**Access to Independence Celebrates 40 Years
of Empowerment and Independence!**

Join ACCESS for one of three events to celebrate the activities and accomplishments over the last 40 years. With two events in June, and a third event this fall, we hope you can join us in celebration!

**40th Anniversary Celebration Picnic!**

Join Access to Independence for a free celebration picnic of great food, and historical timeline of ACCESS through the years.

**MORE INFO**

**When:** June 21, 2018, 3 to 6:30 p.m.
**Where:** John Wall Pavilion in Tenney Park, 402 North Thornton Avenue, Madison

For more information, contact Tracy at
**Phone:** (608) 242-8484, ext.227
**Toll Free:** (800) 362-9877, ext. 227
**Videophone:** (608) 234-4484 (to leave a message for Tracy)
**Email:** tracym@accesstoind.org

**2nd Annual Reel ACCESS to Real
Independence Fundraiser**
Split-the-pot raffle and fishing contest runs Saturday, May 5 through
Sunday, August 5

ACCESS to Independence is excited for this second annual fundraising event!

Tickets are $5 each, or five for $20.

Tickets purchased are entered into split-the-pot raffle, which started at $1,000, and grows with every ticket sold! Raffle drawing and contest winners announced on August 9th.

**MORE INFO**

Tickets purchased can be used for entry into either:

**Bass Fishing Contest:** Largest fish eligible to win up to $250
**All-Other Fishing Contest:** All entries are entered into prize drawing
**Visit:** [www.reelaccess.org](http://www.reelaccess.org)

**Reel ACCESS to Real Independence at 2018 Wisconsin Fishing Expo!**

Reel ACCESS had a table at the 2018 Wisconsin Fishing Expo. Over 20,000 came to the Alliant Energy Center in Madison the last weekend in February for three days of fishing products, services, information, and demonstrations. ACCESS to Independence sold early-bird tickets for the 2018 Reel ACCESS to Real Independence event, which helped the split-the-pot grow to over $1,700! All tickets purchased that weekend are good for this year’s event, starting May 5th, and were also entered into an early-bird prize raffle with prizes valued over $500!

**CONTACT INFO**

Go to www.reelaccess.org, or contact Jason Beloungy at (608) 242-8484, ext. 229, or by email at jasonb@access.org.

**40th Anniversary Kick-off Event!**
Enjoy music, food, beverage, and raffles!

Come out to the Harmony Bar on June 3, 2018, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. There will be live music, food and beverages available, and ACCESS is asking for a suggested donation of $8 to support other 40th Anniversary events this year.

The Harmony Bar and Grill is located at 2201 Atwood Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin.

**CONTACT INFO**

For more information, contact Dee Nash at 608-242-8484, ext. 233, or by e-mail at deen@accesstoind.org.

**Have a voice in Madison Government**
Apply to be on a City board, commission or committee

Committees, commissions, and boards play a significant role in helping city staff, the Common Council and the Mayor in making decisions that affect the lives of Madison residents. The City of Madison values broad participation in these bodies and highly encourages people of color, persons with disabilities and members of other traditionally underrepresented groups to apply. Committee positions are open to City of Madison residents.

**CONTACT INFO**

Call 608-266-4611 (Relay: 608-267-8671), or visit: [www.cityofmadison.com/city-hall/committees](http://www.cityofmadison.com/city-hall/committees)**Maurer joins ACCESS**

John Maurer joined the Access to Independence team as an independent Living Specialist/Youth. John is coming to ACCESS after working as the State of Wisconsin Member Advocate at MTM Inc. John is a Navy Veteran and spent time as a Sexual Assault Victim Advocate while stationed in Virginia. He has spent his entire adult career in advocacy and support services and is delighted to assist the ACCESS service region in this new role.

John received his bachelor’s degree from UW-Parkside in Psychology in 2009 and looks forward to using the skills he obtained in his new position at Access. Originally from Racine, John moved to Madison after leaving the US Navy in 2015. He enjoys spending time at home unwinding with his fiancée and two dogs.

**New Youth Services Coordinator at ACCESS!**
Apply to be on a City board, commission or committee

With the growth of the Youth Services Program, ACCESS is excited to announce the hiring of our first Youth Services Coordinator, Ashley Beal. Ashley’s role is to coordinates the Pre-Employment Transition Services classes that are a partnership between ACCESS, area high schools, and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. ACCESS is offering three different curricula that teach self-advocacy, financial literacy, and soft employment skills. These curricula are provided directly in local schools, or other community locations. Ashley directs and supports other Independent Living staff, and interns, to facilitate classes each week. Along with coordination of the Youth Services Program, Ashley also enjoys directly facilitating classes with youth, helping them to grow their skill set and access to independence.

Through Ashley’s leadership, ACCESS is planning on additional curriculum regarding healthy relationships for youth with disabilities, as well peer groups for youth.

**CONTACT INFO**

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**Workshops Starting Soon!**“Stepping On’ Prevention Workshop

Do you have concerns about falling? Are balance issues affecting your mobility? Join us for a fun, interactive 7-week course, proven to help prevent falls!

**When:** 10:00 am to Noon Wednesdays from May 16 to June 27, with a 3-Month Booster Session, Sept. 12.

**Who:** Training is designed for all age groups to gain safer mobility.

**Cost:** $14 for all 7 classes Contact: Tracy at ACCESS for more information, or to register.

*With support from Safe Communities Madison-Dane County and Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging.*

**Save the Date**2018 Brat Sale

Come out for this year’s Brat Sale fundraiser on Friday, June 15th, from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. As always, the Brat Sale will be held at the ACCESS to Independence parking lot, at 3810 Milwaukee Street, in Madison Rain or shine, the brats will be hot, drinks refreshing, and we’ll be sure to have some fun in store. Check out the ACCESS Facebook page for further updates. Pre-orders will be available again this year.

**Call for artists**
Share your talents and vision of “Living Beyond Barriers”

Are you an artist with a disability? We want your unique perspective on ACCESS to Independence, as a part of our 40th Anniversary. For 40 years, ACCESS has had a vision for full inclusion of people with all types of disabilities, in all aspects of community life.

This fall, ACCESS will host an art exhibit titled Living Beyond Boundaries. We are looking for artists to share that vision, and their talents, for that event. We will select 12 pieces for the exhibit, and those pieces will be included in a 2019 calendar with the theme Living Beyond Boundaries.

Information should be submitted BY JULY 15th to Dee Nash at deen@accesstoind.org, or by mail to 3810 Milwaukee Street, Madison, WI, 53714. Late submissions will not be accepted for consideration.

If selected, original works will be returned to the artists at the end of the exhibition. Contact Dee at 608-242-8484, ext. 229 with any questions.

**ENTRY DETAILS**

**Artists may submit up to 3 works for consideration, and eligible media include:**

* Photography
* Acrylic
* Watercolor
* Charcoal & Pencil Drawing
* Original Ceramics

**To submit your art for consideration, following information is required BY JULY 15th, 2018:**

1. Contact information: Name, Address, Email Address, Phone Number.
2. A short biography about yourself as an artist and an artist’s statement about your artwork (no more than 1 page.) You may include a photo of yourself, if you choose. Due to the goals and intention of the exhibition, please confirm that you have a disability in the biography.
3. An Image, Title, Dimensions, Price, and Medium for each work submitted.