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Lisa Pugh, pugh@thearc.org; (608) 422-4250

Beth Swedeen, beth.swedeen@wisconsin.gov; (608) 266-1166

Kristin M. Kerschensteiner, kitk@drwi.org; (608) 267-0214

Survival Coalition Shares Essential Information on Disability Issues for Candidates for Public Office

(Madison) – The Survival Coalition of more than 30 disability organizations congratulates all winners of the Tuesday Partisan Primary and announces a new [resource](#) to help candidates engage in discussions on disability issues in their communities and with potential constituents.

The new resource - Issues that Impact People with Disabilities in Wisconsin: [Background Papers](#)– draws on the expertise of people with disabilities and advocates statewide who describe the funding sources, challenges and impacts of various programs and services intended to improve the lives of Wisconsinites with disabilities.

“Candidates and all policymakers will find this new resource to be incredibly helpful in understanding not only how programs do or don’t currently work for people with disabilities, but what needs to be done to make them better,” says Survival Co-Chair, Lisa Pugh. “The papers should be used to help people in public office have informed relationships with their constituents with disabilities.”

“Survival Coalition made sure to highlight the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on people with disabilities and their families,” says Survival Co-Chair, Beth Swedeen. “The virus has changed people’s daily lives dramatically, and public programs and funding will need to be redirected to meet these needs.”

“It is our hope that as candidates continue to campaign or take public office, they will be informed policymakers on disability issues,” says Survival Co-Chair Kit Kerschensteiner. “Disability is a non-partisan issue and regardless of what part of the state you represent, you will have constituents impacted by these issues.”

The Survival Coalition papers include background on topics including adult long-term care, special education, transportation, direct care workforce, employment, Medicaid, children and families, mental health and voting rights.

Constituents with disabilities and their allies are encouraged to share the [background papers](#) with candidates as election season continues.

Survival Coalition is comprised of more than 30 statewide disability organizations that advocate and support policies and practices that lead to the full inclusion, participation, and contribution of people living with disability.