WHAT IS DISABILITY RIGHTS OHIO?

What is Disability Rights Ohio?

Disability Rights Ohio (DRO) is a non-profit organization (“non-profit” means we do this work to help people, not to make money). We get money from the government and other organizations to give information and legal help to people with disabilities.

We also advocate, which means we help people with disabilities stand up for their human, civil, and legal rights.

DRO’s advocates and attorneys help people with disabilities from all over Ohio. We listen to the person with the disability and try to help them with their problems or help them to get the services they need.

Our advocacy and legal services are free to people with disabilities.

What help does DRO give?

Because we get a lot of calls asking for help, we can’t always give people the exact help they are asking for. Sometimes, we just give people the information they need to help them fix a problem. Other times, we do more, like go to meetings, write letters, or represent people in court. We try to give everyone some information and help when they call.

What kinds of problems can DRO help with?

- We help people get supports and services they need to live and work in the community.
- We help people get services so they can get a job they want.
- We help people get education services they need to learn.
• We help people who are abused or neglected.
• We help people who have someone taking advantage of them.
• We help people who have been a victim of crime.

A victim is someone who was hurt by another person who broke the law. This could be hurting someone with a disability, stealing from them, or doing something else to the person that is against the law.

• We help people get services and accommodations so they can do the same things people without disabilities can do.
• We help people understand how working will change their Social Security or other benefits.
• We help people understand their right to vote.

How does someone get information or help from DRO?

Anyone can call DRO at 1-800-281-9181 or get on our website at https://www.disabilityrightsohio.org/ and click on the Contact Us page to open an Intake form. An intake is how DRO gets information about the person with the disability and what kind of help they need.

Once you call or message DRO and tell us what you need help with, one of our staff will try to help you with the problem you are having. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, most of our staff are working from home. So, when you call, you should leave a voicemail message with your name and telephone number. One of our staff will call back to help you.

You can leave a message on our intake line at any time, but DRO staff will respond quickest when we are working. DRO’s intake hours are Monday through Friday from 9 am to 12 pm and 1 pm to 4 pm.

Call DRO at 1-800-281-9181