New Horizons Un-Limited

Outlook



Fall 2022 Volume 19, Edition 3

New Horizons Un-Limited Inc. (NHU) is a 501(c)3 tax exempt non-profit organization based in Milwaukee with a mission to make information and life experiences more accessible to **people with lifelong disabilities**, their families and caregivers. Our programs are made possible through the generous contributions of our community partners, member and donor families and many in-kind donors. To donate to New Horizons Un-Limited, see page 6.

"How a society treats it's disabled is the true measure of a civilization."

- Chen Guangcheng, Chinese human rights activist

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NHU 2022

Aug - Sept - Oct Volunteer Opportunities

- Advocacy Now!
- Like NHU on Facebook! Share on our Forums! Visit our Blog! Follow us on Twitter!
- Simple Ways to Give!

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 Thanks to our Golf Event Donors and Sponsors!

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New Horizons Un-Limited Inc. 811 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 937 Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 299-0124 www.new-horizons.org

horizons@new-horizons.org

Disability: No Voice, No Rights



Recently in the news about conditions in eastern Ukraine, the BBC reported on an orphanage where the only occupants appeared to be disabled children who were either confined in oversized cribs or tied to chairs.

The reporter stated most other children had been taken to safer areas in western Ukraine or Poland, Germany, or other eastern European countries. However, the disabled had been abandoned with only a few caregivers remaining behind (in peril) to care for them, virtually an impossible task.

The orphanage was revisited this past week by BBC news, bringing with them Eric Rosenthal, an official from Disability Rights International.

Mr. Rosenthal asked why these disabled individuals were left behind and barely cared for by a few dedicated individuals. This damning criticism was further underscored with statements from Mr. Rosenthal on how these were not actually abandoned children but adult men in their twenties so badly under nourished and so badly isolated, locked up, not allowing mind and body to develop for 20 years, that they only appeared to be young children.

The Soviet Union had left 20 years ago when many of these individuals were small children. The lack of proper care and nourishment did not just occur under the Soviet rule, but continued under the newly established Ukraine government, apparently changing little of the horrible abandonment legacy of the Soviets.

We need to acknowledge, understand, and act upon the basic fact just that these individuals, then children and now disabled adults, NEVER had the RIGHT TO VOTE or demand even the most minimum rights to food and shelter.

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One has to ask the question: "CAN IT HAPPEN HERE?"

If we ignore our responsibility to vote for the rights of ALL it can happen!

With a Supreme Court continuing to erode long established rights, and hinting at revisiting other longstanding rulings, the possibility of overturning protections such as, the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Olmstead decision is very real. In fact, disability rights lawyers are advising against filing suits to affirm the rights established by these protections for fear that it might open an argument to do away with these laws.

We must vote for candidates who have a record of defending disability rights, civil rights, basic human rights.

This is a call to ACTION! The disabled community and activists alike must COME TOGETHER—all disabilities, all backgrounds—to ACT as a UNIFIED political voice.

Arm yourself with knowledge! Research your candidates' positions on disability rights issues. Check out https://www.justfacts.votesmart.org/ to ensure you are voting for someone who is willing to fight for your rights!

What can you do to protect your voting rights?

- Double-check your voter-registration status
- If you plan to vote by mail, request your ballot immediately
- Make sure everyone in your household has a ride and a plan.
- If you are asked to leave or see other problems, call the ACLU's election protection hotline (1-866-our-vote.
- You can also sign the petition to pass the Voting rights Advancement Act, which restores protections to the voting rights Act stripped by a 2013 supreme court Decision.
- Call or your state representatives and city councils and demand Accessible Ballets and let them know how voting suppression laws make it nearly impossible for those with disabilities to exercise their legal right to vote in person and in PRIVATE!

Accessible Voting Matters: Consider the person with a disability disenfranchised from the vote When you go to vote this election, ask yourself if you would make the effort if:

Because of your disability, you can't drive so you do not have a driver's license to vote. You will need a state ID. You need an ID but the DMV will be closed when you can get transportation.

You would take a bus, but the DMV is not on the bus route, and you cannot walk the distance.

You would like to check if you are registered, but you have no access to a computer, smart phone or other device.

You will need to do so at your municipality, but transportation is again a problem.

Your state mailed absentee ballot request forms, but you moved lately so you were placed off the list.

You received a request and do have an ID, but you do not have a printer or phone to copy your ID for your request. You have been voting absentee mail-in for several years now.

If you are a person with a disability, START NOW contact your legislator about any obstacles to your vote!

Looking for conversation starters with your state and local mid-term election candidates? Checkout:

https://www.forbes.com/sites/andrewpulrang/2022/06/18/5-disability-issue-questions-to-ask-state-and-local-midterm-election-candidates/?sh=4c22799444fb

Volunteer Opportunities!!

To sign up for volunteer opportunities, call (414) 299-0124 or e-mail horizons@new-horizons.org/voltim.php
Ponly on-line volunteering is available during COVID-19.

Advocacy Matters, and the Time is Now!

People with disabilities face unemployment, poverty, lack of access to information, health care, technology, education, and transportation and abuse, bias, violence and lack of understanding. Disability is part of the human experience; citizens deserve their rights.

Do not become complacent. Do not sit silently. True inclusion can only be achieved if we are all part of the conversation and help find the solution. If you are aware of a situation that is not just, speak up.

Only **YOU** can educate your legislator, tell your perspective with your community or share your knowledge for others with disabilities.

Define the change you need or want, educate your legislator to make that change.

Voting Matters!

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We would like to hear from you! Please-e-mail us at horizons@new-horizons.org

Giving back to your community... has never been easier!

Here are some simple ways to give back to NHU!

Volunteers reach out and make a world of difference!! For more information on volunteering, visit: new-horizons.org/volnet.html

NHU Wish List

Visit: <u>new-horizons.org/wshlst.html</u> Make an in-kind donation of used equipment or make a donation for purchase of:

- Windows 10 Licenses (\$6 each)
- Speaker sets (\$2.50 each)
- Desktop and Laptop computers (used)
- Surge Protectors (new or used)

Use Goodshop.com to raise money for NHU. Sign up and select or type in New Horizons Un-Limited Inc. (Milwaukee, WI) from the list and click verify. Add your favorite stores to your <u>Goodshop.com</u> account. **Goodshop** will notify you when your store has sales and give a percentage to NHU each time you shop on the Internet. The next time you **search** the Internet, use <u>Goodsearch.org</u> and New Horizons Un Limited will earn a penny each search. They track your gift for you.

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Make a secure on-line credit card donation via PayPal. It's free, secure and so easy! Visit <u>new-horizons.org/donnow.html</u> and click the Donate icon. Complete the online form to give back to your community!

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Our June 2th, NHU Benefit Golf Outing was a Great Success in Support of Our Programs! We appreciate our donors and sponsors! See our attached flyer or visit new-horizons.org/pdf/gfdn21.pdf
For photos of our 2019 event and all our golfers, visit facebook.com/NewHorizonsUnLimited

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--New Horizons Un-Limited Outlook----Newsletter--

Your gift will ensure that our community members with disabilities are given access to the opportunities that will improve their lives!

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