

LOS ANGELES DIOCESAN COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY

Background:

Statistics show that one out of five Americans has a disability. We would like to learn more about the needs of the needs of the congregations in the Diocese, and the barriers that may prevent full participation at our churches. Please take a few minutes to complete the following survey and return to _____.

1. What provisions are currently made at your church that help allow full participation in worship? (Check all that apply)
 - a. There is a designated drop off area for people with disabilities
 - b. We have ample accessible parking spaces
 - c. Accessible parking spaces are clearly and properly marked.
 - d. Branches, low signs and landscaping have been cleared from the accessible route of travel (from parking lot to the primary entrance to the church) to provide an unimpeded path of travel at least 4 feet wide and 6 feet 8 inches high.
 - e. We have curb cuts where needed along an accessible route of travel.
 - f. We have ramps to facilitate level changes.
 - g. We have clear signage showing the accessible route of travel, and other accessible elements in our facilities.
 - h. Doors along the accessible route of travel provide a minimum 32 inch clear width when fully opened.
 - i. Accessible doors are easy to open and door hardware includes easy to use lever type handles.
 - j. Accessible doors have automatic opening devices.
 - k. Large print liturgy, hymnals and prayer books are provided and available.
 - l. Braille materials are provided for services and for readings.

- m. Assistive listening devices are provided.
 - n. Sign language interpreter is provided.
 - o. At least some pews provide 24 inches clear between the front of one pew and the back of the next for use of walkers, canes and crutches.
 - p. At least some pews are provided with padded seating and arm rests.
 - q. Provisions have been made for wheelchair seating in the church, with appropriate companion seating.
 - r. The lectern and chancel are accessible without using steps.
 - s. The choir area, including choir practice rooms and robbing areas, are fully accessible.
 - t. Ushers and staff are trained in how best to greet people with disabilities.
 - u. Staff has received disability awareness training.
 - v. Congregation has received disability awareness training.
2. What provisions are currently made at your buildings and grounds that help allow full participation in the day to day activities at your church?
- a. Accessible drinking fountains are provided.
 - b. Accessible rest rooms are provided and are clearly marked.
 - c. Public telephones are accessible and clearly marked.
 - d. Ramps are provided to facilitate level changes throughout the site.
 - e. Interior pathways (stairs and corridors) are well lit.
 - f. Elevators and lifts (if provided) are provided with proper signage, Braille signage and emergency communications.
 - g. Door thresholds provide smooth transitions.
 - h. Gates, if provided along the accessible route of travel, have smooth hardware, and a smooth surface at the bottom 10 inches of the gate.
 - i. Floor surfaces are slip-resistant, stable and firm.
 - j. Carpets are well secured and easy to navigate (firm or no pad, ½ inch maximum pile height, level loop or cut pile).

- k. Door mats are recessed or properly beveled, and are securely attached to floor.
- l. Cross slopes (perpendicular to the direction of travel) are less than 2%.
- m. Ramps do not exceed 8.3% (1:12) and level areas do not exceed 5% (1:20).
- n. Handrails are continuous on both sides of stairs and ramps, and are sturdy, easy to grasp.
- o. Handrails have 12 inch extensions beyond the top riser (or top of ramp), parallel to floor, and 12 inches plus the width of the bottom riser at the bottom of the stair (or 12 inches at the bottom of a ramp) parallel to the floor, and return to the wall
- p. Stair risers are closed
- q. Interior stairs have contrasting stripes at top and bottom treads for easier visual awareness.
- r. Exterior stairs have contrasting stripes at all treads.
- s. Emergency alarm systems provide both audible and visual alarms.
- t. Offices, classrooms and other meeting or conference spaces are accessible.
- u. Tables, desks and work spaces provide for some accessible seating.
- v. Play areas are on an accessible route of travel, and at least some of the each type of play equipment is accessible.
- w. Cabinets and casework allows for accessible storage, and are provided with easy to grasp U-pulls.
- x. Sound systems and acoustics provide for optimal listening.

For more information, and for a more complete Checklist provided by the California Division of the State Architect, go to http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/pubs/checklists_rev_07-29-08.pdf