# CRT Industry Webinar June 29, 2023

HOSTED BY:

## Welcome

- Webinar being recorded; video and handout will be available tomorrow morning
- Attendees on mute until open discussion at end of presentation
- Q & A - type questions in during session OR unmute your phone at end
- Previous webinar recordings and handouts at www.ncart.us and www.nrrts.org

## Panelist Introductions & Contact Information

**Wayne Grau**, NCART, Executive Director
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**Cara Masselink**, Clinician Task Force, Executive Director
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**Dan Fedor**, U. S. Rehab, Director of Reimb. & Education
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## Panelist Introductions & Contact Information

**Jim Stephenson,** Permobil, Reimb. & Coding Manager
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**Angel Heinz,** Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation Public Policy Manager
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**Andrea Van Hook**, RESNA, Executive Director
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**Mickae Lee**, NCART, Associate Director
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# Agenda Topics

1. Welcome
2. NCART - CRT Legislative and Advocacy News
3. US Rehab – Interim Medicare Billing Guidance for Seat Elevation Systems
4. NRRTS – Upcoming Opportunities
5. Clinician Task Force Updates
6. RESNA – Guest Presenter Andrea Van Hook
7. Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation – Guest Presenter Angel Heinz
8. Q & A

# Congressional Update

**House & Senate** – Not in session this week or next due to Independence Day holiday. Will return July 11. Great time to meet in local/State offices.

Much of the health care focus is centered around development of a package to address must pass extenders, drug pricing and PBM reforms.

The goal is for Congress to pass health package prior to the August recess.

**Industry Priorities –**

**Power Seat Elevation Coverage, Coding & Payment**

- DME MACs have provided some guidance, more needed. Draft LCDs, etc.
- NCART Manufacturers submitting joint code applications prior to July 3 deadline to separate CRT power seat elevation from standard.
  - Interim period; Permanent coding and fee schedules
- Working to influence establishment of permanent payment rates for the technology.

**State Legislative Industry Repair Alternative Priorities**

- Continue to see action in CA, CT and MA.

**Provider Relief**

- Letter to State Medicaid's requesting CPI update (8.7% for CRT) be applied to payment rates.
  - Exploring legislative/regulatory opportunities - Federal and State.
  - FL relief

## Right to Repair History

- Right to Repair started out focusing on consumers products and farm equipment
  - Morphed to include Medical Devices
  - Strategy changed to only focus on complex rehab power wheelchairs
  - Passed and signed into law in Colorado- Effective January 1, 2023
    - Requires manufacturers if requested by a consumer to sell parts directly to the consumer.
  - This law does not address the problems with repairs
    - Consumer will not be reimbursed for repairs
    - No safeguards to ensure safety of consumer- liability protection added late
    - No requirements to report repair issues to FDA

## Federal Right to Repair

- The Repair Association is a Washington DC-based lobbying group
- Hearings were held in 2022 to advance Federal Right to Repair legislation
  - Focus on consumer electronics and farm equipment but did include medical devices and complex rehab equipment
    - Two very large lobbying groups support excluding medical devices
      - ADVAMED
      - MDMA
  - FTC Chairwoman in favor of Right to Repair
- House of Representative changes are positive for Complex Rehab
  - Republicans may support Right to Repair but understand medical devices and CRT (Class II medical devices) should be excluded

## State Legislative Activities

- States with Complex Rehab Right to Repair Bills
  - Connecticut- R2R Bill not reported out of committee
    - NCART and industry testified
    - Morphed into a different bill
  - Tennessee- HOLD
    - Introduced but on hold until 2024
  - South Carolina- HOLD
    - Introduced but on hold until 2024
  - Montana- not reported out of committee
    - Big Sky, NCART, Clinicians, NRRTS were able to get this tabled
  - Illinois- not reported out of committee
    - Worked with Great Lakes Association, Clinicians, NRRTS

## State Legislative Activities

- California- opposed unless amended
  - NCART lobbied in Sacramento- had alternative language added
    - Cure period- DONE,
    - Stronger waiver of liability- DONE
    - Reduced penalties- DONE
    - Exception for out-of-stock items- DONE
- Iowa- We have introduced a bill that offers industry-developed recommendations for needed repair reform
  - The bill was rushed due to meeting a deadline
  - The language of the bill was not fully flushed out- We need to change some of the language.
  - Thank VGM for all the work on this bill!!

## State Legislative Activities

- Massachusetts- Warranty bill
- Reintroduced 2023- Legislative language includes
  - 2-year bumper to bumper warranty- includes wear and tear items
    - Can anyone tell me how extending warranties to 2 years will result in a repair being done quicker?
  - Deadlines
    - Evaluation of repairs must be done in 3 days
    - Loaner required within 4 days if unable to repair (No recognition of PA requirements)
    - Failure to reach these dates results in attorney general fines and potential litigation
- Law focuses on warranty which is still only 7% of the population
- NCART was in Boston this week meeting with legislators offering up our alternative language
  - Discussing the industry alternative bill with committee chairs

## State Legislative Activities

- Connecticut History- Started as Right to Repair
  - Example that disability groups are communicating with each other
- Legislative language includes
  - 2-year bumper to bumper warranty- no exceptions for wear and tear
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  - Requires a 24-hour call center
  - Must Stock parts inventory
  - Staffing requirements

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## Real Solutions for Service & Repair Reform

- Reimbursement Reform
  - Must get paid for travel and diagnosis time for repairs
- Eliminate Prior Authorization
- Require CRT providers to service what they sell
- Reimburse and Fund Preventative Maintenance
  - Identify issues early before they become emergencies
- Limited Self-Repair
  - No calibration, No programmability, and No clinical items

## Seat Elevation- Coding & Pricing

- The second step in the process is coding
  - NCART and manufacturers have been working for 2 years to gather the information to submit the applications to CMS
  - The applications are due by July 3- we expect to submit tomorrow
  - Very detailed and comprehensive information from each manufacturer
- The third step in the process is pricing
  - CMS has asked for other payers and amounts paid
  - NCART is collecting this data- NCART WILL NOT SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ANYONE BUT CMS- your identity will be scrubbed from the information shared
  - You will be receiving this spreadsheet- IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE PROVIDE AS MUCH ACCURATE AND VERIFIABLE PAYMENT INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE

## Power Standing Plan

- CMS will not comment on when they will open up the NCD for comments at this time
- CMS is treating seat elevation and power standing as two different products for consideration
- NCART is working with manufacturers, clinicians, and consumer groups to gather the information necessary when the comment period is opened.

# Interim Medicare Billing for Power Seat Elevation

## Coding

- The code (for now) will be E2300 on complex power bases K0835-K0864, K0890 and K0891
- For group 2 non complex bases the MACs will only accept the K0830 and K0831 for a group 2 standard base with seat elevation incorporated, which would need to be officially PDAC coded and on the Product Classification List to bill Medicare for reimbursement (see Product Classification List links for K0830 and K0831 at the end of this article and NOTE our valued vendor partner MERITS is the only major manufacturer with active products in codes K0830 and K0831!)
- E2300 is NOT required to be on the Product Classification List (meaning it can be billed for reimbursement when provided on any complex power base as long the bene meets the coverage criteria
- E2300 code will deny if submitted with any other non complex power base (K0813-K0829)
- Since there is no fee schedule currently include in the extra narrative field the same information as required for other misc. codes until further notice (MSRP, description of item, model/part number, and if added to an existing complex power base the item (code and DOS) it's being added to
- The E2300 will count toward the electronics upgrade when it's medically necessary for the bene to operate the power function through the drive control. Meaning it counts as an actuator for the determination of how many power functions are on the chair which determine these upgraded electronics - E2310, E2311, E2377 and E2313

# Interim Medicare Billing for Power Seat Elevation

## Claim Submission

- Codes E2300, K0830, and K0831 ARE in the capped rental fee schedule category
- E2300 has a first-month purchase option when used on complex rehab power – NUBPKX
- E2300 Can't be used on any non-complex rehab power base
- K0830 and K0831 will follow the capped rental submission rule – RRKHKX then KI for KH in months 2-3 and KJ for KI in months 4-13
- The MACs (CGS and Noridian) CONFIRMED the processing system has been updated as of May 26 to accept the E2300, K0830, and K0831 as covered codes (meaning they will no longer auto deny as non-covered)

## Interim Medicare Billing for Power Seat Elevation

**Allowable (reimbursement rate)**

- Confirmed with the MAC that for the interim local allowable will be determined with gap filling until the national fee schedule is released - Jan 2024 – Apr 2024
- Percentage of the average MSRPs on the market for each of the code E2300 and K0830, K0831 to determine the interim allowable

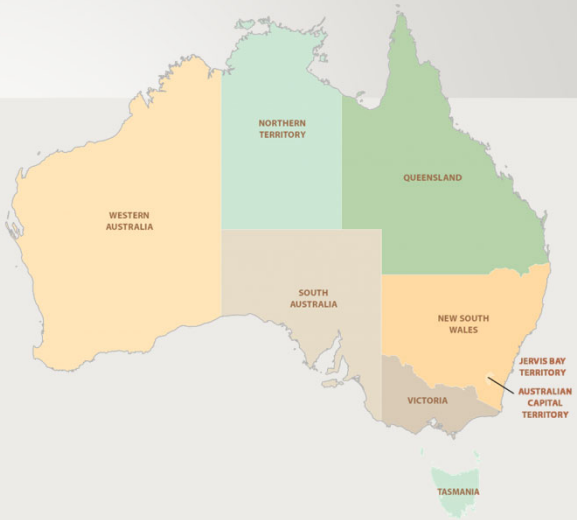
NRRTS

Discover What NRRTS Can Do For You

# NRRTS Welcomes Australia

- July 2023, Independent Living Specialists (ILS) will begin the process for their Complex Rehab Team members to become NRRTS Registrants.
- Lois Brown has spearheaded this achievement.
- Following ILS, NRRTS will grow the Registry throughout Australia.






# July 10 Unite4CRT Conversation

Jenny Siegle will be hosting the July 10 Unite4CRT Conversation. She will be interviewing Tamara Kittelson and discussing the importance of posture, not only when someone is in their wheelchair, but also when they are sleeping.

**Register Today!**



# NRRTS Live Webinars







# NRRTS Live Webinars






# NRRTS DIRECTIONS Magazine V3




On-Line Now
https://b.link/V32023

# NRRTS DIRECTIONS Magazine V3

## NRRTS Needs You... Let's Grow




I hope you are as excited as I am about what NRRTS is doing for RTSs.

Please take a moment to reflect on what NRRTS does for you, and please share with your rehab technicians, ATP colleagues, customers and professionals.

featured in DIRECTIONS
https://b.link/V323FTNO

Highlights

# NRRTS DIRECTIONS Magazine V3




Highlights

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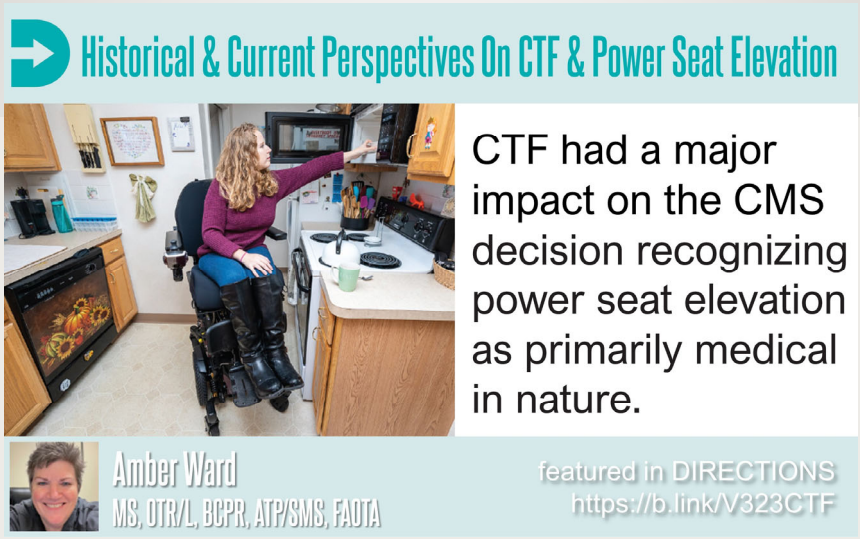



Highlights

# NRRTS DIRECTIONS Magazine V3




Highlights

# NRRTS DIRECTIONS Magazine V3




Highlights

# Canadian Seating & Mobility Conference



# Comment Period Ends July 1

There is growing dissatisfaction among consumers regarding repairs and maintenance.

Using data on wheelchair components failure rates, NRRTS - with the help of others - has developed a policy for wheelchair service which includes a guideline for Registrants to achieve consumer safeguards and high-quality service. It further supports NRRTS and its Registrants as valued members of the healthcare community.

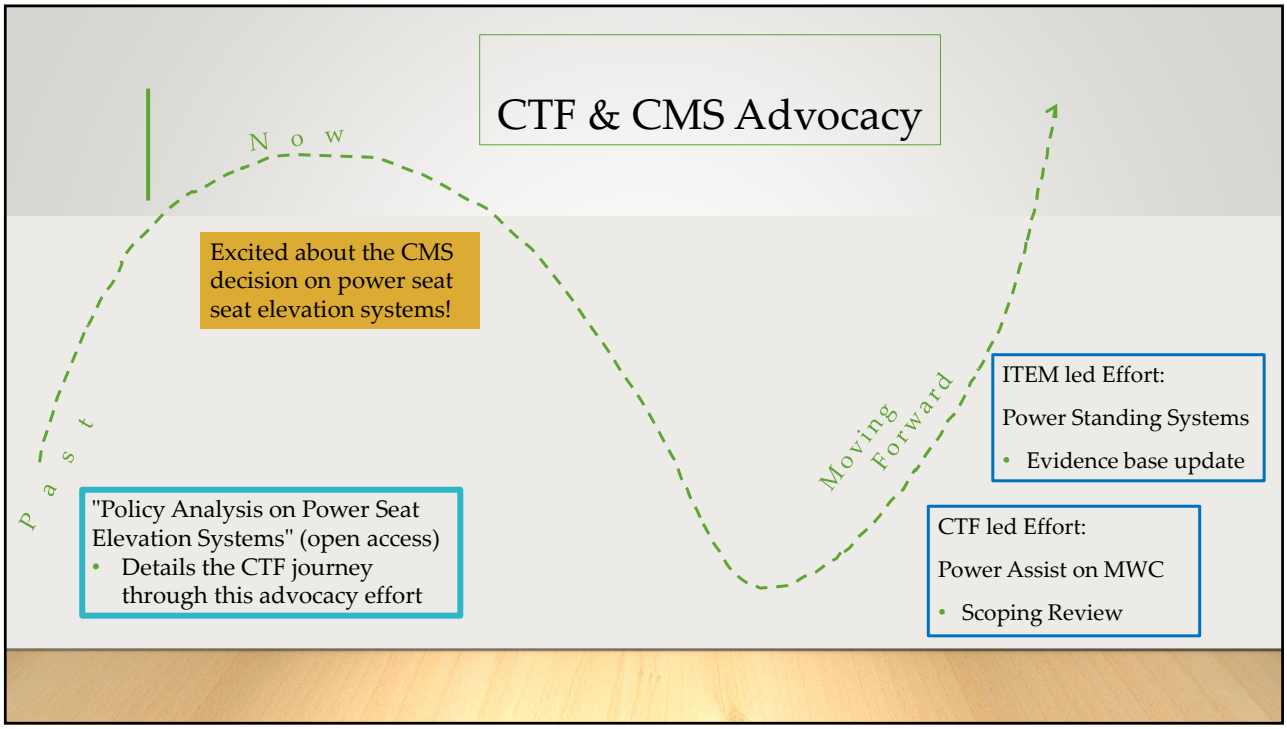
These standards are intended to facilitate consumer well-being, continuous quality improvement, and third- party policy.

**Please read and comment by July 1, 2023**




NRRTS

Discover What NRRTS Can Do For You




## Clinician Task Force

- Working on Clinician Service issues
  - Home Health bundled payments
- CTF in action!
  - ISS was amazing, thanks for everyone who said hi and stopped by!
  - RESNA 2023 – Advocacy Town Hall at 1:30pm Tuesday, July 25
- Company Sponsor Form on our website soon (Individual is up now!)

## RESNA Update




## RESNA Conference

- FLASH SALE - $200 off registration until 11:59pm Sunday, July 2. Use code:

**RESNAFLASH23**

**Advocacy Session:**
***Working Together for Maximum Impact: The Power of Collaborative Advocacy***

Wayne Grau, NCART
Weesie Walker, NRRTS
Cara Masselink, CTF
Rita Stanley, RESNA

## RESNA – After Conference

- Position Paper Public Comment Period: Wheelchair Service Provision Guidelines Update
- Position Paper Public Comment Period: Tilt, Recline and Elevating Legrests Update
- Position Paper Public Comment Period: 24/7 Postural Care
- New Position Paper Working Group: Application and Health Benefits of Adaptive Cycling

## Colin McLaurin Memorial Lecture



October 17, 2023, 3pm – 4:30pm ET
University of Pittsburgh
In-Person and Live Virtual Streaming

Dr. Rory Cooper
Founder, Director and CEO of the Human Engineering Research Laboratories
2023 Inductee into the National Inventors Hall of Fame
RESNA Fellow

## RESNA Board New Members – August 1, 2023

- Julie Piriano, PT, ATP/SMS
- Sue Redepenning, OTR/L, ATP
- Allison Sevillano, PhD, ATP

PSB New Leadership – August 1, 2023

- Jason Kelln, ATP – Co-Chair
- Kyle Walker, ATP – Co-Chair



## About the Reeve Foundation

The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation is dedicated to curing spinal cord injury by funding innovative research and improving the quality of life for individuals and families impacted by paralysis.

By uniting the brightest minds in the field, we are working tirelessly to accelerate scientific discovery across the field of spinal cord research by investing in labs across the globe.

The Reeve Foundation is committed to elevating our community's voices and needs to achieve greater representation and independence.

## Our Story

**1995**

Following his injury Christopher Reeve committed his life to the cause of finding a cure for spinal cord injury.

**1999**

Building on the success of organizations already working toward that goal, the Christopher Reeve Foundation was formed.

**2002**

In order to address individual care needs of people living with paralysis, Christopher and Dana Reeve co-founded the Paralysis Resource Center (PRC) .

**2006**

Following her untimely death, Dana Reeve's name was added to the foundation in honor of her work with the PRC.

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# Our Community

**1 in 50** Americans are living with some form of paralysis. That is almost six million people. Of that six million, 1.3 million are living with a spinal cord injury.

Every year, around the world, between 250,000-500,000 people sustain a spinal cord injury.




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## National Paralysis Resource Center (NPRC)

With partnership from the Administration for Community Living and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Paralysis Resource Center provides free information, programs, emotional support and individualized assistance to Americans living with paralysis, along with their caregivers, families and medical professionals.

"Once you choose hope, anything's possible."
— CHRISTOPHER REEVE

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*Cooperative Agreement Grant Number: 90PRRC0002

## Today's Care – National Paralysis Resource Center (NPRC)

**Information Specialists**
**120,000+** families have received one-on-one assistance in **170 languages**

**Quality of Life Grants**
**$41 million+** awarded to over **3,700+** non-profit programs in all **50 states and U.S. territories**

**Reeve Summit: Where Care, Cure and Community Connect**
Annual summit with a spectrum of care and cure topics designed for the community and professionals

***Paralysis Resource Guide***
**225,000+** copies distributed to the Reeve Foundation's community

**1st** call made when loved one is diagnosed with paralysis

**Virtual Community**
**3M+** users visit ChristopherReeve.org and social media channels annually

**Health-Related Materials**
**250,000+** pageviews, video views and downloads of educational content annually

**Military and Veterans Program**
Supports the unique needs of **service men and women** regardless of when they served or how they were injured

**Peer & Family Support Program**
**20,000+** people have received support from **500+** certified peer mentors who are also living with paralysis

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## Advocacy and Education

- Educating policymakers on paralysis-related issues
- Participating in coalitions and working to improve public policy
- Building grassroot engagement
  - **Online Advocacy Program**
  - **Regional Champions**
- Developing partnerships with disability organizations
- Educating the community on key issues to promote self-advocate within their own lives



# 2023 Advocacy Priorities

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Community Needs Assessment

**Top Issues**

- Research for Treatments and Cures for Paralysis
- Home & Community Based Care Services
- Public Accessibility, Inclusion, & Universal Design
- Health Insurance Access & Coverage of Services
- Prevention of Secondary Conditions
- Assistive Technology
- Affordable and Accessible Housing

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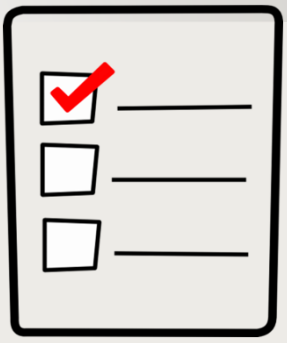
## 2023 Reeve Advocacy Priorities: Federal Asks

Support federal funding for the Administration for Community Living's National Paralysis Resource Center (NPRC) of at least $10.7 million dollars for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024.

Support increased federal funding for all SCI Model Systems sponsored by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR); and paralysis research sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Department of Defense (DOD).

Urge federal policymakers to prioritize identifying and adequately funding caregiving solutions for the paralysis community.

Support the inclusion of critical Air Carrier Access Amendments Act provisions in the FAA Reauthorization, which will help create more equity in air travel.



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## 2023 Reeve Advocacy Priorities: In partnership with Coalitions

- Advocate for **policies to improve insurance coverage** of treatments, devices, rehabilitation, and home health care for those impacted by paralysis or mobility impairments; and
- Advocate for the **preservation, protection and improvement of accessibility policies and statutes and of civil rights for those impacted by paralysis or mobility impairments and their family caregivers.**
- Advocate for policies to **ensure safe, accessible, and affordable housing** for the paralysis community.



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# Recent Virtual Advocacy Day

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## Inaugural Reeve Foundation Virtual Congressional Advocacy Day – May 10

Advocates focused on these asks:

- Maintain funding for the NPRC FY'24 at $10.7 million in FY2024—level funding from FY'23.
- Cosponsor and pass the Air Carrier Access Amendments Act (ACAAA) (Titus/Baldwin H.R. 1267/S. 545) and support its inclusion in the 2023 FAA Reauthorization
- Prioritize identifying and adequately funding caregiving. Host a town hall or listening session on the topic of caregiving in your district or state.

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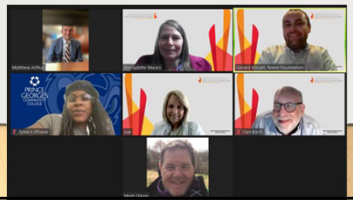
## Inaugural Reeve Foundation Virtual Congressional Advocacy Day – May 10

- 66 confirmed meetings
- 97% meetings confirmed
- 4 member-level meetings
- 42 attendees
- 20 states represented
- 35 Senate meetings
- 31 House meetings

- 40 Democrat offices
- 25 Republican offices
- 1 Independent office
- 24 PWP
- 9 Caregiver
- 3 advocates
- 6 Reeve Staff





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# Thank You and Q&A

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“A **hero** is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.”

– Christopher Reeve

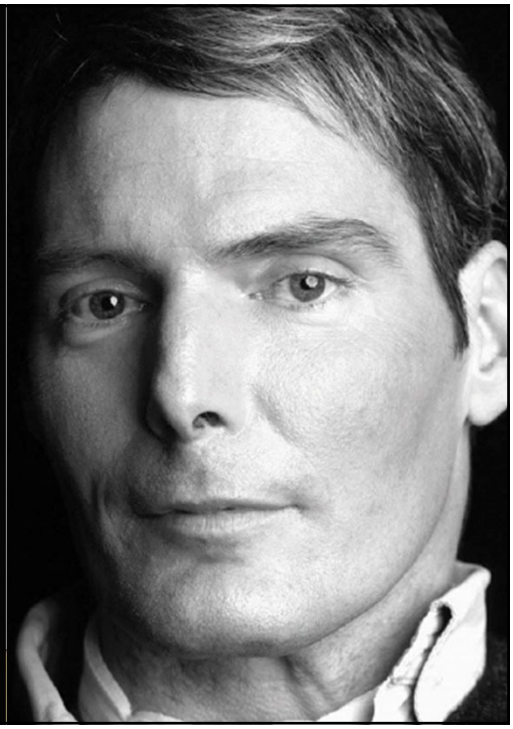

photo credit: Timothy Greenfield-Sanders

## Webinar Wrap Up

- Thanks for your commitment!
- Handout and recording will be available tomorrow.
- Q&A
- Have webinar topic suggestions? Let us know!

**The next CRT Industry Webinar will be Thursday, September 28 at 4:00 PM ET!**