a private non-profit public interest corporation, protects and promotes the human, civil and legal rights of people with disabilities through the provision of information and advocacy.

HDRC is Hawaii’s PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SYSTEM for People with Disabilities and CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP) as authorized in federal and state law and designated by Executive Order.

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“Disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to live independently; enjoy self-determination; make choices; pursue meaningful careers; and enjoy full inclusion and integration in the economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of American society.”

Numerous federal and state laws create entitlements and services to benefit and support people with disabilities so that they can live independently and enjoy self determination. Examples of these are:


► The Social Security Act provides Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicare and Medicaid benefits for qualified people with disabilities.

► Assistive Technology

► Specific services for certain disabilities:
  • Developmental Disabilities
  • Mental Illness

► Financial Entitlements
  • Food Stamps
  • Supplemental Security Income

► Medical Entitlements
  • Medicaid
  • Medicare

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