



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY SERVICES**

# **PRESS RELEASE**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** March 20, 2017

**CONTACT:** Jocelyn Harris, 202-730-1687  
Jocelyn.Harris2@dc.gov

## **Department on Disability Services Hosts Developmental Disability Awareness Month Event**

**Washington, DC—** In recognition of national **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month** the Department on Disability Services will join with disabilities services leaders and organizations across the city at a recognition event tomorrow, March 21, 4 – 6 pm at 250 E Street, SW. *Our Voices, Our Choices* celebrates the contributions people with developmental disabilities make in our communities, workplaces, schools, and families. The event is hosted by The Arc of the District of Columbia; Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services; DC Department on Disability Services; DC Developmental Disabilities Council; DC Office of Disability Rights; Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development, University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities; Project ACTION!; and Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities.

2017 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the presidential proclamation that established March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. The proclamation called upon all Americans to provide the “encouragement and opportunities” necessary for people with developmental disabilities to reach their potential. More than 6 million Americans and nearly 10,000 residents of the District of Columbia have developmental disabilities.

**WHAT:** Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Celebration

**WHEN:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017  
4 -6 PM

**WHERE:** 250 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20024

**WHO:** People with disabilities, local elected leaders, families and self-advocates

### **INVITED SPEAKERS**

The Honorable Muriel Bowser, Mayor

The Honorable HyeSook Chung, Deputy Mayor, Health & Human Services

Bobby Whalen, Author

**WHY:** To celebrate the potential and contributions that people with developmental disabilities make to our communities, workplaces, schools, and families

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The Department on Disability Services is a dynamic organization serving people with disabilities through the services of was Developmental Disabilities Administration and the Rehabilitation Services Administration. This comprehensive collaborative approach provides innovative high quality services that enable people with disabilities to lead productive lives as vital members of their families, schools, workplaces, and communities. Learn more at: [www.dds.dc.gov](http://www.dds.dc.gov) and follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/DDS.DC>.