

FAIR SHAKE NETWORK



2020

Disability Agenda

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

--Margaret Mead

A Message from the Chair:

The Fair Shake Network (FSN) is an association of West Virginians dedicated to a “fair shake” for people with disabilities. Our mission is to educate policymakers and the public about disability issues and to empower people with disabilities to speak for themselves. The vision of FSN is “People with disabilities have an opportunity to equally participate in their communities and realize their dreams.”

FSN will monitor all legislation introduced that may affect the disability community. FSN urges the Legislature and the Executive Branch to invest in people with disabilities and their invaluable resources, and contributions to West Virginia. *Please support the 2020 Disability Agenda.*

1. Home and Community Based Services and Supports:

FSN will advocate for Home and Community Based Services and other services to bring WV into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

FSN **will not** support the development of segregated/congregate service settings.

2. Housing:

FSN will advocate for housing legislation that increases the statewide availability of accessible, economical, integrated, and safe community based housing. We will support any legislation that supports universal design in home construction.

3. Education:

FSN supports legislation which promotes inclusive education and high academic standards for students with disabilities of all ages and all levels of need in their home or community schools to prepare them for adult life and active community participation.

FSN supports full implementation and enforcement of state and federal special education policies, including transition planning, and compensatory education requirements and adherence to Individualized Education Plans (IEP's) and 504 Accommodation Plans.

FSN will advocate for support services in schools for at-risk and low-income children and families for preventive, primary and crisis situations health, behavioral/mental health and social support.

1. Employment:

FSN will advocate for and promote valued, integrated employment with competitive wages as a first and preferred outcomes for all people with disabilities who want to work.

FSN will advocate for phasing out sub-minimum wage for people with disabilities.

FSN will support policies, initiatives, and services that lead to more employment, and advocate for tax breaks and other incentives that encourage employers to hire people with disabilities.

4. N Human Rights

FSN will advocate for legislation that protects people with disabilities from abuse, neglect, bullying, exploitation, and other rights violations.

Other Issues:

FSN will monitor all legislation introduced that may affect people with disabilities such as:

- Guardianship
- Employment
- Civil Commitment Process
- Emergency Preparedness
- Transportation

Funding Issues:

FSN supports increases in funding necessary to maintain or enhance critical support services that allow people with disabilities to live, work, and engage in recreation in the community.

- Aged and Disabled Waiver
- Birth-to-Three-Program
- Division of Rehabilitation Services Employment Attendant Care Program
- Extended Supported Employment Services
- Family Support
- Independent Living Services (Community Living Services Program)
- Intellectual /Developmental Disability Waiver
- Medicaid Expansion Program
- Ron Yost Personal Assistance Services Program (RYPAS)
- Substance Abuse Disorder Waiver
- Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver (TBI)

Disability Rights are Civil Rights!

For More Information,

Contact:

**Paul Smith, Director
Fair Shake Network
5010 C Fairlawn Ave.
P.O. Box 354
Institute, WV 25112**

E-Mail: FSN@fairshake.org

Phone: 304-766-0061

or 1-800-497-4746

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www.fairshake.org

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Facebook at:

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