



formerly Vermont Protection & Advocacy
(800) 834-7890 (Toll Free)
(802) 229-1355 (Voice)
(802) 229-2603 (TTY)
(802) 229-1359 (Fax)

141 Main Street, Suite # 7, Montpelier, VT 05602

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Disability Rights Vermont Post-Election Program Evaluation

Today millions of Americans and thousands of Vermonters with disabilities are looking forward to the November 2012 General Election. Historically, people with disabilities have encountered barriers to exercising their right to vote. The barriers facing people with intellectual, physical or mental health-related disabilities come in many forms. Disability Rights Vermont (DRVT) is Vermont's federally funded protection and advocacy system, empowered to identify and break down barriers to voting faced by Vermonters with disabilities.

DRVT has produced the attached Post-Election Program Evaluation to help identify areas for improvement in voter registration, education and access to the polls for people with disabilities. The Evaluation provides insight into the voting experience of sixty-eight participants during the 2008 General Election. The Evaluation provides guidance to help DRVT and others concerned with the voting rights of people with disabilities improve voting services to Vermonters with disabilities. The participants in the Evaluation identified strategies and tools that were significant in improving their voting experience. This information will be useful for all entities, including state and local governments, in their efforts to increase voter participation of people with disabilities.

Please contact Ed Paquin, DRVT Executive Director at 1 800 834 7890 for further information about DRVT's voting rights work and other disability rights work or to provide comments about our Post-Election Program Evaluation.

Funding for this project was provided by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities

DRVT is the protection and advocacy system for the State of Vermont.

Email at info@DisabilityRightsVT.org,

On the web: www.disabilityrightsvt.org