



**Disability
Rights**
Michigan

Impact Report

October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023

Our Work



51,492

individual's voting rights
were protected through
DRM's ADA assessments



5,582

Social media
followers



7,750

Michigan Department of
Corrections prisoners were
impacted by DRM
investigations and policy
initiatives



2,910

individuals were
served by the
Covid-19
Vaccination team



4,404

calls to DRM
Information and
Referral advocates



28

monitoring visits
were conducted in
state psychiatric
hospitals (virtually
or in-person)



Our Stories

Due to DRM advocacy and collaboration with national partners, a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court established a national legal precedent allowing students with disabilities to gain redress for discrimination without going through unnecessary and cumbersome Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) administrative procedures.

The DRM Perez case takes its rightful place among the most momentous cases in DRM's history. It is now settled law across the United States, impacting all students who have claims for damages, which IDEA cannot award.

A client called DRM because he was interested in receiving support from Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) for college tuition. The client desires to work as a forensic analyst.

Some miscommunication occurred between MRS and the school, which resulted in significant delay of the development of his Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE).

The DRM advocate was able to work with MRS to resolve the miscommunication and the client's IPE was developed. MRS agreed to pay for the client's college tuition.

DRM learned a client was not receiving Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) from MRS. The MRS counselor was planning to close the client's case because they could not find a mutually agreeable time to meet. A DRM advocate contacted the MRS counselor and discussed the need for flexibility within MRS, so families and students have access to MRS services. The client and MRS were able to schedule a mutually agreed upon time. The case prompted DRM to address this concern with MRS management, ensuring counselors are available and flexible when meeting with families.

A 63-year-old woman with orthopedic disabilities and a traumatic brain injury came to DRM on three separate occasions for issues related to a \$60,000 Social Security disability overpayment.

She worked just above the substantial gainful activity (SGA) threshold at Walmart as a greeter. The DRM advocate was able to apply work subsidy information from 2019 to reduce the overpayment.

However, Social Security lost the information, and reached out to DRM to re-obtain the subsidy form a couple of years later. The client received a notice that she still owed the overpayment, and DRM investigated and learned that client's waiver request from 2019 had not been fully processed.

The DRM advocate continued to negotiate with Social Security, and the client finally received written determination that her overpayment was fully eliminated.

DRM facilitated hundreds of home-based vaccinations through the Covid-19 Vaccine Advocacy team. Some of the recipients included:

- A 73-year-old man with cerebral palsy, his 75-year-old caregiver with a heart condition, and the caregiver's 70-year-old wife with diabetes.
- A 77-year-old woman with lymphedema, fibromyalgia, and arthritis who could not get out of her public housing unit.
- An 81-year-old woman with end stage COPD and her 60-year-old companion with arthritis.
- A 90-year-old man with orthopedic disabilities and his 86-year-old wife with an autoimmune disorder.

A 65-year-old man with orthopedic disabilities contacted DRM with an issue obtaining a reasonable accommodation allowing a ramp to be built on his home.

DRM provided technical assistance on requesting reasonable accommodation and made third party contact with the landlord. The DRM advocate was able to obtain written permission for the client to build the ramp.

A person in a wheelchair is seen from behind, sitting on a sandy beach. They are holding a large bunch of colorful balloons (pink, purple, yellow, and blue) that float into the sky. The sun is setting over the ocean, creating a warm, golden glow. The person's shadow is cast long on the sand.

TOGETHER

WE CAN DO SO MUCH MORE

SUPPORT us through cash donations. Support for DRM comes in part from the generosity of your donations.

LIKE us on Facebook to stay up to date with our latest news.

SIGN UP Don't miss our monthly e-newsletter. Email us at rhuddleston@drmich.org to sign up.

SHARE our story. Tell others about the services DRM can offer.

DRM is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization

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PROGRAMS OPERATED BY
DISABILITY RIGHTS MICHIGAN

The Protection and
Advocacy for:

- 1. Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (PADD)
- 2. Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI)
- 3. Individual Rights (PAIR)
- 4. The Client Assistance Program (CAP)
- 5. Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)
- 6. Voting Accessibility (PAVA)
- 7. Assistive Technology (PAAT)
- 8. Beneficiaries with Representative Payees (PABRP)
- 9. Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (PATBI)

Grant Expenditures			Percent
PADD	\$989,333		15.0%
PAIMI	\$972,139		14.7%
PAIR/GLADA	\$527,213		8.0%
CAP	\$330,823		5.0%
PAAT	\$180,685		2.7%
PABSS	\$222,845		3.38%
PAVA	\$162,003		2.5%
Rep. Payee	\$1,001,381		15.2%
PATBI	\$152,712		2.3%
State Grant	\$194,400		2.9%
COVID Grants	\$1,811,973		27.5%
Private Grants & Contracts	\$0		0.0%
Donations & Miscellaneous	\$47,347		0.7%
	\$6,592,854		100.0%
Expenses			
Program Services	\$5,777,228		90%
Management & General	\$674,442		10%
	\$6,451,670		



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