## **Olmstead Plan Listening Sessions**

Over the last six months the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been working to update the state's "Olmstead Plan", a comprehensive working plan for assisting people with disabilities so they may live and work in the community, and **we need your input**. The Commonwealth's current Olmstead Plan has been updated to highlight the important integration work that has been done over the past 8 years as well as to establish both **Goals and Key Initiatives and Strategies** to continue the work going forward. The draft Plan has been posted (see below for Plan website).

The state is holding a second set of community-based **LISTENING SESSIONS**, inviting broadbased stakeholder attendance to provide comments to the draft Olmstead Plan directly to state agency leadership. The Listening Sessions will be held, as follows:

SPRINGFIELD Monday, March 26th at 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Springfield Library Mason Square Library Branch, Community Room 765 State Street, Springfield, MA

ROXBURY Tuesday, April 3rd at 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Reggie Lewis Track & Athletic Center at Roxbury Community College Multipurpose Room 1350 Tremont Street, Roxbury, MA

The locations are accessible with CART and ASL Interpreters

This Draft Plan is intended to articulate the Commonwealth's overarching goals and identify the initiatives, activities, strategies, and funding needs to meet those goals. The Planning Committee is asking interested parties to review the Draft Plan and provide feedback based on the questions below.

## **Questions:**

- 1. Are the goals and corresponding activities described in the Draft Plan clear? Please provide specific comments and recommendations where the goals and corresponding activities as presented in the Draft are not clear and could be improved.
- 2. Are there existing elements in the Draft you find could be improved? If so, please identify those elements, being as specific as possible (i.e. identify page number and section header), and provide specific suggestions on how those elements in your opinion, could be improved.
- 3. Are there additional elements you would like added to the Draft to support and promote opportunities for people with disabilities to successfully live and work in the community? If so, please describe those additional elements that in your opinion should be added to the Draft, being as specific as possible.
- 4. Lastly, please provide additional feedback or comments regarding topics not currently captured which you feel are important to be reviewed or included in the Final Plan.

Can't make these sessions? You can provide written comments to the Committee. For more information, see <u>https://www.mass.gov/forms/olmstead-planning-</u> <u>committee-plan-development-feedback</u>