



# Disability Issues

The Public Health Institute is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting health, well-being and quality of life throughout California, across the nation and around the world.

People with disabilities have the right to full and unrestricted participation in society.

The Public Health Institute is dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities, with a focus on disability policy, civil rights, disability law, employment, health issues, independent living and assistive technology.

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# Our Approach



Provide consultation and technical assistance to businesses, government officials, employers, health care institutions and others



Develop and test innovative assistive and instructional technologies, and promote better use of existing technologies



Build the capacity of institutions to comply with the ADA and provide for full, unrestricted participation for those with disabilities



Disseminate information and updates related to the ADA, accessible technologies and other news and legislation

# Our Priority



## Building Health Equity

PHI programs partner with persons with disabilities to advocate for their health and rights. The Pacific ADA Center trains emergency management officials on how to incorporate the needs of those with disabilities into disaster and emergency preparedness planning. The center also works with FEMA to ensure that personal assistance services to the disabled are available when national disasters are declared.



**The Pacific ADA Center provides information, problem solving**

**assistance and referrals for implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)—including by maintaining a free hotline for inquiries about the ADA. Contact Technical Assistants via voice or TTY/TDD by calling 1-800-949-4232.**

# Our Work

## Improving Hiring Practices

— The Pacific ADA Center has **trained thousands of public and private sector hiring managers and supervisors** on disability awareness and reasonable accommodation options for disabled employees, which has increased hiring and retention of individuals with disabilities.

For more examples of our work, visit [phi.org](https://phi.org).

## Ensuring ADA Compliance

The Pacific ADA Center at PHI provides **over 37,000 technical assistance consultations** annually to public and private stakeholders in the western U.S. on ADA compliance. After consulting with the Pacific ADA Center, a corporation that operates tens of thousands of chain restaurants changed its national policy so that customers with disabilities no longer encountered accessibility barriers, such as narrow doorways and restricted space in dining areas.

## Including Persons with Disabilities in Health Promotion Campaigns

Based on recommendations by PHI's **Center on Disability**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is updating its Community Guide

to Preventive Services to include considerations for people with disabilities. Considerations include physical accessibility of facilities and equipment used for health promotion and alternative formats for health communication for people who are blind.

## Promoting Accessible Technology

The Pacific ADA Center runs **www.AccessibleTech.org**, which provides businesses and employers with information, problem solving assistance and referrals for implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act and Accessible Information Technology. The team also conducts outreach and region-wide dissemination of materials to the business community.