

Simsbury Aging and Disability Commission

Resource List

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About the Aging and Disability Commission

The Aging and Disability Commission is a volunteer advisory group whose purpose is to study and evaluate the needs, services, and events designed to enhance the quality of life for older adults and people with disabilities living in Simsbury. Its focus is to advocate by promoting resources and opportunities that support inclusivity and provide information, engagement, and support services.

The Commission also advises the Social Services Department and Board of Selectmen on policy issues regarding Simsbury's older adults and people with disabilities, and recommends appropriate action.

Resources

- [A&D Commission 2024 Brochure](#)
- [A&D Commission Facebook page](#)
- [A&D Commission Program history](#)
- [A&D Commission web page](#)
- [Farmington Valley Health District Community Health Assessment](#)

Sponsored Events

- [Sample Fashion Show Flyer](#)
- [Sample Picnic at the Farms Flyer](#)
- [Sample Sensory Friendly Halloween Flyer](#)
- [Sample Sensory Friendly Movie Flyer](#)
- [Sample Sensory Santa Event Flyer](#)
- [Sample Souper Thursday Flyer](#)

Accessibility

Resources for Residents

- [Handicapped Parking Awareness Month](#)

- [Handicapped Parking Awareness PSA](#)
- [Handicapped Parking Awareness Video](#)

Resources for Retailers

- [ADA Update: A Primer for Small Business](#)
 - [Handicapped Parking Awareness Month](#)
 - [Handicapped Parking Awareness PSA](#)
 - [Handicapped Parking Awareness Video](#)
 - [Maintaining Accessible Features in Retail Establishments](#)
 - [Serving Customers with Disabilities](#)
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Aging

Resources

- [AARP Road to Livability](#)
 - [Aging Well in Simsbury Survey Results](#)
 - [“Countering Ageism: Are You Using Age-inclusive Language?”](#) article from Healthnews, May 2023
 - [Legal Guidelines for Aging Well](#) - speaker Claudia Englisby, JD,LLM
 - “Living Longer, Stronger” educational series
 - [Part 1: The Hows and Whys of Movement Between Healthcare Settings](#)
 - [Part 2: Making the Most of Your 12-Minute Doctor’s Appointment](#)
 - [Part 3: The Impact of Medication](#)
 - [Medical Equipment Loan Locker](#)
 - [“Researchers asked older adults about the strategies they use for combatting loneliness. Here’s what they said.”](#) article from BigThink, February 2020
 - [“The Wisdom That Helps Prevent Elderly Loneliness”](#) article from Technology Networks, January 2020
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Disability

Resources

- [Medical Equipment Loan Locker](#)
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Disability Employment

Resources

- [211 of Connecticut: Supported Employment](#)
 - [Ability Beyond](#)
 - [Ability Jobs: Largest Job Site for People with Disabilities](#)
 - [Benhaven Career & Transition Services](#)
 - [Capital Workforce Partners: Disability Resources](#)
 - [The Caring Community: Day Services](#)
 - [Commission for Disability Employment](#)
 - [Community Systems Supported Employment](#)
 - [CT.GOV: Employment for Individuals with Disabilities](#)
 - [Easterseals: Employment and Job Training for People with Disabilities](#)
 - [The Kennedy Collective: Employment Network for Ticket to Work](#)
 - [Oak Hill: For Businesses & Employers](#)
 - [Opportunity Works CT: Public Services](#)
 - [United Cerebral Palsy of CT: Employment Program](#)
 - [X Stellar: Unemployed & Underemployed](#)
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Disability Laws

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)

Description

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in several areas,

including employment, transportation, public accommodations, communications and access to state and local government' programs and services.

Resources

- U.S. Department of Labor > [Americans with Disabilities Act](#)
- [New England ADA Center](#)
- [ADA Coalition of Connecticut](#)

Child Find

Description

Each public school district is responsible for identifying, locating, and evaluating all children who may be eligible for special education. This is known as “Child Find.” Parents, teachers, or other school personnel may refer a child for evaluation to determine whether a child may be eligible for special education.

Resources

- Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center > [Child Find Basics](#)
- Connecticut State Department of Education > [Identifying Children with Disabilities and the Individualized Education Program](#)

IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act)

Description

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law that makes available a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and ensures special education and related services to those children.

Resources

- U.S. Department of Education > [About IDEA](#)
- [IDEA 101 Presentation](#)

Section 504

Description

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a national law that protects qualified individuals from discrimination based on their disability. Section 504 forbids organizations and employers from excluding or denying individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to receive program benefits and services. It defines the rights of individuals with disabilities to participate in, and have access to, program benefits and services.

Resources

- U.S. Department of Education > [Section 504 Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- Connecticut State Department of Education > [“Clinical Procedure Guidelines for Connecticut School Nurses”](#)
- Simsbury Board of Education policies > [Student Series 5000](#)
- Simsbury Public Schools
 - [Simsbury High School Student Handbook](#)
 - [Elementary Handbook](#) - indicates that Director of Personnel is responsible for administration of the Section 504 policy
 - [Child Find and Preschool Services](#) - Section 504 mentioned only in context of transferring school-age students
 - [SEPTO \(Special Education Parent Teacher Organization\)](#)
 - [Strategic Plan Goals 2019-2024](#) - footnote on page 22 indicates that students with Section 504 plans are not included in the data for special education services
 - [Students Requiring Special Services](#)

- [Procedural Safeguards](#) - Section 504 is not limited by IDEA
 - [A Parent's Guide to Special Education in Connecticut 2021](#)
 - [Referral to Determine Eligibility for Special Education and Related Services form](#)
 - [Non-discrimination Statement](#) - gives contact info for questions regarding 504 compliance
 - [District Profile and Performance Report for School Year 2019-2020](#) - footnote on page 1 indicates that students with Section 504 or service plans are not included in the data
 - Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE) > [Section 504 and Written Management Plans](#)
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Housing

Senior and/or disabled housing in Simsbury

- Simsbury Housing Authority, 1600 Hopmeadow Street
 - Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments - unassisted, comfortable living for persons 62 and older or receiving Social Security Disability
 - Virginia Connolly Residence - Congregate Housing Community for persons 62 and over
- Eno Farms - 50-unit affordable housing community located at 1602 Hopmeadow Street
- Ojakian Commons - accessible, affordable, supportive rental housing for those needing services from the National MS Society and those needing services from FAVARH, the ARC of the Farmington Valley; located at 100 Casterbridge Crossing
- Willow Arms Apartments - affordable housing located at 55 Elm St, Tariffville

Resources

- [FAVARH, the Arc of the Farmington Valley](#)
 - [Report on Inclusive Housing in Simsbury](#) - 2023 presentation slideshow from the Simsbury Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Council to the Simsbury Board of Selectmen
 - [Simsbury Housing Authority](#)
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Inclusivity

Resources

- [“Countering Ageism: Are You Using Age-inclusive Language?”](#) article from Healthnews, May 2023
 - Practical Action for Aging, Dementia, and Disability Inclusivity
 - [Event recording](#)
 - [Resource guide](#)
 - [Report on Inclusive Housing in Simsbury](#) - 2023 presentation slideshow from the Simsbury Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Council to the Simsbury Board of Selectmen
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Mental Health

Resources

- [A Promise to Jordan](#) - Raises awareness of substance use disorders, helps erase the stigma surrounding them, assists people with accessing quality care, and gives hope that recovery is possible.
- [Simsbury Social Services Mental Health Assistance](#)

- [Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation: The 2023 U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory on the Healing Effects of Social Connection and Community](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\) Commission on Social Connection](#)

Questions or found a broken link?

Email us at SimsburyAgingDisabilityComm@gmail.com