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# CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## Commission On Disability

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**Meeting Date:** June 13, 2022

### MINUTES

#### Room Zoom

**Time: 6:00PM \* New Start Time**

**This meeting was a virtual meeting on Zoom, by phone or by computer/iPad:**

#### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84610100556?pwd=L2FuS2Rsem1UDlNeGIHOEpdnJ6QT09>

**Meeting ID:** 846 1010 0556

**Passcode:** 279296

#### One tap mobile

+13017158592,,84610100556# US (Washington D.C)

+13126266799,,84610100556# US (Chicago)

#### Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

**Meeting ID:** 846 1010 0556

**Passcode:** 279296

#### Commission Members Present:

Eileen Sandberg, Co-Chair, remotely on Zoom

Jane Brown, Treasurer, remotely on Zoom

Rob Caruso, remotely on Zoom

Lucie Chansky, remotely on Zoom

Nancy Kritzman, remotely on Zoom

Darby Leigh, remotely on Zoom

Sandra Lingley, remotely on Zoom

Barbara Lischinsky, remotely on Zoom

Matt Volpi, remotely on Zoom

#### Commission Members Absent:

Anne Marie Killilea, Co-Chair

Lakshmi Kadambi

Girard Plante

Warren Abramson

#### City Staff and Advisors Present:

**Jini Fairley, ADA/Section 504 Coordinator**

**Captain Jeff Boudreau, Police**

**Hattie Kerwin Derrick, Mayor's Office**

**Nika Sandal, Planning**

#### Guests:

**Sarah Nechamen, DPPC**

**Nyree Kibarian**

**Councilor Bowman**

**Councilor Downs**

Ruthanne Fuller  
**Mayor**

Barney Heath,  
**Director, Planning &  
Development**

Amanda Berman  
**Director, Housing &  
Community Development**

Nika Sandal  
**Planner  
Community Development**

#### Members

Anne Marie Killilea, Co-Chair

Eileen Sandberg, Co-Chair

Jane Brown, Treasurer

Warren Abramson

Rob Caruso

Lucie Chansky

Lakshmi Kadambi, Co-Chair

Nancy Kritzman

Darby Leigh

Sandra Lingley

Barbara Lischinsky

Girard Plante

Matt Volpi

Jason Rosenberg  
**Chairman Emeritus**

#### Advisor

Sergeant Michael B. Wade  
Newton Police Department

#### Staff

Jini Fairley

ADA/Sec 504 Coordinator

617-796-1253

1000 Commonwealth Ave.

Newton, MA 02459

T 617-796-1240

F 617-796-1254

www.newtonma.gov



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# CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## Commission On Disability

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### 1. Introductions (6:00-6:05)

The meeting started at 6:05 with 7 members in attendance (Eileen, Rob, Darby, Sandra, Nancy, Jane, Matt). Lucie and Barbara arrived during the meeting in progress.

### 2. Approval of the May 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes (6:05-6:10)

Eileen asked if there any comments or changes for the minutes for the May COD meeting. Hearing none, Darby made a motion to accept the minutes as read and distributed. Jane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Taken out of order ( was originally #12 on the agenda:

### 3. Updates from the Co-Chairs (8:10-8:30)

Eileen wanted to share a change of status with regard to her membership on the COD. She said that many of you know she has been talking about mental illness and how we need to bust the stigma and be a more welcoming community, but never shared that she has had major depression for a long time, under control with medication. She felt that she was talking the talk but not walking the walk. Originally she joined the COD as a family member of adult children with disabilities, but not as a person with a disability herself. Thus she is changing her status on the COD as a member with a disability, with mental illness. She also mentioned that Anne Marie had hoped to attend tonight, but is not feeling well, still recovering from Covid (for a second time). Jini also announced that 2 COD members are no longer on the COD, Warren Abramson (not reappointed) and Girard Plante (resigned). She said that there were at least 4 applicants, attending COD meetings, being interviewed, and she and Eileen will keep everyone posted when new members are appointed by the Mayor.

### 4. CDBG Report (6:10-6:15)

Nika gave the CDBG Access Projects report, which can be viewed on page 6. Sandra observed that a new curb cut was installed at the intersection of Langley/Warren/Chase, as a result of a new house going up on the corner. She wanted to know if that new curb cut lines up with the plans for the FY23 CDBG project. Nika will get back to the COD once speaking with DPW. Sandra also asked for the status of McGrath Park. Nika said there was no update but will get back to the COD next month.

### 5. Prioritization of FY24 CDBG-Funded Access Projects (6:15-6:30)

Nika led the discussion to arrive on an area to consider CDBG access projects for FY24 funding. The 4 areas are: Infrastructure, Parks, public buildings, and non-profits in Newton. Members looked over the previous projects recommended in the past few years that have not been funded as of yet, and the areas that were priorities in the past 4 years. Rob shared the priorities for a CDBG-funded project recommended by the Funding Subcommittee, which were the cross walk and 2 curb cuts in front of City hall and Phase 2 of the Dexter Walnut intersection.

Each member had one vote to cast for one of the 4 areas, from which an access project will be chosen in January. The votes were:

7 for Infrastructure and Lucie (who joined us during this agenda item) abstained. Due to this voting, FY24 CDBG-funded access projects will come from Infrastructure,

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mainly curb cuts and RRFBs. Jini also mentioned the 2018 ADA Parking Lot audit conducted by IHCD, the COD may want to consider improvements for access at one or more of them. Matt asked about whether there would be any accessible improvements where Temple Raim is located, as they are planning for expansion there, with housing, etc. Jini said she always likes suggestions from members as to what developments they would like to have on a future agenda, as there are so many, it is best to be suggested from a COD member. Jini will look into this development.

**6. Accessible Fines Reports (6:30-6:40)**

Captain Boudreau gave the 2 Fines reports which can be viewed on pages 7 and 8.

**7. Treasurer's Report (6:40-6:45)**

Jane gave the Treasurer's Report which can be viewed on pages 9 and 10. She reported that there were no changes to the balances of the COD accounts since last month's report.

**8. ADA Coordinator's Report (6:45-6:55)**

Jini gave the report of her ADA activities for the month of May. Her report can be viewed on page 11. Jini highlighted a few key site visits and meetings. She described reviewing a way one of the contractors were making an interim accessible pathway with sidewalks under construction. Rather than taping and coning off a section of sidewalk excavated but not yet ready for new concrete, the contractor filled in with material like stone dust and smoothed out the transition from the nearby sidewalks. Her second site visit was to walk through the many fields at Albemarle Park to understand some of the proposed concepts for reconfiguring the fields and to provide accessible paths throughout. Jini reported on the City Council meetings where an option was being chosen for the MassDOT proposed of the Commonwealth Ave Carriageway, from Ash St. to Auburn St. In the end, the Council voted to choose option 3, keeping the complete renovation of the Ash and Commonwealth intersection, making it accessible for the first time.

**9. Ideas/Projects for MOD's Grant (6:55-7:15)**

Jini was soliciting ideas as to a project she could apply for to the MOD ADA Improvement grant program. Newton already received one of these grants in 2019 for the installation of APS units in 14 signalized intersections. Subsequently, the city appropriated CIP funds to complete the goal of making every signalized intersection accessible, when a visual signal existed for pedestrians. There was some discussion about looking at the newly completed sidewalk inventory, which is being reviewed for accuracy before making public. If there are critical sidewalks needing widening or repair, it is possible that could be considered. At this point, the members did not propose a specific project.

**10. DPPC Presentation (7:15-7:35)**

Sarah Nechamen, Outreach Coordinator for the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC), gave an excellent presentation about who they are, what they do, and their hotline, with regard to reports of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional, and

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financial) or neglect by a caregiver of an adult with a disability between the age of 18 and 59. The presentation can be found on pages 12-14. There is no statute of limitations, if you just heard about abuse that happened 10 years ago, for example, it can be reported to the DPPC.

The abuser can be a professional or a family member or friend/acquaintance. For more information, you can check out their online presence at:

[www.mass.gov/dppc](http://www.mass.gov/dppc). You don't have to have proof of abuse, suspicion is sufficient. The DPPC investigators will do that. These investigators are fact finders, civil investigators, not criminal investigators, however they will involve the Police if they feel a crime has been committed. Sarah covered who are mandated reporters and their responsibility to report abuse. A new registry of abusers has recently been organized. She offered to have a DPPC representative attend any events organized by the COD, such as at the Harvest Fair at the COD's table. Lucie commented that she feels like DDS investigates themselves when a report/complaint is referred to DDS, for example abuse of an individual in a group home, rather than DPPC keeping it. Sarah said often it is the agency who may have more expertise to investigate a report of abuse. The newly formed registry is used by DDS before hiring anyone. Sarah said that there are about 14 or more abusers listed, and 14,000 searches of this registry to date.

#### 11. Potential Events for Mental Health Awareness (7:35-7:50)

Jini described an upcoming PBS documentary, "Hidden in Plain Sight", about mental illness, see flyer on page 15. It is slated to be shown at the end of June and Jini has a contact to potentially have a film screening for an event, perhaps in October. Eileen has contacted the Me 2 orchestra but hasn't yet found out the cost or available dates. Discussion about a venue, and Hattie pointed out that the War Memorial Auditorium would be possible, can do a Hybrid event, holds about 150, and the ventilation has been improved, for anyone having Covid concerns. A date would need to be reserved several months in advance. Eileen will get back to the COD about this possibility.

#### 12. Updates- Funding & NWH Subcommittees (7:50-8:10)

Rob gave an update for the Funding Subcommittee. They met last month, on May 16, and besides the recommendations for CDBG access projects for FY24, the committee also talked about how people with disabilities on a very low income can qualify for some of the new housing developments' affordable apartments. The next meeting is June 27 at 3:30PM on Zoom.

Sandra announces the next quarterly meeting of the NWH Subcommittee will be June 21, at 11am. All are welcome and she would like to invite more COD members to join the committee and/or attend these meetings with NWH staff. Some of the agenda items are about whether they have both adjustable/accessible exam tables as well as testing machines, such as X-ray, MRIs, Mammograms, etc. Both Jane and Nancy related recent experiences with NWH regarding unavailability of adjustable tables for testing, and the lack of clear masks for in-patients who are hard of hearing and read lips. Both issues will be brought to NWH staff at the June meeting. Sandra mentioned that last weekend, both sides of the West entrance driveway had the sidewalk under repair, with no pedestrian accommodations, especially for people with mobility disabilities or who are blind. Rob wanted to point out that other hospitals have entrances that do not require a

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pushbutton to push to get in, that the door automatically when a person approaches. This does exist at the Emergency entrance, but not at the West entrance. Sandra said they will add this issue to the agenda.

#### 13. Adjournment (8:30)

The meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

These minutes were prepared and respectfully submitted by Jini Fairley, ADA/504 Coordinator

**NEXT MEETING DATE: July 11, 2022**

The location of this meeting is wheelchair accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities requiring assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the city of Newton's ADA/Sec.504 Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: [jfairley@newtonma.gov](mailto:jfairley@newtonma.gov) or (617) 796-1253. For Telecommunications Relay Service, please dial 711 or call City Hall's TTY/TDD line at 617-796-1089.

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### Reports and Materials:

June 2022 CDBG Project Report\_Final.pdf

Newton Commission on Disability

CDBG Access Projects Report

June 13th, 2022

FY21 Curb Cuts – (CD21-03C; Budget: \$84,043.00; Expended: \$80,000; Balance: \$4,043.00)

Installation of curb cuts at the following intersections: Watertown Street/West Street and Watertown Street/Edinboro Street. Final invoices have been paid.

Remainder of funds will be transferred into the FY23 Langley/Warren/Chase Crossing project in July.

Phase I Marty Sender Pathway Installation – (CD21-03A; Budget: \$66,847.00; Expended: \$0; Balance: \$66,847.00)

Reconstruction of the Marty Sender Path with an accessible route, covering approximately ¼ mile of the route. Folks from the Planning Department and PRC,

along with Jini, joined Belko at the Marty Sender Path for a pre-construction meeting on June 7th. Contractor to begin construction Thursday June 9th and end June 30th.

FY22 McGrath Park Perimeter Path Installation – (CD22-03A; Budget: \$91,300.00; Expended: \$0; Balance: \$91,300.00)

Constructing an accessible perimeter path around Richard McGrath Park. PRC has finalized a contract with CDM Smith Inc., to be the designer architect for this project.

FY23 Langley/Warren/Chase Crossing –

Installation of accessible crossings at Langley Rd. and Warren St. This includes a bump out on the northeast corner of the intersection to create the space needed to install a curb cut to cross Warren St. Planning staff has collected demographic information at this location for the FY23 Annual Action Plan.

**Reminder!** During this meeting the COD will vote on which type of project to prioritize for the upcoming year. July/September will be the months in which we present and discuss potential projects before voting on a top three the following October.

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**CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Commission On Disability**

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**NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**NEWTON COMMISSION ON DISABILITY**

PARKING TICKET AND FINES REPORT

MAY 2022

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<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>TOTAL VALUE OF TICKETS ISSUED</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>REDUCTION AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ 1,200.00</b>
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT PAID</b>	<b>\$ 1,600.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OUTSTANDING</b>	<b>\$ 2,200.00</b>

**CODE # 26 ACCESSIBILITY SPOTS**

<b>NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>TOTAL VALUE</b>	<b>\$ 3,800.00</b>
<b>REDUCTION AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT PAID</b>	<b>\$ 1,200.00</b>
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,600.00</b>

**CODE # 27 CURB CUTS**

<b>NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>TOTAL VALUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,200.00</b>
<b>REDUCTION AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT PAID</b>	<b>\$ 400.00</b>
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	<b>\$ 600.00</b>

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**CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Commission On Disability**

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**NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**NEWTON COMMISSION ON DISABILITY**

PARKING TICKET AND FINES REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2022

*As of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022*

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**FY 2022 Year-to-date Parking Ticket Totals**

<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED</b>	<b>184</b>
<b>TOTAL VALUE OF TICKETS ISSUED</b>	<b>\$ 36,800.00</b>
<b>REDUCTION AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ 10,800.00</b>



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**TOTAL OUTSTANDING** **\$ 5,850.00**

**CODE # 26 ACCESSIBILITY SPOTS**

<b>NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>TOTAL VALUE</b>	<b>\$ 23,800.00</b>
<b>REDUCTION AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ 7,600.00</b>
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT PAID</b>	<b>\$ 12,440.00</b>
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	<b>\$ 3,850.00</b>

**CODE # 27 CURB CUTS**

<b>NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>TOTAL VALUE</b>	<b>\$ 13,000.00</b>
<b>REDUCTION AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$ 3,200.00</b>
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT PAID</b>	<b>\$ 7,800.00</b>
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>

### **Treasurer's Report**

Given by Jane Brown, Treasurer of the Newton Commission On Disability (COD)  
Presented at the June 13, 2022 Newton COD Meeting  
As of May 31, 2022, the balances have not changed since last month and are as follows:

Account # 5500-335518 H-P. Fines-Disability Commission  
Type: Receipts Reserved for Appropriation (These funds have to go before the City Council to be appropriated before being used)  
Balance: \$38,499.60

Account # 01C40128 Set up to pay for RRFB at Langley/Warren/Chase intersection  
Type: Special Appropriations  
Balance: \$18,000.00

Account # 01C60211 Set up to purchase accessible equipment for Burr School playground.  
Type: Special Appropriations  
Balance: \$1,537.00

Account # 01C10802-513010 Operation Access – Disability Commission  
Set up to pay for targeted enforcement of accessible HP Fines violations by the Police  
Type: Special Appropriations  
Balance: \$1,880.89

Account#C401083-586005 Set up to purchase and install Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) units at the Waverly/Tremont intersection  
Type: Special Appropriations

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**CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Commission On Disability**

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Balance: \$**50.50** (8 APS units installed in December 2018)

Account # 5064D103 Set up in Fall 2015 to receive Community Access Monitor Program fees and pay expenses)  
Type: Revolving Account

Balance: \$29**0.00**

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# CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## Commission On Disability

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### ADA COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Given by Jini Fairley, ADA/Section 504 Coordinator

Presented at the June 13, 2022, Newton Commission On Disability meeting for activities during the month of May 2022.

#### Site Visits:

Crafts Street – Sidewalks under construction  
Albemarle Park- with Luis re: reconfiguration of fields

#### Trainings:

- Webinar: Introduction to Web Accessibility
- ADA Symposium Conference-3 days, virtually- excellent
- Webinar: **transfer tables for medical diagnostic medical equipment**
- Webinar: ADA in Small Cities & Towns- good resources
- Webinar: Accessible Data Visualization- very interesting

#### Meeting/Events/Conference Calls:

- Community meeting-Albemarle fields & Gath Pool
- COD Funding Subcommittee
- Traffic Council – removing parking to daylight crosswalks in Newton Highlands
- Albemarle fields working group with consultant
- Mayor's Community Breakfast- online
- City Council meetings on MassDOtT Ash/Comm Ave/Carriage Way project
- NewCAL-Attend bi-weekly Working Group meetings
- NewCAL community meeting
- Fair Housing Committee (FHC)- attend monthly meetings
- FHC Lottery/Lease-up Subcommittee monthly meetings
- West Newton Streetscape- attend monthly meetings
- Complete Streets Committee & Road Paving- attend bi-weekly meetings
- Commissions On Disability Alliance Monthly Meeting

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# CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## Commission On Disability

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Comission\_DPPC Reporting Abuse.pdf

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rectangular colored shape

Reporting Abuse and Neglect of

Persons with Disabilities

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Massachusetts state seal

Disabled Persons Protection

Commission (DPPC)

Independent state agency responsible for:

list of 3 items

The investigation and remediation of abuse

By caregivers

Against adults with disabilities

list end

mass.gov/dppc

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Logo

Reporting Agencies for Abuse Against

Persons with Disabilities

Department of Children and Families

DCF

Birth-17

1-800-792-5200

Disabled Persons Protection Commission

DPPC

18-59

1-800-426-9009

Executive Office of Elder Affairs

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# CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## Commission On Disability

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EOEA

60+

1-800-922-2275

How to File an Abuse Report?

Call the DPPC 24-Hour Hotline at

1-800-426-9009

\*Deaf and hard of hearing callers, please use

VRS or MARElay(711) to contact the DPPC hotline.

Screening of Reports

Hotline

Investigator: DPPC, DDS, DMH, MRC

Protective Services

To Support the Victim

- Counseling
- Healthcare
- Peer Support
- Transportation
- Additional necessary services and supports

list end

To Prevent Future Abuse

- Respite services
- Staff training
- Policy changes
- Staffing ratios
- Agency action

Screening of

Reports Continued

Hotline

Investigator: DPPC, DDS, DMH, MRC

Other Agencies: DCF, EOEA, DPH

State Police Detective Unit: SPDU

Sexual Assault Response: SAR

DPPC Mandated Reporters

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- Medical personnel
- Medical examiners
- Social workers
- Foster parents
- Police Officers
- Dentists
- Public or private school teachers
- Educational administrators
- Psychologists

- Family or guidance counselors
- Animal Control Officers
- Day care workers
- Private agencies providing services to people with disabilities
- State agencies within the Executive Office of Health and Human Services

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# CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## Commission On Disability

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\*Includes interns and volunteers

Person holding smartphone

FREE DPPC MANDATED

REPORTER TRAINING

Virtual and in-person trainings on reporting abuse of persons with disabilities, offered by the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC)

Idea outline

LEARN how to recognize signs of abuse, what you're required to report and how to report.

Email outline

CONTACT

DPPCInfo@massmail.state.ma.us

to schedule a virtual or in-person training for your organization.

Internet outline

SIGN UP

for one of our bi

-

monthly

virtual trainings at

dppcmandatedreporter

training.eventbrite.com

Contact Us

Sarah Nechamen

Outreach and Training Specialist at DPPC

Sarah.Nechamen@mass.gov

Telephone

Abuse Reporting Hotline (800) 426-9009

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# CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## Commission On Disability

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### KEN BURNS DOCUMENTARY

Ken Burns' Documentary: "Hiding in Plain Sight"

Ken Burns Presents Hiding In Plain Sight: Youth Mental Illness - A Film by Erik Ewers & Christopher Loren Ewers, premiering on June 27 & 28 at 9 pm ET, in primetime on PBS stations nationwide.

Links:

[Press Release](#)

[Teaser](#)

[Trailer](#)