

**Protection and Advocacy for Voting Accessibility (PAVA)** ensures access to the voting process for people with disabilities through voter education, training of election officials, voter registration, information, technical assistance and assistance with addressing election barrier for voters with disabilities.

**Strengthening Protections Beneficiaries Social Security (SPBSS)**

DRCT is responsible for conducting monitoring reviews for individuals and organizational Social Security Representatives Payees. DRCT staff interview Representative Payees and Beneficiaries to ensure that the Representative Payees are following the Social Security requirements. DRCT educates both Representative Payee and Beneficiaries about Social Security requirements and the obligations of Representative Payees. DRCT will also recommend corrective action when necessary, make referrals, and educate both representative Payees and Beneficiaries about Representative Payee obligations under Social Security.



**Contact DRCT with any questions!**

**About Disability Rights Connecticut:**

**Disability Rights Connecticut, Inc. (DRCT)** works to eliminate barriers that people with disabilities of all ages face in exercising their civil, legal, and human rights. DRCT can help you understand your rights. When you contact us, we will give you information or refer you to experts and resources, discuss your options and encourage you in your advocacy efforts. DRCT staff also provides individual advocacy and legal assistance within federal mandates and focus areas. Staff also conduct training and outreach.

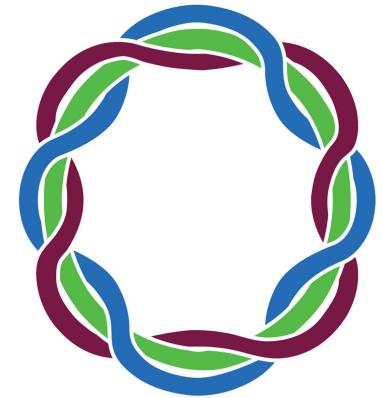
**You can contact DRCT for information on disability related topics such as:**

- **Employment**
- **Vocational Rehabilitation**
- **Special Education**
- **Rights in Treatment Facilities**
- **Physical and Programs Accessibility**
- **Housing**
- **Transportation**
- **Effective Communication**
- **.....and much more!**



**Publication available in alternative format upon request**

# Programs and Services



**DISABILITY RIGHTS CONNECTICUT**  
*Justice. Community. Inclusion.*

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## How can DRCT help me?

**The Information and Referral Unit (I&R)** is the entry point for requesting DRCT services. DRCT operates federal programs and provides a range of services from information about disability rights, referrals to other resources and legal advocacy within its mandates focus areas and available resources.

**The Protection and Advocacy Program for Persons with Developmental Disabilities program (PADD)** was established under the federal Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights and Assistance Act. This Act requires DRCT to be the state's; "protection and advocacy system", to operate independent of service systems; to have access to client records; to have the authority to conduct investigations and to pursue legal and administrative remedies on behalf of persons with developmental disabilities.



**The Client Assistance Program, (CAP)** focuses on providing consultation and advocacy assistance to protect the legal rights of applicants and recipients of vocational services in Connecticut. CAP also addresses complaints regarding Connecticut's Independent Living Centers and provides information on Title I (employment) of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**The Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness program (PAIMI)** investigates abuse and neglect of people with mental illness in facilities serving people with mental illness. PAIMI advocates also provide information, technical assistance, advocacy and legal representation, monitoring, education/training and systematic activities that protect the rights of people with mental illness.

**Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights Program (PAIR)** is a program that is authorized to provide information and representation for people with disabilities who are not otherwise eligible under the previously described programs (CAP, PADD, PAIMI).

**Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology (PAAT)** provides information, advocacy and representation for individuals with disabilities who are trying to access assistive technology devices and services. DRCT also provides education and self-advocacy training to people with disabilities, family members and others in an effort to increase knowledge about assistive technology devices and services.

**The Protection and Advocacy for Persons with a Traumatic Brain Injury program (PATBI)** provides education, information and advocacy and legal representation to those with an acquired or traumatic brain injury.

**Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)** is a program that provides information and referral to recipients of Social Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) who are trying to secure, maintain or regain employment. The PABSS program assists individuals, under the age of 65 years old, with eliminating barriers to employment whether or not the barriers are related to their disability.