

P&A TiDBITS

LEGAL NEWS & other

Disability-Related info

August 2018



**IMPORTANT
REMINDER**

Election 2018

August 21, 2018

is PRIMARY ELECTION DAY!

To be able to vote in the primary, you must register in person or by mail with your local county clerk on or before

August 6, 2018

This is when Voter Registration Closes for in-person or mail registration. In Wyoming, however, a person may register to vote when he or she goes to a polling place to vote on election day.

Voters can vote an absentee ballot in person in the office of the county clerk or by mail 40 days before an election.

Absentee ballots **must be received by the county clerk no later than 7:00 p.m. on Election Day**. Absentee ballots can be returned in person or by mail. To request an absentee ballot, contact your local Wyoming County Clerk.

The Wyoming Secretary of State has a publication for contact information of all county clerks at <http://soswy.state.wy.us/Elections/Docs/WYCountyClerks.pdf>.

If you need other assistance, do not forget the P&A hotline:

HOTLINE
(877) 249-6167

7:00 am to 7:00 pm on Election Days

RE✓UP!

REGISTER
TO VOTE

GET
VOTE
OUT THE

A good resource for voters from the Secretary of State's Office is the "2018 Wyoming Voter's Guide." This pamphlet provides useful information about voter registration, absentee voting, county clerks, offices that are up for election, and more. You can download from link below:

http://soswy.state.wy.us/Elections/Docs/2018/2018_Voter_Guide.pdf



P&A also offers information pertinent to voting, such as the brochure: "Wyoming Voting Guide for Persons with Disabilities"

Please contact P&A for your copy!

2018



**Wyoming
Voter's Guide**

Wyoming Secretary of
State's Office

Women's Equality Day is a holiday that commemorates the August 26, 1920 certification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution that gave women the right to vote.

Congresswoman Bella Abzug first introduced a proclamation for Women's Equality Day in 1971.

Since that time, every president has published a proclamation recognizing August 26 as Women's Equality Day.

Celebrate equality!



**WOMEN'S
Equality
Day**
August 26

P&A PRESENTS AT THE WYOMING DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES CONFERENCE!

P&A was busy in June at the Wyoming Developmental Disabilities Conference (formerly known as MEGA) Last month, we reported Bob Walters gave a presentation on the voting rights of persons with disabilities. Two other P&A staff members also presented at the WDDC.

Exploitation and Disabilities

Staff Attorney Andrew Lemke provided a presentation about abuse and neglect of persons with disabilities. P&A has done numerous investigations of complaints or reports involved allegations of either abuse or neglect, or both. Allegations that included exploitation, such as financial exploitation, were considered a form of abuse.

First, exploitation is introduced as the use of power or control to steal or illegally receive money or property. The number of incidents of exploitation in Wyoming, especially financial exploitation, has increased greatly in recent years. In fact, there is an epidemic of all forms of abuse on people with disabilities throughout the country. Additionally, persons with disabilities are abused and exploited more than persons without disabilities at alarming rates.

Second, an overview of abuse followed, including an explanation and examples of the 5 typical types of abuse:

- Physical,
- Neglect/Abandonment,
- Sexual,
- Emotional/Intimidation, and
- Financial.

Research shows that the single most effective way to prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation is by providing education and self-protection training directly to individuals with disabilities. The rest of the presentation discussed strategies to detect, to report (to appropriate authorities, including P&A), and to prevent abuse.



Your Rights and Responsibilities

Advocate Carolyn Yeaman provided a presentation about rights and responsibilities given such rights applicable to persons with disabilities. The presentation began with an introduction of and describing the various programs administered by P&A.

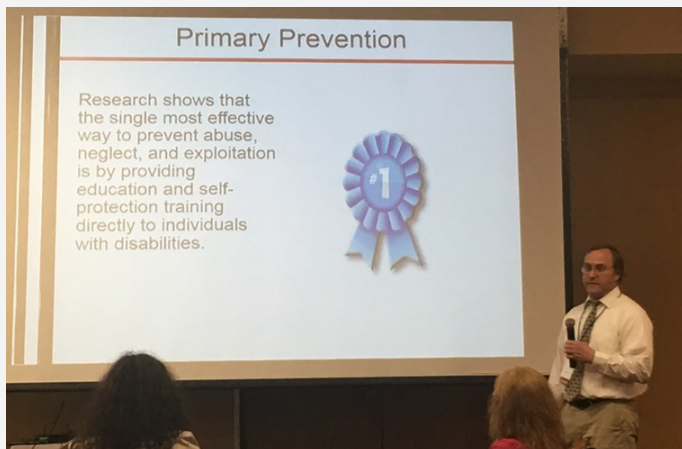
A new program that would begin in July 2018 relates to services for persons who have a representative payee, prompted by Federal legislation that paved the way for P&As across the country to provide such services.

The presentation also included discussion of the rights and responsibilities related to:

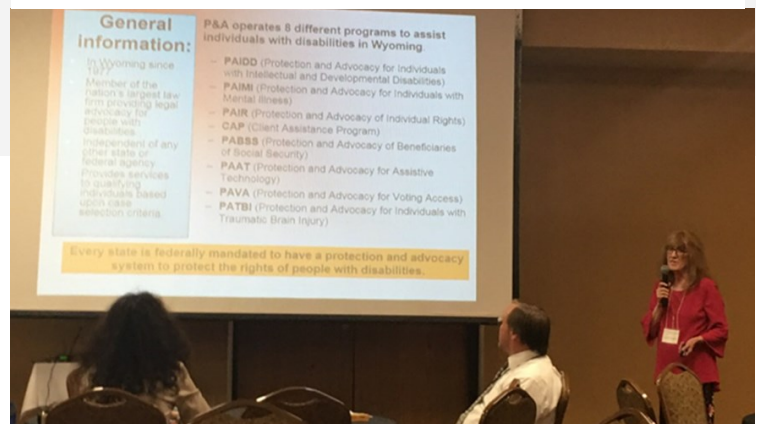
- the right to live as independently as possible;
- the right to services and make choices to achieve maximum independence;
- the right to social interaction
- the right to have fun and make choices about leisure activities;
- the right to be treated with dignity and respect;
- the right to privacy;
- the right to education;
- the right to choose whether to be involved in a religion;
- The right not to be restrained or secluded.

People with disabilities have more rights, which were discussed involving personal space, property, and even the right to vote.

P&A is available to provide presentations or other trainings to community providers or other groups related to rights of people with disabilities or other topics. Contact information below left.



Pictured above is Staff Attorney Andrew Lemke presenting at WDDC 2018



Pictured above is Advocate Carolyn Yeaman presenting at WDDC 2018

MORE INFO

CONTACT US

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