



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

Transportation Task Force
2010 Annual Report

2011 in review

The Transportation Task Force continued work this year advocating for programs and supports that increase the mobility for people with disabilities. Our primary areas of work were the following:

- 1) **Continued Preparation for Transportation Legislation Reauthorization** – Though technically up for renewal last year, the major transportation reauthorization that includes many of the programs of importance for people with disabilities was postponed until next year. The Task force principles were included in several hearings including a House Transportation and Infrastructure committee hearing. The Task Force spent time continuing to refine principles and meeting with key congressional staff to share the priorities of CCD.
- 2) **Department of Transportation Regulations** – The Department of Transportation finalized their guidance on Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards for transit service provisions and rail platform issues. The Task Force participated in open meetings and submitted comment on this guidance.
- 3) **Access Board Guidance** – The Task Force testified before the Access Board on its draft Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines, focusing on accessibility of crosswalks and roundabouts.
- 4) **Appropriations** – The Task Force weighed in with Congressional appropriators in support of increased funding for targeted transportation programs serving people with disabilities.
- 5) **Accessible Taxis and other Mobility Issues** – The Task Force submitted formal testimony for a hearing held by Senator Tom Harkin on mobility issues facing people with disabilities, particularly access to taxis.
- 6) **Negotiations with Amtrak** – The deadline for all Amtrak stations to be fully accessible under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was July 2010. For multiple reasons, Amtrak did not meet that deadline. Discussions have been ongoing with congressional staff, Amtrak and other interested parties on how to ensure greater accessibility of Amtrak stations. The Task Force has weighed in and received support from members of Congress in negotiations to create a solution that helps Amtrak achieve accessibility as quickly as possible. CCD supported new funding that is now available to Amtrak to help achieve this goal. No final agreement has been reached as of yet.

2012 Priorities

The Task Force foresees that the reauthorization of transportation legislation will take a significant amount of effort next year and that this will make up the bulk of our work. We will continue to work on issues such as appropriations for transit programs, Amtrak/rail accessibility, the Air Carrier Access Act and other issues as they arise.

Co-Chairs:

Jennifer Dexter – Easter Seals

Patrick Wojahn– The National Disability Rights Network