

March 18, 2020

Subject: COVID 19 Response UPDATE: DRW business continues while all office close at 5:00 p.m.,  
Wednesday, 3/18/20

To the people we serve and our partners and funders:

**Disability Rights Wisconsin continues providing services during COVID 19 outbreak.** All of DRW's offices will close as of 5:00, Wednesday, March 18. DRW is committed to doing our part to prevent community spread and protect individuals with disabilities, staff, stakeholders, and the communities where we live. We are taking this precaution until at least April 1, 2020, or longer if needed.

DRW is dedicated to maintaining its workforce and meeting its responsibilities, even while offices are closed. All DRW staff will begin working from home after Wednesday. Meetings that were scheduled in any office will not take place during this time, though they might be reconfigured using phone or video conferencing options.

All programs will continue their work and staff have the technology to make and answer calls and emails and to participate in meetings by phone or skype. Staff have been instructed to severely limit in-person contact with clients and stakeholders and to use tele or video conferencing whenever possible. Staff will not be attending public events of any size, but will participate by phone or video conference when it is an option.

**During this time, our phones will be answered and intakes will still be conducted during regular business hours.** People can continue to call our 800 number (800-928-8778) or send an email to our general mailbox ([info@drwi.org](mailto:info@drwi.org)). People already working with attorneys or advocates can reach them through their work emails and by calling DRW's 800 number or the direct extension of the person they are working with.

We urge everyone to continue taking preventative measures recommended by the CDC, including proper handwashing, social distancing, and more. We will be posting information on our website and Facebook page with information and updates. DRW looks forward to working collaboratively with our partners, funders and stakeholders to be responsive to the changing environment.

Sincerely,



Lea Kitz  
Executive Director

**SEE PAGE 2 FOR IMPORTANT VOTING INFORMATION—LAST DAY TO REGISTER TODAY!!!**

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[disabilityrightswi.org](http://disabilityrightswi.org)

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VOTING

Because of concerns about COVID-19, DRW is encouraging voters with disabilities to vote early in the April 7<sup>th</sup> Spring Election and Presidential Primary.

- Any Wisconsin voter who is registered to vote, can request an absentee ballot at [myvote.wi.gov/](https://myvote.wi.gov/). You may also contact your local clerk by phone, email or mail to request an absentee ballot. If you are “indefinitely confined” due to age, illness, infirmity, or disability, you are not required to provide a photo ID with your application.
- In person absentee voting will be an option in many communities; check with your municipal clerk for details.
- If you are not registered to vote or have moved recently, **March 18<sup>th</sup> is the last day to register to vote online (or by mail).** Register at [myvote.wi.gov/](https://myvote.wi.gov/)
- Additional information is available at [disabilityvote.org](https://disabilityvote.org)
- For assistance, contact Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline at 1-844-347-8683 or email [info@disabilityvote.org](mailto:info@disabilityvote.org)