



Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

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Central Purpose

- Promote total access, full participation, and equal opportunity in all aspects of life for people with disabilities
- Provide information and referral services to public and private programs and services, including employment support, housing referrals, transportation information and other social services resources to people with disabilities
- Help people with disabilities achieve greater independence through assistive technology, home modifications, homemaker, and Independent Living Skills Training
- Work to assure compliance with federal, state and local accessibility laws and codes
- Develop and implement disability policy, legislative and accessibility initiatives
- Provide disability awareness and etiquette training

Key Facts

For two decades, the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities has been a partner and advocate for people with disabilities who live in, work in and visit Chicago. MOPD addresses disability related issues in the areas of education, employment, housing, physical and programmatic accessibility, legislation and recreation.

MOPD's Information and Referral Unit assists more than 30,000 persons with disabilities and their families in making more effective use of the health, economic and social resources that promote independence. This is achieved in a variety of ways including providing information on programs and services that are available to people with disabilities, advocacy, short-term counseling, practical assistance and referrals. The types of assistance requested include but are not limited to: application assistance for Circuit Breaker, RTA Reduced Fare and Free Ride programs, housing, employment, in-home services,



utility reconnections, tenant/landlord, and consumer problems.

MOPD provides a variety of youth employment services for both students with disabilities and employers. The department coordinates Disability Mentoring Day, a national program that partners youth with disabilities with businesses of their choice to encourage career exploration. MOPD also collaborates with CPS to ensure inclusion of students with disabilities in the National Job Shadow Day event and Mayor Daley's Youth Ready Chicago Program.

MOPD implements a wide range of training programs for people with and without disabilities. Disability Awareness and Etiquette Training both introduce their participants to appropriate ways to interact with people with all types of disabilities in professional, social and recreational settings. The Independent Living Orientation introduces potential clients to the rules and regulations of the program and other assistance available to people with disabilities.

MOPD's Accessibility Compliance Unit works to ensure the city's programs, facilities and technology is fully accessible to residents and visitors with disabilities. MOPD works on a variety of accessibility

and disability policy initiatives to promote the goal of full inclusion.

Goals

MOPD's goal is to administer high quality and prompt service delivery to people with disabilities. MOPD continues to provide critical information and referral services, in-person and by phone. Demand for information and referral services fluctuates annually. In the last three years, there has been a 20% increase in call volume. MOPD expects to provide direct services to an estimated 26,000 individuals in 2011.

Critical Programs/Services to Assist Residents

Accessibility Compliance

MOPD works to guarantee the ongoing accessibility of commercial and residential buildings through the provision of permitting, pre-permit plan review and technical assistance to developers and architects. Additionally, under MOPD's direction, the City is conducting an evaluation of the accessibility of its policies, programs and facilities to ensure ADA compliance on behalf of residents with disabilities.

Amplified Phone Program

MOPD serves as a key distribution center for various state-funded communication products for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing, including free amplified phones. The program primarily benefits Chicago seniors who are aging into their hearing loss.

Disability Awareness and Etiquette Trainings

The department provides Disability Awareness and Etiquette trainings in an effort to reduce potential discriminatory acts by creating a respectful and inclusive work environment to public and private sector employers. As part of the outreach strategy, the department trains all Fire cadet and Police recruits so that first-responders are better equipped to provide assistance to people with disabilities.

Employment

The Employment Services Unit provides comprehensive benefits analysis, as well as benefits planning and assistance to tens of thousands of Chicago SSA beneficiaries with disabilities under a

federal grant from the Social Security Administration. MOPD also partners with 25 community-based agencies, as well as government agencies to provide additional employment-related services for job seekers with disabilities and employers seeking qualified candidates

HomeMod

This program provides modifications to homes that need structural alterations to increase the accessibility for people with disabilities. Typical alterations include kitchen and bathroom modifications and the addition of interior and exterior lifts and ramps.

Independent Living Program: In-Home Services

This goal-oriented in-home service program consists of four components: case management, assistive technology, activities of daily living training and personal assistance/homemaker service. The Personal Assistance / Homemaker program is an in-home service provided to people with disabilities who due to their disability are unable to perform daily living activities.

Substance Abuse and AIDS Prevention Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Using curriculum developed specifically for deaf and hard of hearing residents to overcome communication barriers, the program provide educational and referral services to residents of all ages on substance abuse and AIDS prevention.

Youth Employment Program

The year-long program includes interactive events such as Disability Mentoring Day, National Groundhog Job Shadow Week and Youth Ready Chicago to help students make the connection between career exploration, career development and paid summer internships.

Voluntary Emergency Registry

MOPD manages the Voluntary Emergency Assistance Registry, which was created to provide first responders and other emergency personnel with important information about the type of assistance individuals with disabilities and seniors need in an emergency.

Employees

Full Time Positions	Amount
	34

2011 Budget

Fund	Amount
Corporate Fund	\$1,051,915
Community Development Block Grant	\$2,869,594
Other Grants	\$983,000
Parking Meter Human Infrastructure Fund	\$400,000

Grants

FEDERAL	
Grant or Program	Term
Work Incentives Planning & Assistance	4/06-6/11
STATE	
Grant or Program	Term
Substance Abuse & AIDS Prevention Program for the Hearing Impaired	7/10-6/11

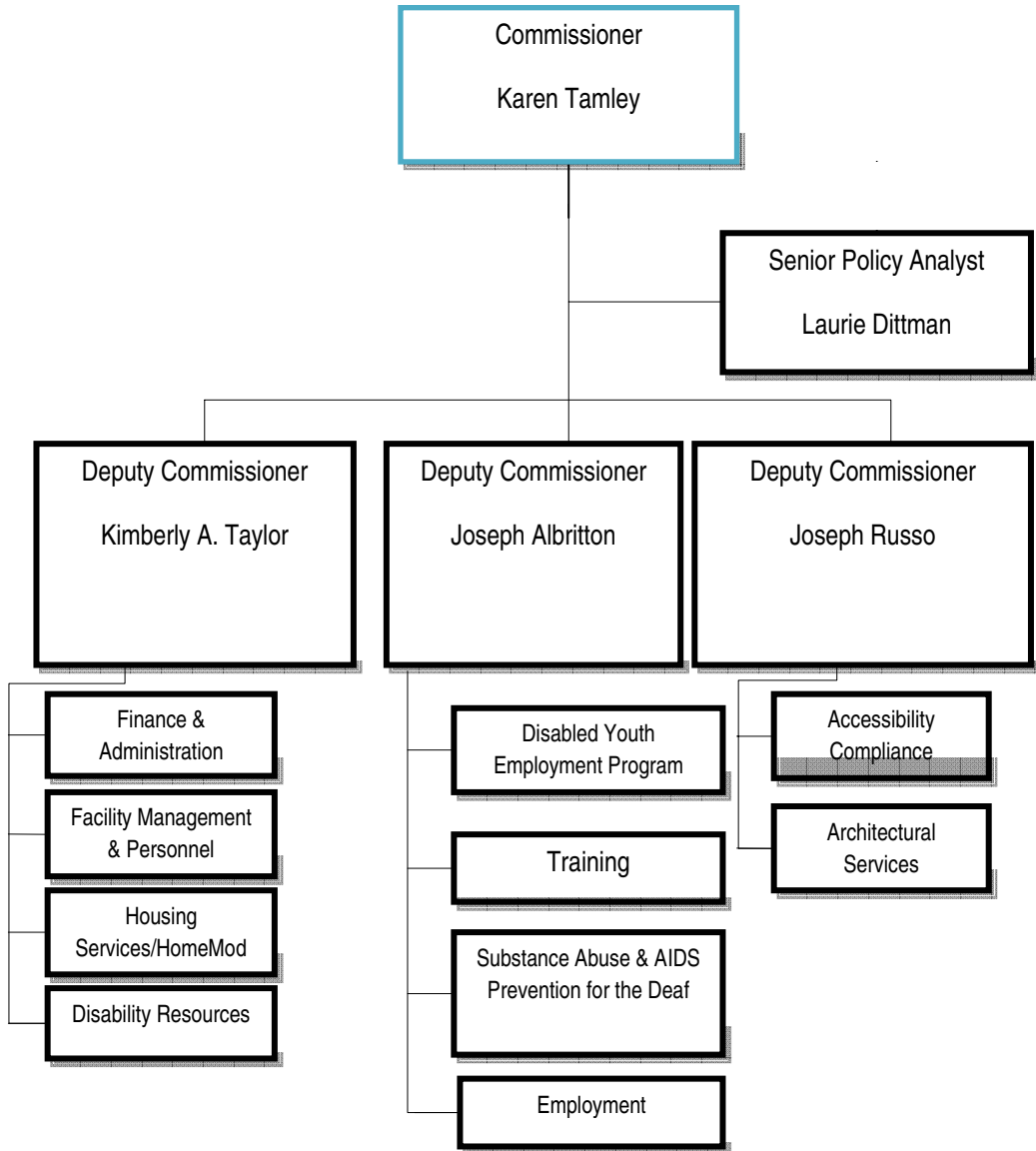
Significant Dates

Event	Date
Americans with Disabilities Act Anniversary	7/26/11

Major Contracts

Project	Term
J & J Exhibition Mgmt Services	1/11-12/12
LCM Architects, Inc.	12/08-3/11

Organizational Chart



Facility Locations

Location	Address	Suite	Zip	Phone	Hours
City Hall	121 N. LaSalle	104	60602	312-744-7050	8:30-4:30
Field Office	2102 W. Ogden		60612	312-746-5773	8:30-4:30

Unions Representing Department Employees

Unions
ASFCME