



HOW ACCESSIBLE ARE OUR BUILDINGS?

The following survey can be taken at your parish to determine how readily a person with a physical disability could participate in activities within your community. Only new buildings or newly renovated buildings will be totally accessible. As you evaluate your building's accessibility, you can set goals for making increasing the accessibility. These are important steps in demonstrating that your parish cares about and includes all people.

PARKING SPACES

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | 1. Are there accessible parking spaces close to the building? |
| Yes | No | 2. Is there an adequate number of parking spaces to accommodate those in need? |
| Yes | No | 3. Are the spaces clearly marked by the International Wheelchair emblem? |
| Yes | No | 4. Are the parking spaces 12 1/2 feet wide? |
| Yes | No | 5. Is the area from the parking space paved? |
| Yes | No | 6. Is there a curb-cut from the parking spaces to the walkway? |
| Yes | No | 7. Is it possible to get from a parked car to the inside of the building without going up or down a step or steps? |

ENTRANCES AND EXITS

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | 1. Is at least one primary entrance usable by individuals in wheelchairs? |
|-----|----|---|

WALKWAYS

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | 1. Are walkways at least 48 inches wide? |
| Yes | No | 2. Is the slope of walkways 5 percent or less? |
| Yes | No | 3. Are walkways continuing common surfaces, uninterrupted by steps? |
| Yes | No | 4. Do walkways have level 5 by 5 foot platforms at the doors that extend at least one foot beyond each side of the doors? |

RAMPS

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | 1. Do ramps have a slope no greater than a 1 foot rise in 12 feet and a width of at least 36 inches? |
| Yes | No | 2. Do ramps have handrails on both sides, 32 inches above the surface? |
| Yes | No | 3. Do handrails extend one foot beyond the tops and bottoms of the ramps? |
| Yes | No | 4. Do ramps have non-slip surfaces? |
| Yes | No | 5. Do ramps have level platforms in front of doors that allow at least 5 feet of straight clearance? |
- Where is the ramp located? _____

DOORS

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | 1. Do doors have clear openings of 32 inches or more? |
| Yes | No | 2. Are doors operable with pressure (5-8lbs. or less) that could be reasonably expected from a disabled or frail person? |
| Yes | No | 3. Do doors with latch hardware have levers or other easy-grip handles? |
| Yes | No | 4. Is the maximum threshold for doorsills no more than 2 inch for interior doors and 3/4 inch for exterior doors? |
| Yes | No | 5. Is there a switch plate that opens the door?
Which door is this at? _____ |

REST ROOMS

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | 1. Is there at least one accessible rest room on each floor? |
| Yes | No | 2. Does the entry door have at least a 32 inch clear opening? |
| Yes | No | 3. Do rest rooms have 5 by 5 foot turning space? |

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | 4. Is there at least one stall that is 36 inches wide with 48 inch clear depth from door closing to the front of the commode? |
| Yes | No | 5. Does the stall have a 32 inch wide door that swings out? |
| Yes | No | 6. Does the stall have grab bars on each side? |
| Yes | No | 7. Is there a wall-mounted sink with 29 inch clearance from the floor to the bottom of the sink? |
| Yes | No | 8. Are drainpipes and hot water pipes covered or insulated? |
| Yes | No | 9. Are faucet controls easy to operate? |
| Yes | No | 10. Are towel dispensers mounted no higher than 40 inches from the floor? |

MULTI-STORY BUILDINGS

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Yes | No | 1. Is there an elevator to all levels of the building? |
| Yes | No | 2. Does the elevator door opening have a width of at least 36 inches? |
| Yes | No | 3. Is the elevator cab at least 54 inches by 68 inches? |
| Yes | No | 4. Are elevator controls 54 inches or less from the floor? |
| Yes | No | 5. Do stairs have handrails on both sides? |

WATER FOUNTAINS

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | 1. Is at least one fountain on each floor accessible to people in wheelchairs? |
| Yes | No | 2. Is the fountain basin no higher than 30 - 36 inches from the floor? |
| Yes | No | 3. Are fountains operated easily by hand? |

CHURCH

- | | | |
|-----|----|--|
| Yes | No | 1. Are there at least two seating spaces provided for wheelchair users?
Pews can be shortened by 36 inches to provide wheelchair space. |
| Yes | No | 2. Is there wheelchair access to the choir? |
| Yes | No | 3. Is hearing amplification provided?
What kind? _____
How is it communicated that it is available? _____ |
| Yes | No | 4. Are large print missals and song books provided? |
| Yes | No | 5. Are bulletins designed with easy to read print? |
| Yes | No | 6. Are large print bulletins available?
How is this communicated? _____ |
| Yes | No | 7. Is a sign language interpreter available if needed? |

What Next?

1. Involve people with disabilities in accessing the buildings
2. Share the results with your pastor and parish council
3. Evaluate the results
4. Set goals and work to accomplish them.
5. Contact the Diocesan Buildings and Properties for advice about renovations.
6. Publicize and celebrate each goal accomplished.
7. Utilize the Access Blessing at www.ncpd.org, select Ministries/program, then select spirituality, then select prayers and blessings. Scroll to the Blessing.
8. Publicize your accessibility to the community. Place the International Wheelchair emblem in your newspaper, Yellow page ad, in brochures and on your parish sign.