

Message from Board President and Executive Director



Board President
**Susie
McIntyre**

We are pleased to welcome the community to our new location at 1022 Chestnut Street in Helena!

Having a place and the space to do civil rights work is an important piece to breathing life into the values of liberty and justice for all.

It has taken almost two years to find and secure this great facility. It's a place where we will continue to provide quality advocacy and legal services. And it's a place where we can truly support the disability community in its self-advocacy work by providing fully-accessible parking, meeting and multimedia rooms, a library and wireless Internet access.



Executive Director
**Bernadette
Franks-Ongoy**

As the demand for our services continues to increase every year, Disability Rights Montana saw the need to control our costs and enhance the quality and variety of our services. Purchasing a large building at a fixed mortgage for 20 years controls our costs. The additional space makes it possible for us to enhance our services and be more than just a legal organization. We are an advocacy community center where like-minded groups are welcome to plan, accomplish and celebrate their activities with independence and dignity.

Our work is not finished until every Montanan with a disability is able to vote privately and independently, until every child with a disability is fully included in the classroom with their peers, until every public building is accessible, until every restaurant is barrier-free and offers Braille menus, until every segregated institution is closed, and every person with a disability is provided the supports and services necessary to be fully integrated into community life.

Our work is not done until we all value people with disabilities. Until then, we ask you to celebrate this new space and to join in the footsteps of Justin Dart, Jr., renowned human rights activist and father of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and become a soldier for justice in the disability rights movement.


Susie McIntyre


Bernadette Franks-Ongoy