



United Cerebral Palsy

Founded in 1949, United Cerebral Palsy, (UCP) educates, advocates and, provides support services to ensure a *life without limits* for people with a spectrum of disabilities.

The mission of United Cerebral Palsy is to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities through an affiliate network.

This is achieved by providing services and support to more than 176,000 children and adults every day— one person at a time, one family at a time. UCP works to enact system change—to revolutionize care, raise standards of living and create opportunities—impacting the lives of millions of people living with disabilities and their families.

For more than 60 years, UCP has worked to ensure the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in every facet of society. Together, with parents and caregivers, UCP continues to push for the social, legal and technological changes that increase accessibility and independence, allowing people with disabilities to achieve their maximum potential.

Services

UCP affiliates provide services including advocacy, housing, therapy, assistive technology training, early intervention programs, individual and family support, transportation and community access services, social and recreation programs, community living, public education and outreach, information & referral (I&R), employment assistance. Each affiliate offers a range of services tailored to its community's unique needs.

National Office Services

The UCP national office in Washington, DC supports the affiliate network; advocates on behalf of people with disabilities; advances federal disability public policy; provides public education and outreach; provides consulting assistance on various issues – including financial assessments, business strategy, mergers and social enterprise creation – through expert teams from across UCP's network and beyond; and pursues forward-thinking programs including its signature *Life Without Limits* initiative.

Contact Information & Leadership

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- **UCP Staff:** ucp.org/about/national-staff
- **Leadership:** ucp.org/about/board
-Bruce Merlin Fried, Chair, National Board of Trustees
-Stephen Bennett, President & Chief Executive Officer
- **Social Media:** Twitter- [@UCPnational](https://twitter.com/UCPnational) (twitter.com/ucpnational)
Facebook-facebook.com/unitedcerebralpalsy
YouTube-youtube.com/unitedcerebralpalsy

UCP Moments of Pride & Advances

1918-Present The civil rights movement for people with disabilities has made substantial progress through the enactment and implementation of several pieces of landmark legislation. UCP continues to advocate for a life without limits for people with disabilities through its policy efforts. The following links to an index of some key pieces of legislation that has created meaningful change for people with disabilities and opened doors to employment, education, housing and other access to community life: ucp.org/public-policy/landmark-legislation.

1949: Parents of children with cerebral palsy found UCP, when parents of children with cerebral palsy came together looking for help, answers and information. The spirit of that watershed moment has permeated UCP's policy efforts from the organization's inception.

1950s-60s: UCP is a voice for issues important to people with disabilities, by raising awareness about horrific living conditions in state institutions, leading to the liberation of thousands of people with disabilities from institutional living nationwide. Not only did UCP shine a light on this injustice, its affiliate network created new housing and support solutions to ensure greater independence and full citizenship for people with disabilities. Raising awareness began by using its founders' voice through a broadcast telethon on ABC.



1990s: UCP was heavily involved with passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and subsequent amendments.

2000: UCP launches www.ucp.org.

2002: UCP and TNT present the original film, *Door to Door*, featuring William H. Macy, who portrays Bill Porter, a salesman with cerebral palsy.

UCP ranks 18th in *Non-Profit Times*' list of Top 100 nonprofit organizations.

UCP announces William H. Macy as UCP Ambassador.

2003: UCP partners with The Arc to create a shared public policy arm called the Disability Policy Collaboration (DPC). The DPC focuses on federal legislative and regulatory efforts to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families and is a vital force in shaping federal legislation to advance the lives of people with disabilities.

2004: *Life Without Limits* initiative launches in April, and UCP starts a far-reaching dialogue about how people with disabilities can become fully integrated in society and live a *life without limits*.

2005-2006: Dozens of "Focus Groups in a Box" are sent to organizations across the country, allowing people to envision how *Life Without Limits* might impact their work.

UCP affiliates in places like Massachusetts; Texas; and Alberta, Canada begin hosting Rides Without Limits, Walks Without Limits and Laughs Without Limits.

2006: Emmy-nominated actress Cheryl Hines becomes a member of UCP's national Board of Trustees.

UCP releases its first national, annual analysis of Medicaid: *The Case for Inclusion*, in March. It ranks all 50 states and the District of Columbia for Medicaid services provided to intellectual and developmental disability populations.

UCP works with Members of Congress, staff and other disability coalition members to support passage of the following laws (ucp.org/public-policy/policy-achievements):

- Tax Relief and Health Care Act
- The Lifespan Respite Care Act
- Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005 (P.L. 109-171)
- Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act, which was included in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill for FY 2007
- Combating Autism through Research, Screening, Intervention and Education Act
- National Institutes of Health Reform Act

2007:

UCP works with Members of Congress, staff and other disability coalition members to support passage of the following laws (ucp.org/public-policy/policy-achievements):

- The U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans Care, Katrina Recovery and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-28), which included a raise in the minimum wage to \$7.25 over 2 years. An extension until August 31, 2011 of the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) was also included in the law.
 - Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2008, which included substantial increases for:
 - Social Security Administration (+\$451 million);
 - HUD's Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (+\$500 million);
 - the IDEA State Grant (+\$260 million);
 - the Vocational Rehabilitation State Grant (+\$37 million); and
 - the Autism Program (+\$16 million)
 - In addition, \$2 million was set-aside for a National Clearing House and Technical Assistance Center for the families of children with developmental disabilities.

2008:

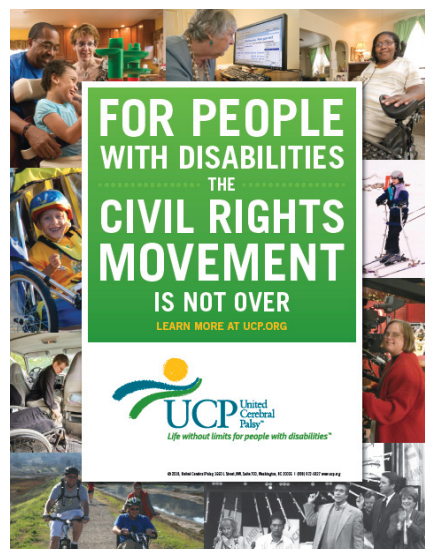
UCP works with Members of Congress, staff and other disability coalition members to support passage of the following laws (ucp.org/public-policy/policy-achievements):

- Moratoria on six proposed Medicaid regulations were included in the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (P.L. 110-252).
- The ADA Amendments Act (P.L. 110-325)
- The Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (contained in the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-343))
- The Prenatally and Postnatally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act (P.L. 110-374)
- The Higher Education Opportunity Act (P.L. 110-315)
- The National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act, which was included in the Housing and Economic Recovery Act (P.L. 110-289)
- The Over-the-Road Bus Transportation Accessibility Act (P.L. 110-291)
- The Federal Railroad Safety Improvement Act (P.L. 110-432)
- The Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act (P.L. 110-233)
- The SSI Extension for Elderly and Disabled Refugees Act (P.L. 110-328)

2009:

The interactive, future forecasting, role-playing immersive experience, Ruby's Bequest (www.rubysbequest.org), looks to community instead of government to find strategies to create the future of caregiving.

UCP launches *My Child Without Limits* (mychildwithoutlimits.org) in April.



UCP works with Members of Congress, staff and other disability coalition members to support passage of the following laws (ucp.org/public-policy/policy-achievements):

- Coverage of people with disabilities under the Hate Crimes Act
- The reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA):
- \$87 billion for enhanced federal match for Medicaid
- \$11.3 billion increase for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) State Grant
- \$400 million increase for the IDEA Preschool Program
- \$500 million increase for the IDEA Part C Early Intervention Program
- \$540 million increase for the Vocational Rehabilitation State Grant Program
- \$140 million increase for Independent Living Programs

2010:

UCP launches Mission Driven Business, which provides consulting services to affiliates. Utilizing the expertise in the affiliate network, along with UCP staff and volunteer board and committee members, UCP assists affiliates through the Mission Driven Consulting team to help build, revise or expand strategic planning, and provide critical financial analysis. Learn more at ucp.org/affiliates/mission-driven-business.

UCP is among a select group of nonprofit organizations invited to the White House in May to discuss ways to address the unique challenges facing military families, build stronger civilian-military community ties, while engaging and highlighting the service and sacrifice of military families.

UCP and its Capability Scotland affiliate commemorate the 20th anniversary of ADA, and 15th anniversary of the Disability Discrimination Act in the United Kingdom, with an event hosted by the British Ambassador and Lady Sheinwald at the British Embassy Residence in Washington, DC. The evening honor efforts of those who created the landmark laws and continue to work to achieve a *life without limits* for people with disabilities.



This commemoration also marked the formation of ABLE, a group of young professionals committed to supporting UCP. ABLE finds opportunities to increase education and awareness of disability issues. Members support UCP by volunteering at local affiliates and in the community, attending social events and creating fundraising opportunities.

UCP and the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine (AACPDMD) celebrate a new partnership by co-hosting a fall forum, featuring a panel of leading researchers, medical experts, technologists and futurists who explore advances that are changing the ways that people with cerebral palsy and other developmental disabilities live their lives.



2011:

UCP distributes the latest video that tells the UCP story: <http://bit.ly/VideoPSA>.

UCP names Actor RJ Mitte, of Emmy-nominated AMC drama "Breaking Bad," as Celebrity Ambassador on National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day in March.

UCP debuts its new website.

The Case for Inclusion 2011 report finds progress in Medicaid services, but nearly 33,000 Americans with ID/DD still live in 162 large, state-run institutions.

UCP transforms its policy effort in April, while continuing to join with many disability organizations on projects, and actively participating as a member of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD). In doing so, UCP maintains its strong presence in federal advocacy and expands its grassroots and state-by-state service efforts to its 100+ affiliates.



UCP unveils a website section, *Affiliate Mission Moments*, at ucp.org/affiliates/affiliate-mission-moments, featuring the incredible work of UCP affiliates.

UCP joins forces with AAPD in the *Campaign to Protect Medicaid*, a multi-media effort to raise awareness and call on our nation's leaders to preserve Medicaid in debt ceiling negotiations, in July. The campaign informs individuals nationwide through [media outreach](#) and [media coverage](#); [social media updates](#), and [radio advertisements](#) running in Iowa and New Hampshire. In addition, UCP launches a new section of its website – [Faces of Medicaid](#) – to keep readers abreast of the latest proposals that might impact the program while sharing real-life stories of everyday Americans showing the value of Medicaid for people with disabilities and their families.

UCP produces a video from UCP Celebrity Ambassador & Trustee Cheryl Hines, where she describes what led to her involvement with UCP and encourages others to get involved to further the civil rights movement. Video: <http://bit.ly/WhatsImportant2Cheryl>.

UCP unveils a new International Resources web page for information about UCP affiliates worldwide and additional international resources, at ucp.org/resources/international-resources.

UCP's kicks off a year of partnerships and study around ways to promote universal design to increase accessibility in housing for all Americans at its Fall Forum, *A Home for All Americans*, at the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, DC.

The new UCP moves into a new national office space in September.