



Democratic Campaigns for President Attend Town Hall Meeting on Developmental Disabilities Policy

Surrogates for eight campaigns present their candidate's policy positions

February 21, 2020, Fairfax, VA – The Arc of Northern Virginia and the Autism Society of Northern Virginia team up to present this town hall to meet face-to-face with representatives from several of the campaigns of Presidential candidates running in the Democratic primary election. This town hall is being hosted specifically to address issues that affect individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and policies that affect those individuals, their families, caretakers, and the community at large. This is an opportunity for audience members to hear from each campaign face-to-face, and to address their questions directly to those policy representatives.

The Town Hall forum is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2020, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at The Autism Society of Northern Virginia 10467 White Granite Dr. - 3rd Floor Conference Room Oakton, VA 22124. Seating is limited to the rated capacity of the room; therefore, preregistration is required to attend. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/PresCampForum>

All eight of the currently active campaigns for the Democratic nomination for President are schedule to be represented, including the campaigns of Joe Biden, Michael Bloomberg, Pete Buttigieg, Tulsi Gabbard, Amy Klobuchar, Bernie Sanders, Tom Steyer campaign, and Elizabeth Warren.

Details for Media Coverage:

WHAT: Presidential Campaigns Forum on Developmental Disabilities

WHEN: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: The Autism Society of Northern Virginia 10467 White Granite Drive, Oakton, VA 22124

WHO: The following campaign surrogates are currently expected as presenters:

- For the Biden campaign: Former Connecticut Senator Chris Dodd
- For the Bloomberg campaign: TBD
- For the Buttigieg campaign: Virginia Congressman Don Beyer

- For the Gabbard campaign: Dr. Jason Nichols, lecturer in the African American Studies Department at the University of Maryland
- For the Klobuchar campaign: Ruth Thompson, Health Policy Consultant
- For the Sanders campaign: Victoria M. Rodríguez-Roldán, Director of Disability Justice Projects at the National LGBTQ Task Force, 2016 Autistic Self Advocacy Network Ally of the Year.
- For the Steyer campaign: Krys White, Virginia State Director
- For the Warren campaign: Megha Upadhyaya, Community Organizer for the AAPI and Persons with Disabilities Constituencies, and Johanna Gusman, Community Organizer for the African American and Latinx Constituencies

MEDIA RSVP REQUESTED: Media covering the forum are asked to RSVP prior to the event. Please provide the full name and media outlet represented to Sharon Cummings at slc4sales@cox.net. For questions, call Sharon at (703) 717-2316.

About The Arc of Northern Virginia

The Arc of Northern Virginia was founded in 1962 and today represents and serves over 39,000 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD)--such as autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and rare chromosomal disorders--and their families in the cities and counties of Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls Church. The Arc of Northern Virginia is an organization that builds community opportunities for citizens with disabilities so that they can live "A Life Like Yours."

About the Autism Society of Northern Virginia

As a chapter of the Autism Society of America, Autism Society of Northern Virginia works to improve the lives of all affected by autism and envisions a world where individuals and families living with autism are able to maximize their quality of life, are treated with the highest level of dignity, and live in a society in which their talents and skills are appreciated and valued. Autism Society of Northern Virginia (ASNV) builds community for individuals and families affected by autism through education, advocacy and support.