

## Policy Profile

### **The Disability Vote Matters**

**-Submitted by Hanni Raley, Assistant Executive Director-**

Voters with disabilities are guaranteed the right to access campaign, rally, and election spaces, and to vote privately and independently as prescribed by federal laws - inclusion of and access for voters with disabilities is not just good practice; it is the law! Casting your vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 2, is one of the best ways your elected officials are representative of you and your community. Read below for helpful hints to cast your ballot.

#### **Curious about the Mail-In process?**

Every Colorado registered voter should have received a ballot in the mail by now. However, by the time you read this newsletter, IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO MAIL YOUR BALLOT! But, don't worry, there are plenty of other ways to cast your vote!

#### **Can I drop off my ballot?**

You can drop off your ballot any time before 7 pm on Tuesday, November 2 at a 24-hour drop-off location or your local polling center. To find the nearest polling center or drop box, check your county [here](#). You can also schedule a curbside pick-up of your ballot at specific locations. Look [here](#) to verify the address and schedule for a time convenient to you.

#### **Prefer to vote in person?**

Due to public health concerns, the state STRONGLY ENCOURAGES everyone to vote complete their ballot at home and drop it off in a secure, 24-hr drop box to protect themselves and others, and reduce in-person contact amid COVID-19. If you prefer to vote in person and not use your mail-in ballot, there are no assigned polling places, and you can select one that is convenient for you. Make sure you bring identification with you to vote in person, and you can look [here](#) to explore the different options to bring with you.

You can also use the Voter Service and Polling Centers to register, update your address, drop off your ballot, vote, or solve any election-related issues. To find the nearest Voter Service and Polling Center, check your county [here](#).

### **Curious about the voting rights of people with disabilities?**

Voters with disabilities have the right to vote, and in Colorado, you can still vote even if you have a Guardian! The Arc of Aurora's social enterprise, THINK+change, created a no-cost training offering information to those charged with holding elections to help ensure their processes are accessible to and inclusive of people with disabilities as prescribed by federal laws. You can enroll into that training at no cost [here](#). If you face challenges anywhere in the voting process, report the problem immediately to the Election Protection hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE. Trained attorneys are available to assist.

### **Curious about what is on your ballot?**

Colorado offers a non-partisan "[Blue Book](#)" to review statewide ballot issues, summarizing each with easy to understand language and providing "for" and "against" arguments for your consideration. You might also want to look at the voter guides provided by [Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition](#) and [Developmental Pathways](#) for considerations specific to people with disabilities in Colorado.

Lastly, do not forget about The Arc of Aurora! If you have any questions about voting, the election, or your right to vote - do not hesitate to contact us!