

Legislative Advocacy Services

JACIL provides legislative advocacy support through an array of services that includes:

- Workshops and training on how local, state and federal laws are made and/or changed.
- Action Clubs for citizens with disabilities who demonstrate community participation through civic involvement and by advocating for laws and policies that impact the lives of people with disabilities
- Coordinating efforts for citizens with disabilities to participate in statewide disability rights and advocacy conferences and legislative rallies.
- Activities that emphasize the significance and impact of disability rights laws and advocacy skills development.

DEPUTY REGISTRAR AVAILABLE

JACIL has Deputy Registrars on staff to help people in all four counties complete voter registration or change their voting address. Registrars are also available to answer questions about the voting process.

For more information:

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A Prairieland United Way Agency

Revised 6/11



Legislative & Voter Advocacy



Jacksonville Area Center
for Independent Living

*Serving Morgan, Scott,
Cass & Mason Counties*

Voter Advocacy Services

JACIL provides voter advocacy services to people with disabilities through an array of services that includes:

- Working with election officials to help ensure that local electoral systems comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) & Help America Vote Act (HAVA) laws.
- Training opportunities and focus groups on issues that impact voters with disabilities.
- Helping people with disabilities identify and overcome obstacles to voting.
- Conducting voter awareness campaigns that encourage people with disabilities to vote on a regular basis.



Since the 2004 General Election, JACIL has participated in a statewide initiative called the Illinois Disability (I'D) Vote Project which promotes voters with disabilities participation in elections.

Over the past several years, JACIL staff and volunteers have made over 1000 contacts encouraging people with disabilities to register and to vote.

Election statistics indicate that since 2004 there has been a gradual increase in voter participation during general elections in all four counties within JACIL's service area.

The Sleeping Giants of Illinois Politics!

Approximately 25% of people 18 years and older living in JACIL's service area have a disability, which constitutes one of the largest minority groups in the area. Historically, only about 7% of people with disabilities vote on a regular basis.

Because they have not yet exercised their power in Illinois' electoral and political processes, people with disabilities have been called "the sleeping giants of Illinois politics."

