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Stavros Announces
REV UP Campaign - Making the DISABILITY VOTE Count!

Stavros is joining the national efforts by the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) Rev Up the Vote and the National Council of Independent Living to encourage people with disabilities to vote this election year. During the next several weeks Stavros will be assisting people with disabilities to register to vote at their Amherst and Springfield offices.

In 2012, 56.8% of people with disabilities voted compared to 62.5% of people without disabilities. If people with disabilities voted at the same rate as people without disabilities there would be more than 3 million people with disabilities voting. Stavros is encouraging people with disabilities to exercise their right to vote. However, you cannot vote unless you are registered.

“Registering to vote is the first step, in the process of getting involved and educating our elected officials about the needs of people with disabilities said Joe Tringali, Director of Services at Stavros. We as people with disabilities have a responsibility to educate our elected officials about the disability experience and how they can make changes that will improve the quality of life of people with disabilities.”

Registering to vote is simple. People with a state identification can register online by visiting the Secretary of State website at https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/ However, for many people with disabilities access to the internet is still an issue. That is why people with disabilities may stop by our offices for assistance with voter registration.

There are nearly 30 million people with disabilities eligible to vote when registered. This number does not even include “the ripple effect” of family, friends, and service professionals who will vote in-line with disability interests. However, unless they register and go to the polls in November the needs of the disability community may be forgotten.

“Most people don’t like to be told where to live, go to school, or where to work. Most people have a choice said Joe Tringali, Director of Services at Stavros. People with disabilities are at the mercy of elected officials choices. If the elected officials are not aware of our needs as constituents their choices may impact the choices we are able to make. That is why it is so important for people with disabilities to register to vote.”

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