



# CommunicAbility

A Quarterly Newsletter For Our Community Members with Disabilities

Summer 2010, Vol. 10, Ed. 3

## National Interest

- How will Health Care Reform Impact You?
- ADA Turns 20

## Wisconsin Interest

- Take Root Milwaukee – Home Ownership

## On the Web

- It's Our Story

## Support NHU

- 8th Annual Fundraising with Flowers Sale

*"One cannot go back and make a brand new beginning; but they can start at this point, and create a brand new ending."*

**New Horizons Un-Limited** is a Milwaukee-based, non-profit organization with a mission to provide individuals with lifelong disabilities increased access to the information, tools and life experiences that empower them to seek out the opportunities that can improve their lives.

To learn more about what we do for our community members with disabilities, please visit us online at [www.new-horizons.org](http://www.new-horizons.org).

## No Internet?

If you do not have access to the Internet and cannot visit the websites listed in this newsletter, please contact us directly at 414-299-0124.

We would be happy to mail you the information available online

## National Interest

### **How will Health Care Reform Impact You?**

This past March, the Health Care Reform bill was signed by the President. Championed by disability rights activists, the new law will afford people with disabilities greater access to quality health care.

Following are a few provisions that will benefit you as an American with a disability:

- Health insurers will no longer be able to deny coverage due to disabilities or other pre-existing conditions
- Lifetime and annual caps on benefits will be prohibited
- Medicaid will be expanded to provide coverage to non-elderly, childless adults with incomes up to 133% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Most Insurance plans will be required to cover rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices
- The Community First Choice Option encourages state Medicaid plans to choose home and community-based services first over institutional settings
- Money Follows the Person will be extended until 2016, providing funds for the relocation of Medicaid Beneficiaries from institutions to community settings

For more on Health Care Reform, download the report from the United Spinal Association:

*Impact of Health Care Reform on People with Disabilities*

[www.unitedspinal.org/pdf/impact\\_of\\_health\\_care\\_reform.pdf](http://www.unitedspinal.org/pdf/impact_of_health_care_reform.pdf)

## National Interest

### **Americans with Disabilities Act Turns 20**

July 26, 2010 marks 20 years since the signing of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). While progress has been made in many areas, the original promise of the ADA continues to elude the disability community.

The American Association of People with Disabilities has developed a website dedicated to the ADA 20th Anniversary. To read more about the ADA and its 20 years visit:

[www.aapd.com/ADAanniversary](http://www.aapd.com/ADAanniversary)

## Wisconsin Interest

### **Take Root Milwaukee – Making Home Ownership a Reality**

Take Root Milwaukee, a City of Milwaukee project, provides home buying information and links you to trusted partners that can help you purchase a home in the city of Milwaukee.

The website provides links to housing counseling partners that can help you access funds for down payment and identify and present your case to area lenders.

To learn more, call 414-921-4149 or visit [www.takerootmilwaukee.org](http://www.takerootmilwaukee.org).

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Help us cut down on paper waste! E-mail us at [horizons@new-horizons.org](mailto:horizons@new-horizons.org) to request an electronic version of CommunicAbility via e-mail. Please be sure to include your complete name in your e-mail.

**Return Service Requested**

CommunicAbility: Disability News You Can Use

Volume 10 • Edition 3



### ***It's Our Story: National Media and History Project***

It's Our Story is an online database of personal testimonials and oral histories provided by individuals with disabilities over the last several decades.

The collection of testimonials, known as the "Discrimination Diaries", was started in the 1980s by Justin Dart Jr., a disability advocate who played a pivotal role in the passage of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act. After Mr. Dart's passing, a gentleman named Scott Cooper continued this journey with a video camera, capturing "oral histories" from more than one thousand disability advocates in more than 100 cities across the United States.

Now, these diaries and oral histories will be brought together in a database that will serve as our nation's single most significant collection of primary source records of the disability experience.

This site is still under development and needs your support. If you can assist in making these important records more accessible, consider lending a hand.

If you would like to be a part of this landmark project, visit [www.itsourstory.org](http://www.itsourstory.org).

## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraising with Flowers Sale



Lilies, Tulips & Daffodils, Oh My!

For the 8th straight year, New Horizons Un-Limited will be working with VanBourgondien to provide top quality flower bulbs during our Annual Fundraising with Flowers Sale.

This year we are able to accept orders online via the VanBourgondien website:

[www.dutchbulbs.com/fg/newhorizonsun](http://www.dutchbulbs.com/fg/newhorizonsun)

Orders placed online will be shipped directly to your door in time for fall planting.

Our online sale will run through September 30th.

We will also accept orders via mail. You may download our order form via:

[www.new-horizons.org/bulbof.pdf](http://www.new-horizons.org/bulbof.pdf)

Please consider promoting our sale to your family, friends and neighbors.

We look forward to bringing a little color and cheer to your home.

Questions? Please contact us via phone, 414-299-0124 or via e-mail, [horizons@new-horizons.org](mailto:horizons@new-horizons.org)