

RUSH ADA TASK FORCE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Outreach & Education

- Accessibility and Accommodations Workshop for local hotels
- RVETS (Rush Veterans and Employees Team/Supporters) Veteran Employee Resource Group
- Veterans Education Video
- ADA25 Program Partner – City of Chicago
- ADA25 “I Choose Rush” video
- ADA Employment Forum
- Dedicated HR Recruiter for Veterans and People with Disabilities
- Disability Speaks! Lunch & Learn Series
- Enabled Vets Program
- Online Training for Individuals with Developmental Disability
- Medic Trauma Training
- National Louis University PACE Internship Program
- Road Home Program
- Disability Pride Parade

Improved Access & Services

- Video Remote Interpreting
- Safety Warden Program to assist individuals with disabilities
- EPIC banners added to identify individuals with disabilities
- New position – Manager, Student Disability Services
- Universal design
- Sign language/foreign language interpreters
- Upgrades in clinical and university facilities
- Service animal policy
- Patient training programs
- Looping accessibility for the hearing impaired in Searle Conference Center, Brainard
- Creation of satellite parking garage to increase patient accessibility for patients, 4th floor bridge

Publications

- Building a Culture of Inclusion, Disability as Opportunity for Growth and Improving Patient Care, *The Journal of Nursing Administration*, 2015
- Disability Rights and Accommodations: Setting a Standard of Care, *The Journal of Nursing Administration*, November 2014

Conferences/Panels

- Hearing Loss Association of America, 2018
- Partnering to Transform Healthcare for People With Disabilities (PATH-PWD), 2017
- American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry, 2016
- Brain Injury Association of Illinois, 2016
- Southern Company Gas ERG Leadership Summit, 2016
- ADA25 Disability Inclusion Opportunity Summit, Chicagoland Business Leadership Network, 2015, 2016
- Promoting Health & Safety for Workers with Disabilities, Rush and University of Illinois at Chicago, 2015
- National ADA25 Anniversary Symposium, 2015
- ADA25 Advancing Leadership Fellowship

Initiatives in Progress

- Wayfinding app

Honors

- **Large Employer Award**, Association of People Supporting Employment First (ASPE), 2018
- **Lead On**, Access Living, 2016
- **Disability Matters**, Springboard Consulting, 2014
- **ICED Award**, State of Illinois Department of Human Rights and Interagency Committee on Employees with Disabilities, 2011
- **EVE (Exemplary Voluntary Efforts) Award**, U.S. Department of Labor, 2007
- **Unique Achievement Award**, Illinois Governor, 2006
- **Henry Betts, MD Award**, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
- **Henry Betts Award**, 2004

RUSH OAK PARK HOSPITAL

In 2013, Rush University Medical Center acquired Rush Oak Park (ROPH) outright, solidifying its continued investment in community health care. At that time ROPH staff joined the Rush ADA Task Force to develop compliancy and ongoing leadership to increase awareness of ADA standards.

Outreach & Education

- Implemented the new care plan for Nursing Care of Adult Patients with Cognitive Disabilities and the RUMC nursing school faculty LEAP Online educational module
- ADA 25th Anniversary Road to Freedom Bus Tour with Access Living
- Disability Pride Parade

Improved Access & Services

- “A” elevators brought up to ADA standards with call buttons added to every floor.
- “A” elevator cabs will be upgraded and made ADA compliant
- New lighting and hand rails placed on the lower-level corridors to out-patient therapy and testing areas
- New emergency department will include ADA standards

RUSH ADA TASK FORCE – Member Roster

Paula J. Brown, MBA – Chair (312) 942-7094

Sarah Ailey, PhD, RN

Janis Anfossi, JD, MPH

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Elizabeth Melas

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Jon Rusco, MS, OTR/L, MA

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Evadney Stephens

Michael Wisniewski

Learn more on how Rush makes a difference for patients and staff with disabilities at <http://tiny.cc/rush-ada>

