

We provide you with the knowledge, experience and encouragement to be assertive when faced with obstacles to your independent living goals.

All people should be able to make decisions affecting their own lives.

Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut, Inc

19 Ohio Avenue
Norwich, CT 06360

The Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut is a consumer- controlled 501 (c)(3) non-profit agency.



American Disabilities Act

Major funding for DNEC is provided by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Independent Living Administration, CT Department of Rehabilitation Services, Private Grants, Fee for Service and Individual Donations. See our website to volunteer, to give back, and to donate. Thank you.

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Dedicated to supporting YOUR rights.

Working to empower YOU to make choices.

Advocating for change that helps YOU become included in your community.

What is DNEC?

DNEC is a nonprofit agency serving persons of all ages and all disability types who reside in eastern Connecticut. DNEC utilizes peer mentoring, self-advocacy and independent living skills training to assist individuals with disabilities to reenter or remain in the community and to make meaningful life choices.

What is the American with Disabilities Act?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law in 1990. This act prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities and ensures they have the same rights and opportunities to participate in life as everyone else.

These rights and opportunities include;

Equal Employment Opportunities,
Nondiscrimination in State and Local

Government Services,
Nondiscrimination by Public
Accommodations and in Commercial
Facilities and Telecommunications

What is a disability?

If you meet one of the descriptions in this list then you could be considered to be a person with a disability under the ADA.

A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.

A record or history of having a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.

A person is "regarded as" having a disability.

What is a service animal?

A service animal has been specially trained to perform a task that is directly related to the persons

disability. People with service animals are permitted to use their animal in areas of a facility where customers are normally allowed to go.

A few examples of tasks include;

Guiding a person who is blind,
Alerting a person who is deaf when a sound occurs, Alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure.

Animals providing emotional support, comfort, or companionship are not considered to be service animals.

What benefits or services am I entitled to as a person with a disability?

The answer to that question is, it depends. No two situations are ever the same and there are many variables that come into play when making determinations about benefits. We are here to help you.

