

Submission of the Massachusetts Permanent Commission on the Status of Persons with Disabilities FY25 Annual Report

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To Hurley, Michael (SEN) <michael.hurley@masenate.gov>; Carroll, Timothy (HOU) <timothy.carroll@state.ma.us>

Cc Denise Garlick <denisegarlick@gmail.com>

1 attachment (367 KB)

MCSPD FY25 Annual Report.pdf;

Dear Clerk Hurley and Clerk Carroll,

On behalf of the <u>Massachusetts Permanent Commission on the Status of Persons with Disabilities</u>, we are honored to share our FY25 Annual Report, submitted in accordance with <u>M.G.L. Chapter 3, Section 74</u>.

This year's report reflects the Commission's continued growth as a convener and collaborator, working alongside individuals with disabilities, state leaders, and community partners to advance inclusion, access, and opportunity across the Commonwealth. It highlights the progress made through our subcommittees, statewide partnerships, and public engagement efforts over the past fiscal year.

The report covers key areas such as:

- Strengthening inclusive employment opportunities and addressing benefit cliffs that impact workforce participation for people with disabilities.
- Examining workforce shortages in human services and direct care roles, and promoting strategies to build and retain a sustainable, well-supported workforce.
- Advancing health equity and long-term services and supports by partnering with state agencies to identify systemic barriers and improve access to quality, community-based care.
- Expanding statewide engagement through events such as <u>Strength in Support</u>, the <u>Advancing Health Equity</u>
 for <u>People with Disabilities</u> hearing, and our annual <u>National Disability Employment Awareness</u>
 <u>Month</u> celebration recognizing inclusive employers and leaders.

The full report is attached for your review. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or Chair Garlick, copied here, with any questions or for further discussion.

On behalf of the Commissioners, thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to advancing inclusion, equity, and independence for people with disabilities across the Commonwealth. We look forward to continuing this important work together.

Sincerely,

Gyasi Burks-Abbott

Commission Elected Disability Employment Subcommittee Co-Chair

Self-Advocate, Faculty, LEND Program, Boston Children's Hospital and UMass Boston's Institute for Community Inclusion

Appointed by the Governor

Charles Carr

Commission Elected Long Term Services and Supports and Health Equity Subcommittee Co-Chair Legislative Liaison for the Disability Policy Consortium

Appointed by Disability Policy Consortium

The Honorable Denise Garlick

Commission Elected Chair Appointed by the Governor

Nancy Garr-Colzie

Member & Board Chair, Worcester Disability Commission, Center for Living & Working Appointed by the Governor

Craig Hall

Executive Director, Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council Appointed by Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council

Representative Vanna Howard

State Representative, Massachusetts House of Representatives Appointed by the Speaker of the House

Rachel Kaprielian

Chief Executive Officer, Triangle, Inc. Appointed by the Governor

Andrew Levrault

Commission Elected Workforce Supports Subcommittee Chair Deputy General Counsel, Disabled Persons Protection Commission Appointed by Disabled Persons Protection Commission

Representative Jay Livingstone

State Representative, Massachusetts House of Representatives Appointed by the Speaker of the House

Ann Lynch

Assistant Attorney General, Disability Rights Coordinator, Massachusetts Attorney General's Office Appointed by the Attorney General's Office

Representative John Marsi

State Representative, Massachusetts House of Representatives Appointed by the House Minority Leader

Regina Marshall

Chief Operating Officer, Advocates Appointed by the Senate President

Oswald Mondejar

Commission Elected Clerk
President, Mucho Gusto Consulting
Appointed by the Governor

Bridget Murphy

Project Manager, Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, William Francis Galvin Appointed by the State Secretary

Senator Patrick O'Connor

State Senator, Massachusetts Senate Appointed by the Senate Minority Leader

Angela Ortiz

Executive Director, Massachusetts Health Council Appointed by the Governor

Kathy Petkauskos

Executive Director, Workplace Equity and Inclusion, Work Without Limits, ForHealth Consulting, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School

Appointed by the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School

Carl Richardson

Commission Elected Long Term Services and Supports and Health Equity Subcommittee Co-Chair and Treasurer ADA Coordinator/504 Diversity Officer, Massachusetts State House Appointed by the Senate President

Representative Lindsay Sabadosa

State Representative, Massachusetts House of Representatives Appointed by the Speaker of the House

Leo Sarkissian

The Arc of Massachusetts
Appointed by the Governor

Lexi Semanchik

HR Marketing & Communications Specialist, State Treasurer and Receiver General's Office Treasurer's Office Designee #2

Rachel Stanton

Commission Elected Disability Employment Subcommittee Co-Chair Investor Relations & Communications Designer, Clean Water Trust | Debt Management Treasurer's Office Designee

Meghan Todd

Grants Manager, City of Framingham Appointed by the Senate President

Christopher White

Commission Elected Vice-Chair President/CEO, Road to Responsibility, Inc. Appointed by the Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers, Inc.

Imene Bouziane Saidi

Commission Executive Director

Imene Bouziane Saidi she/her

Executive Director

<u>Register for Meeting the Moment - A Community Hearing & Resource Fair</u> Stay engaged with the Commission's work here!

