



## 2013 Year End Report

Good Morning County Commission members.

I'm Mary Kemp, the current Chairperson of the Frederick County Commission on Disabilities.

The Commission meets every second Monday of the month with the exception of August and December, to discuss matters that are important or affect residents with disabilities in Frederick County. Frederick residents have many concerns involving accessibility issues, employment, transportation, housing and discrimination. The Commission on Disability addresses each of these concerns that are brought to us and come up with effective ways to resolve the issue that meets the need of everyone involved.

This year the FCCOD received and addressed a total of 45 phone calls from residents needing assistance. The calls varied from transportation issues, concerns related to affordable, accessible housing and community accessibility issues, just to mention a few. Between the different commission members, we were able to address each of these calls and assist with a resolution, including linking people to community resources. We added additional resources to our web page to assist individuals and businesses with issues related to disabilities. Our Website had a total of 267 visits within a 9 month period.

The FCCOD added two new members Ashley Vancleef and Marlene Kenny, but unfortunately lost a very valuable member, Linda Werner to relocation out of state. We continue to push on for new members through the counties advertisements and events that the commission tables.

In April this past year, we presented our "Distinguished Service Award" to Hearts & Hammers Program, Feagaville Luthern Parish. They do an outstanding job with assisting people with

disabilities to do minor home modifications, at no cost to the home owner. The materials and labor are provided through volunteers with the Parish.

The FCCOD took part in the following events within Frederick County;

Resource Fair held at Rock Creek School

Recovery Rally at Baker Park

An Exhibition of Services and Products to Create -

A User Friendly Home for Older Adults and Others with Disabilities

The FCCOD has continued to address and serve the residents of Frederick County with the same high level of support even with budget constraints and lack of members. This is due to the dedication of the FCCOD members and their determination to make Frederick County an exemplary place for people with disabilities to live.

Going forward 2014, Keith Nolan will become the new Chair of the FCCOD. We look forward to and welcome his guidance and vision for the new year ahead of the commission

We would like to extend a special thanks to Denise Rudegeair, County Liaison, for her hard work and dedication this past year to the commission.