



PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release

25th ADA Celebration and Rally **“Looking to our Past to See our Future”**

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-ADA-25th-Celebration-and-Rally-Looking-to-our-Past-to-See-our-Future/>



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https://twitter.com/25th_ADA_Rally

Event Details:

When: July 22, 2015, (Wednesday)

Time: 4 PM to 6 PM
Music starting at 3:30 PM

Where: Westlake Park/Center in Downtown Seattle

How: Rally- Celebrate- Collaborate



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On the afternoon of July 22nd, 1000 people will gather at Westlake Park and Center to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The event is a collaboration of more than 100 disability connected organizations, communities and supporters to celebrate the positive changes the ADA have made in the lives of people with disabilities and to highlight where we still need to work for full inclusion and equity for all.

Who Needs To Be At This Event:

- Community Partners
- Organizations serving the disability communities, members and people they serve
- Business, government and allies to the disability community
- And most importantly, **people with disabilities to celebrate together!**

Event Community Partners:

Our community partners consist of state agencies, City of Seattle, Washington State Business Leadership Network, community based service organizations, to name a few. Please see attached for our Community Partners list.

Best Practice and Public Model for Access:

This event will be fully accessible and model how public events should build an implement an accessibility plan for full public participation, including people with disabilities.

Celebration:

The Celebration will have:

- Live Music,
- Clowns,
- People moments,
- Commemorative Medallion,
- How about a tethered hot air balloon that has been retro-fitted for people who use wheel chairs.
- And much more.



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Public Officials:

- Senator Patty Murray, a recorded message welcoming people to the event
- We will have a proclamation from Governor Jay Inslee
- Andi Smith, Governor's office Senior Human Services Policy Advisor
- Our keynote speech from Senator Cyrus Habib

The Rally:

- We will here "shout outs" from the hundred plus organizations in attendance,
- We will hear how the battle that lead to the signing of the ADA was not easy
- We will hear from people and how the ADA has changed or affected their lives
- We will hear from people that still face the challenge of inclusion in the work place
- And a call to action to move the needle on employment for people with disabilities.

Media:

- We have planned the event so local television media and others can provide live broadcast from Westlake Center and assist us in bringing public awareness to issues that impact the largest "silent minority" in the state.
- We would also appreciate any assistance in promoting the event
- Also providing information to the general public on the day of, and how traffic and other might be impacted during the event planned times.