

The Massachusetts Office on Disability (MOD)

The Massachusetts Office on Disability (MOD) works to ensure the full and equal participation of all people with disabilities in all aspects of life by working to advance legal rights, maximum opportunities, supportive services, accommodations, and accessibility in a manner that fosters dignity and self-determination.

MOD's Four Areas of Focus are Training, Advocacy, Resources and Monitoring. Our office makes a wealth of information on disability rights and resources available to the public. These materials are useful to persons with disabilities, their families, advocates, cities and towns, and businesses and are available on our website.

Contact Us

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Phone: 617-727-7440

Web: www.Mass.gov/MOD

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/massdisability](https://twitter.com/massdisability)

Youtube: <https://bit.ly/2JFSzLc>



Massachusetts Office on Disability

1 Ashburton Place
Room 1305
Boston, MA 02108



Fifth Annual Disability Summit

Improving Access In Our Communities

September 27, 2019

Boston Convention and
Exhibition Center
Conference Rooms 258 A, B, & C

 @MassDisability
#MODSummit2019

Welcome to the 2019 Disability Summit

8:30-9:00: Registration & Light Breakfast; Resource Tables Open

9:00-9:15: Welcome and Introduction

Secretary Michael J. Heffernan, *Executive Office for Administration and Finance*
Mary Mahon McCauley, *Executive Director, Massachusetts Office on Disability*

9:15-9:35: Data on Disability and Challenges to Implementing the ADA for Municipalities in Massachusetts

Oce Harrison, *New England ADA Center, a project of the Institute for Human Centered Design*

9:35-9:50: DOJ ADA Enforcement as it Applies to Cities and Towns

Gregory Dorchak, *General Physical Access, Effective Communication, MA Cases*

9:50-10:40: State Initiatives Impacting Local Communities

Laura Brelsford, *MBTA/Plan for Accessible Transit Infrastructure*
Michelle Tassinari and Bridget Simmons, *Secretary of the Commonwealth*
Sarah Bourne, *Information Technology Accessibility Services State Contract (ITS61)*
Sara Zalakis, *Massachusetts Emergency Management System*
Kristin Johnson and Zoë RajBhandary, *MA Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*

10:40- 10:55: BREAK

10:55-11:25: Resources for Barrier Removal for Local Communities

Mark Southard, *Housing & Community Development/Community Development Block Grant*
Secretary Michael J. Heffernan, *A&F, Community Compact Cabinet Program*
Jeffrey Dougan, *MOD's Municipal ADA Improvement Grant Program*

11:25-11:45: ADA Grant Success Stories

Jini Fairley, *Newton - Accessible Pedestrian Signal Installations*
Andrew Daniel, *Rochester - Town Hall Improvements*

**11:45-12:05: Creative Uses of MGL C.40 S.22G Funds by Local
- Commission on Disabilities**

Maura Mazzocca, *Burlington Commission on Disability*
Len Olenchak, *Chelmsford Commission on Disability*

12:05-12:15: Thomas P. Hopkins Disability Access Award

Justin Coppola, *Andover Commission on Disability*

12:30: Networking and Resource Tables

Mary Mahon McCauley

Executive Director, Massachusetts Office on Disability



Mary Mahon McCauley has worked at MRC since 1989 in a variety of capacities, including Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Unit Supervisor/Job Placement Specialist, and Area Director. She has been the Area Director of the Downtown Boston office since 2008.

She has been an advocate for people with disabilities for most of her life and for 17 years facilitated a low vision support group for the Massachusetts Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired. She holds a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree in Vocational Counseling, both obtained from the University of Massachusetts at Boston, and is also a Licensed Rehabilitation Counselor.

Resource Tables

- The New England ADA Center, a project of the Institute for Human Centered Design
- Access AI, a collaboration between AIRA Technology and the MBTA
- Haverhill Commission on Disability
- Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination
- Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Massachusetts Equipment Distribution Program
- Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority-Attainable/ABLE Savings Plan
- Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
- Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission
- MassMATCH
- MBTA Travel Training
- My Ombudsman
- PLAN of Massachusetts and Rhode Island
- Recovery Centers of America
- Respond, Inc
- Special Education Surrogate Parents: A Project of the Federation for Children with Special Needs