

April 9

Capitol Hill Visits

All Day



**Have fun!**

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# Planning Ahead for Hill Visits

- Make appointments with delegation before you go
- Look at Committee assignments to determine priorities
- Senate HELP, Finance, Budget and Appropriations, Foreign Affairs (CRPD)
- House Education & Workforce, Energy & Commerce, Ways and Means, Budget, Appropriations
  - May coordinate with others in your state



# Tips for Planning Hill Visits

- Plan ahead – who will say what? Tie personal story with policy objective
- Be on time, polite, respectful, honest
- Use Talking points; leave Fact Sheets
- Take a camera
- Don't be offended if meeting with staffer
- Lobbying vs. educating
- Follow up with thank you letter & additional info, if needed



# Resources

- AUCD: <http://www.aucd.org>
  - Public policy
  - Action Center: <http://cqrcengage.com/aucd/home>
    - Respond to Action Alerts
    - Sign up for Legislative News *In Brief*
    - Find your Members of Congress
- Policy Seminar home page for program, fact sheets, state list: [disabilitypolicyseminar.org](http://disabilitypolicyseminar.org)



# How to Ask A Question

- Type it in the ‘chat’ or ‘question’ box on your Webinar console
- The moderators will read the questions

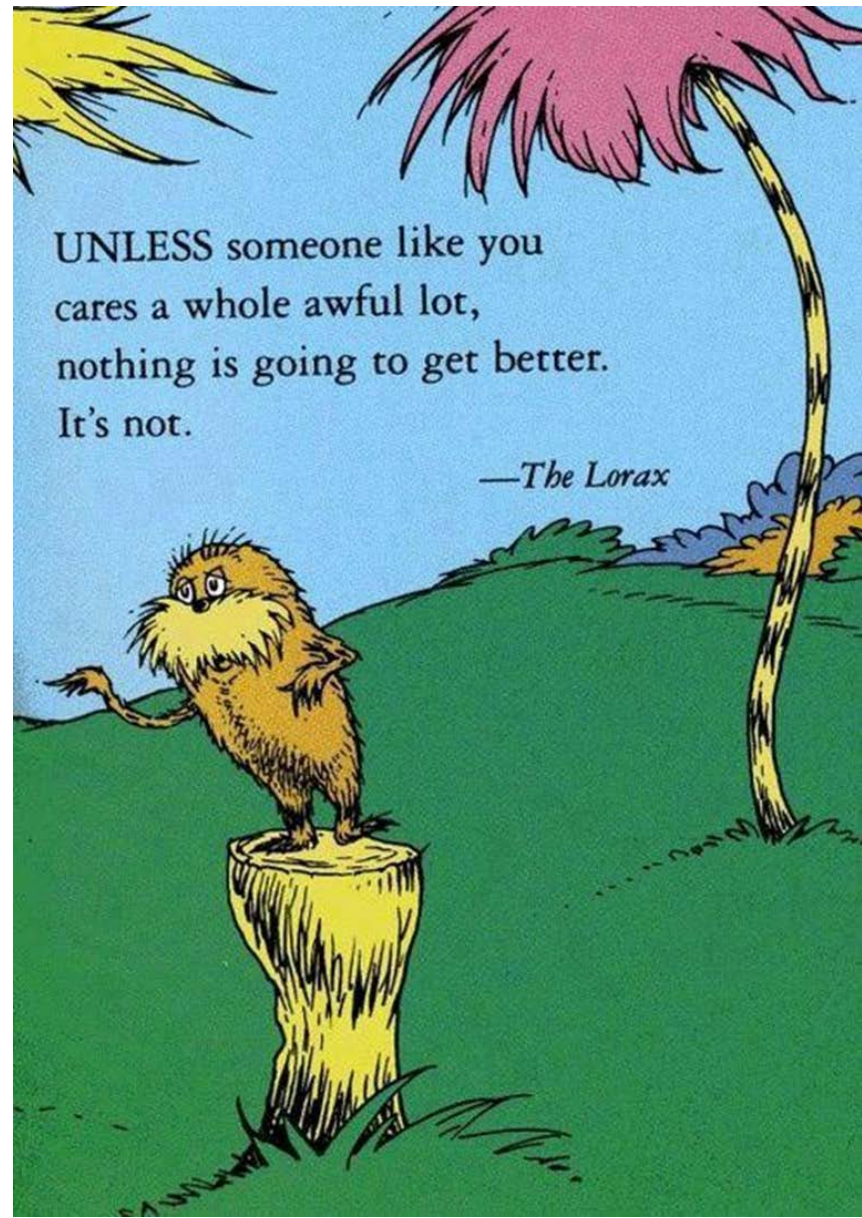
Please note- we might not get to all of your questions



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# Thank you!

## See you soon!



UNLESS someone like you  
cares a whole awful lot,  
nothing is going to get better.  
It's not.

—*The Lorax*



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