

# AODA - Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

## Intent

This 2014-21 accessibility plan demonstrates how Mission Services of Hamilton will work to identify, remove and prevent barriers that could prevent individuals with disabilities from receiving goods and services and from fully participating in the community. Mission Services is committed to meeting the needs of people with disabilities and fulfilling the accessibility requirements under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005 (AODA).

This plan was originally established in 2011. A compliance review took place in April 2016, with an Internal Compliance Review Report available upon request. This plan will be reviewed annually and revised as needed.

#### Statement of Commitment

Mission Services is committed to ensuring equal access and participation for people with disabilities. Mission Services is committed to treating people with disabilities in a way that allows them to maintain their dignity and independence.

Mission Services believes in integration, and is committed to meeting the needs of people with disabilities in a timely manner to ensure that everyone has equal opportunities. Mission Services will do so by removing and preventing barriers to accessibility and by meeting our accessibility requirements under Ontario's accessibility laws.

## Guidelines

General Requirements				
Accessibility Requirement	Establishment of Accessibility Policies	Compliance Deadline	January 1, 2014	
Past Achievements:	Mission Services' policy titled Accessibility for Disabilities Act (now the AODA- Commitment I in the year 2011. In the year 2014, Mission Se Multiyear Accessibility Plan to provide a bluept preventing and removing barriers for individual accessing organizational goods and services.  Both Mission Services AODA policy and Accessive in 2016 and 2020 to reflect organization changes.  Applicable policies in the employee handbook AODA standards (ex. AODA standards for receiver added to the Recruitment policy).	Policy) was estarvices created the rint for identifying with disabilities sibility Plan we nal and legislations.	he g, es re ive	



Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Currently, Mission Service's AODA policy and Accessibility Plan need to be reviewed to ensure that AODA requirements for the year 2021 are met.			
Plan to Meet Requirements:	The latest version of Mission Services' AODA policy and Accessibility Plan will be reviewed by, and approved by, senior management.			
Responsible Authority	Human Resources and Senior Management Results			
Accessibility Requirement	Training on IASR the Human Rights Code and Accessible Customer Service  Compliance Deadline  January 1, 2015			
Past Achievements:	All Mission Services volunteers, employees and students have been required to complete training on the Human Rights Code and the AODA, Accessible Customer Service Standards and IASR's  All volunteers, employees and students who have successfully completed this training receive a certificate- a copy of this certificate is retained by Human Resources.  Accessible training formats are available upon request.			
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Volunteers, employees and students are not being re-trained on Human Rights and the AODA when needed.  Potential future changes to legislated training requirements			
Plan to Meet Requirements:	<ol> <li>Mission Services will provide training in the following areas to all new employees, volunteers and students:</li> <li>Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005</li> <li>Obligations under the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation</li> <li>Instructions on how to interact and communicate with customers with various types of disabilities</li> <li>Instructions on how to interact with people with disabilities who: use assistive devices; require the assistance of a service animal; or require the use of a support person</li> <li>Instruction on how to use equipment or devices that are available at your premises or that may help customers with disabilities (program specific)</li> <li>Instructions on what to do if a customer with a disability is having difficulty accessing services; and</li> </ol>			



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	7. Policies, procedures and practices surrounding the legislation			
	Training will be repeated when required.			
	Human Resources will monitor legisl ensure any changes to training are r			
Responsible Authority	Human Resources and Program Managers	Results		
	Information and Commun	nication	Standards	
Accessibility Requirement	Feedback Process		Compliance Deadline	January 1, 2012
	Mission Services has implemented a the creation of the Service Users Co		•	through
	Mission Services has implemented the following steps for ensuring that all new and existing processes for receiving and responding to feedback are accessible to people with disabilities:  1. Senior leadership within the organization takes primary responsibility for overseeing the accessibility of feedback from service users, employees, and members of the public  2. The organization is ready for a variety of feedback methods- telephone, hand-written letters, and email- upon request			
Past Achievements:				
	<ol> <li>The organization is able to presupports for questionnaires,</li> </ol>			nication
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	The Service Users Concern policy no users are aware that they can refer to concerns			
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Mission services will review and revise the Service Users Concern policy to provide information for employees about how they can support service users in providing feedback about accessibility concerns			
requirements.	Mission Services' organizational website will specify that the Service Users Concern policy can be referred to for any accessibility concerns.			ers
Responsible Authority	Human Resources, Senior Leadership, Community Relations and Resource Development	Results		
Accessibility Requirement	Accessible Formats and Commun Supports	ication	Compliance Deadline	January 1, 2016



Past Achievements:	Mission Services allows for multiple types of communication formats including (but not limited to) email, telephone, and written mail.  Mission Services consults with individuals with disabilities to determine the best method of communication to accommodate their information and communication needs.  Mission Services will continue to notify the public and employees about the availability of accessible formats and communication supports  Mission Services will continue to take all measures to ensure that a person with a disability is able to understand any information provided to them		
Current and Potential Future Barriers:			
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Mission Services will make any requested accessible format or communication support available as soon as possible  Mission Services will consider what formats and communication supports might assist someone who has a disability to read, see, hear or understand information during the creation of this information  If Mission Services is unable to convert the information or communications into an accessible format, Mission Services will explain to the person why they are unable to do so and provide a summary of the content		
Responsible Authority	Results		
Accessibility Requirement	Emergency Procedures, Plans or Public Safety Information  Compliance Deadline January 1, 2012		
Past Achievements:	Mission Services has established emergency procedures, plans and public safety information		
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Emergency procedures, plans and public safety information are not currently posted on the organizational web page		
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Mission Services will post all public emergency procedures, plans and public safety information on the organizational website		



	Mission Services will continue to provide emergency procedures, plans and public safety information to service users in accessible formats, upon request			
Responsible Authority	Senior Leadership, Health and Safety Coordinator, and Community Relations and Resource Development	Results		
Accessibility Requirement	Accessible Websites and Web Co	ntent	Compliance Deadline January 1, 2021	
Past Achievements:	The Community Relations and Reso Services has ensured that all new wow World Wide Web Consortium's Web 2.0, Level A.	ebsites and	d web content is accessible to the	
Current and Potential Future	Mission Services has not yet ensured that all website and web content information conform to WCAG 2.0, Level AA.			
Barriers:	The potential future creation of new	websites/w	/eb content or social media sites	
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Mission Services will take the necessary steps to make all websites and web content conform to WCAG 2.0, Level AA. This standard refers to all new websites and content on those sites			
Responsible Authority	Community Relations and Resource Development	Results		
	Employment St	andards		
Accessibility Requirement	Recruitment, Assessment and Sel Processes	ection	Compliance Deadline January 1, 2016	
	The human resource department notifies the public and staff that Mission Services will provide accommodation throughout the recruitment and selection process.			
Past Achievements:	The human resources department provides accommodation to individuals throughout the recruitment and selection process.			
	In accordance with feedback from the 2016 Internal Compliance Report, individuals are notified that Mission Services will provide accommodation throughout the interview process.			
	Mission Services has created an Acc regularly consulted.	cessible In	terviewing Checklist which will be	



Current and Potential Future Barriers:	The 2016 Internal Compliance Report suggests posting the accessibly disclaimer on an easily reachable page of the organizational website- this is not currently posted		
Plan to Meet Requirements:	The human resources department will continue to:  1. Inform job applicants on the website, job posting, or by letter or email that information is available in accessible formats if needed, and that they can ask for accommodations throughout the recruitment process  2. Respond to requests for accommodation by developing accessible formats and communication supports that enable full participation in the application and interview process  Utilize the Accessible Interviewing Checklist		
Responsible Authority	Human Resources, Program Managers Results	3	
Accessibility Requirement	Informing Employees of Supports	Compliance Deadline	
Past Achievements:	The human resource department notifies the public and staff that Mission Services will provide accommodation throughout the recruitment and selection process.		
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Human resources does not currently notify successful applications about available accommodations using the Notification to Successful Applicants document.		
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Human Resources will begin to utilize the Not document during the recruitment process	ification to Successful Applicants	
Responsible Authority	Human Resources Results		
Accessibility Requirement	Accessible Formats and Communication Supports for Employees	Compliance Deadline January 1, 2016	
Past Achievements:	Mission Services allows for multiple types of communication formats including (but not limited to) email, telephone, and written mail.  Mission Services established a document titled Examples of Job Accommodations List to assist the employer in assessing possible veiled disabilities throughout the workplace.  Mission Services will notifies the public about the availability of accessible formats and communication supports		



Current and Potential Future Barriers:				
	Mission Services will consult with individuals with disabilities to determine the best method of communication to accommodate their information and communication needs			
	Mission Services will make the requested accessible format or communication support available as soon as possible			
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Mission Services will consider what formats and communication supports might assist someone who has a disability to read, see, hear or understand information during the creation of this information			
	If Mission Services is unable to convert the information or communications into an accessible format, Mission Services will explain to the person why they are unable to do so and provide a summary of the content			
	Mission Services will take all other m disability is able to understand any ir			
Responsible Authority	Human Resources	Results		
Accessibility Requirement	Workplace Emergency Response Information		Compliance Deadline January 1, 2012	
	Workplace emergency response information has been developed for Mission Services			
Past	Workplace emergency response information is available in accessible formats upon request			
Achievements:	Mission Services has two forms, The Identification of Potential Barriers during an Emergency Response and the Individualized Employee Emergency Response Information Form that employees and supervisors can complete cooperatively to properly assess potential barriers during an emergency response for employees with disabilities, and to aid in completing an individualized emergency response plan			
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Workplace emergency response information has not been posted on Mission Services' website			
Plan to Meet			will be posted on Mission	



	Human Resources will ensure that Emergency Response Plans available to provide to employees and service users upon request			
	Emergency Response Plans will continue to be provided in a format that is accessible to the user			
Responsible Authority	Human Resources Communications Department  Results			
Accessibility Requirement	Documented Individual Accommodation Plans	Compliance Deadline January 1, 2016		
	Mission Services has established a process to accommodation plans.	initiate and document individual		
	Mission Services has a short and full Functional Capacity Assessment Form that can be completed by the employee and their health care provider to assess the employee's functional capabilities in the workplace, as well as assist the employer in developing an Individual Accommodation Plan			
Past Achievements:	Mission Services is committed to working with employees to establish individual accommodation plans that are suitable to the employee's needs			
	Mission Services is committed to reviewing accommodation plans and making required adjustments any time there is a change in job position, promotion, reassignment or increased responsibility within the current position.			
	Mission Services will provide any accommodation plans in accessible formats upon request.			
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Lack of employee awareness of Individual Accommodation Plans			
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Inform employees that Individual Accommodation information disclosed in the creation of these parts of the creation of the cre			
Responsible Authority	Management and Human Resources Results			
Accessibility Requirement	Return to Work Process	Compliance Deadline January 1, 2016		
Past	Mission Services has available a Return to Work Plan form and a Return to Work Process form to assist in the development of individual return to work plans.			
Achievements:	The director of human resources, along with the supervisor or manager of the employee, is responsible for meeting with the employee with the disability to			



	prepare a return to work plan and subsequently	
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	accommodation plan if the disability is permane	ent or recurring
Plan to Meet Requirements	Mission Services will continue to work with employmenting return to work plans  The employer will complete all necessary reture employee is on disability leave so an individual implemented in a timely manner.	n to work paperwork while the
Responsible Authority	Human Resources and Program Manager Results	
Accessibility Requirement	Performance Management Process	Compliance Deadline January 1, 2016
Past Achievements:	Mission Services has implemented a performance manure the accessibility needs of employees with during performance management, career deventage.  The performance management process consismoles of an employee's accessibility needs.  2. Offering to review accommodation plantagenesis and the employee in job positions increased responsibility within the currest and providing any performance managementa	ith disabilities are considered lopment, or job changes.  Its of the following steps: e evaluation process, including nce evaluations, in consideration s and make required adjustments on, promotion, reassignment, or ent position nt documents in an accessible development opportunities by in accessible formats and at mats  process to ensure that all performance and provided with
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Potential future changes to collective agreement	nt



Plan to Meet Requirements:	Mission Services will continue to implement an performance management process to ensure t disabilities	
Responsible Authority	Human Resources, Union Representatives (where applicable), Management  Results	
Accessibility Requirement	Career Development and Advancement	Compliance Deadline January 1, 2016
Past Achievements:	Mission Services is committed to considering a in the career development and advancement p	
Current and Potential Future Barriers		
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Mission Services will continue to inform employ accommodation process when discussing care opportunities	
Responsible Authority	Human Resources, Union Representatives (where applicable), Management  Results	
Accessibility Requirement	Redeployment	Compliance Deadline January 1, 2016
Past		
Achievements:		
Achievements: Current and Potential Future	Establish a redeployment policy that states a can employee's disabilities when (and if) redeployee	
Achievements: Current and Potential Future Barriers: Plan to Meet		
Achievements: Current and Potential Future Barriers: Plan to Meet Requirements: Responsible Authority	an employee's disabilities when (and if) redeplo	oyment occurs.
Achievements: Current and Potential Future Barriers: Plan to Meet Requirements: Responsible Authority	an employee's disabilities when (and if) redeplo	oyment occurs.



Plan to Meet Requirements:	
Responsible Authority	Operations Results
Accessibility Requirement	Make Outdoor Play Spaces AccessibleCompliance DeadlineJanuary 1, 2017
Past Achievements:	
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	
Plan to Meet Requirements:	
Responsible Authority	Operations Results
Accessibility Requirements	Make Exterior Paths of Travel Accessible Compliance Deadline January 1, 2017
Past Achievements:	
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	
Plan to Meet Requirements:	
Responsible Authority	Operations Results
Accessibility Requirement	Make Off-Street Parking Accessible Compliance Deadline January 1, 2017
Past Achievements:	Mission Services has accessible off-street parking available to staff and visitors at all locations of service.
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	The potential future need for more accessible off-street parking spaces
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Continue to monitor the need for accessible off-street parking spots and ensure that new spots are created if the need for them increases
Responsible Authority	Operations Results



Accessibility Requirement	Make Service Counters, Queuing and Waiting Areas Accessible	Guides	Compliance Deadline	January 1	1, 2017
Past Achievements:			Doudinie		
Current and Potential Future Barriers:					
Plan to Meet Requirements:					
Responsible Authority	Operations	Results			
Accessibility Requirement	Maintain the Accessible Parts of y Public Spaces		Compliance Deadline	January 7	
Past Achievements:	Mission Services ensures regular maspaces to ensure minimal service disappaces to ensure minimal service disappaces to ensure minimal service disappaces of Operations to accessible parts of Operations immediately  Mission Services operation's departs accessible parts of public spaces in	sruptions of public sp ment respo	paces are repor	ted to the [	
Current and Potential Future Barriers:					
Plan to Meet Requirements:					
Responsible Authority	Operations	Results			
	Customer Service	Standa	ırds		
Accessibility Requirement	Develop, Implement, and Maintain Regarding the Provisions of Good Facilities to Persons with Disability	ls, Service	es, or Comp	liance ine	January 1, 2014
Past Achievements:	Mission Services' policy titled Acces (now the AODA- Compliance Policy) year 2014, Mission Services created blueprint for identifying, preventing a disabilities accessing organizational	was estat the Multiy Ind removi	olished in the ye rear Accessibilit ng barriers for i	ear 2011. In y Plan to p	n the provide a



	Both Mission Services AODA policy and Accessibility Plan were revised in 2016 and 2020 to reflect organizational and legislative changes in regards to providing goods and services to people with disabilities.			
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Changes to Legislative requirements			
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Human resources will continue to monitor any legislative changes that may affect policies pertaining to the provisions of goods, services or facilitates to persons with disabilities			
Responsible Authority	Human Resources	Results		
Accessibility Requirement	Prepare One or More Documents I Accessible Customer Service Police These Documents on Request, and the Documents are Available on Ro	cies, Provide d Notify that	Compliance Deadline	July 1, 2016
Past Achievements:	Mission Services' policy titled Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (now the AODA- Compliance Policy) was established in the year 2011. In the year 2014, Mission Services created the Multiyear Accessibility Plan to provide a blueprint for identifying, preventing and removing barriers for individuals with disabilities accessing organizational goods and services.			
Current and Potential Future Barriers:				
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Mission Services is committed to providing documents in a format that takes into consideration the service user's disability, upon request			
Responsible Authority	Human Resources	Results:		
Accessibility Requirement	Ensure that a Person with a Disabi Permitted to Enter the Premises wi Service Animal and to Keep the Ar Them, Unless the Animal is Otherw by Law from the Premises	ith their nimal with wise Excluded	Compliance Deadline	January 1, 2012
Past Achievements:	Mission Services' policy titled Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act was established in the year 2011. Included in this initial policy was a commitment to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to enter a premise with their service animal unless the animal is otherwise excluded by law from the premise. This same information is contained in the updated policy now titled AODA-Commitment Policy.			



	Mission Services provides training to all volunteers, employees and summer students about how to interact with people with disabilities who are accompanied by a service animal.		
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Given the fact that Mission Services' emergency shelters are communal living environments, and in the context of health and safety, Mission Services must adhere with the legislated requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. Therefore, a person may be asked to provide proof that their service animal is a "bona fide" service animal upon accessing emergency shelters		
Plan to Meet Requirements:	If it is not readily apparent that an animal is being used by a service user for reasons relating to a disability, Mission Services will request documentation in accordance with Ontario legislation from one of the following registered health professionals:  a) Audiologist or speech-language pathologist b) Chiropractor c) Nurse d) Occupational therapist e) Optometrist f) Physician or surgeon g) Physiotherapist h) Psychologist i) Psychotherapist or mental health therapist  Staff in Mission Services' emergency shelters will request that proof be provided that a service animal is a "bona fide" service animal upon admission, as required.		
Responsible Authority	All Employees within Mission Services  Results		
Accessibility Requirement	Ensure that Other Measures are Available to Enable a Person with a Disability to Obtain, Use, or Benefit from Mission Services of Hamilton's Goods, Services, or Facilities if the Person's Service Animal is Excluded from the Premises  Compliance Deadline  1, 2012		
Past Achievements:	Mission Services' policy titled Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act was established in the year 2011. Included in this initial policy was a commitment to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to enter a premise with their service animal unless the animal is otherwise excluded by law from the premise. This policy addresses organizational programs where a service animal might be excluded by law, and states the organization's commitment to taking reasonable measures to ensure that the service user is still able to access goods and services.		



Current and Potential Future Barriers:				
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Individual programs within Mission Services will continue to take reasonable measures to ensure that the service user is still able to access goods and services			
Responsible Authority	All Employees within Mission Services  Results			
Accessibility Requirement	Ensure that a Person with a Disability and Their Support Person are Permitted to Enter the Premises Together and that the Person with a Disability is Not Prevented from Having Access to the Support Person While on the Premises  Compliance Deadline 1, 2012			
Past Achievements:	Mission Services has adopted and implemented a policy that allows any person with a disability accessing Mission Services to be accompanied by a support person. In this context a support person is any person, whether a paid professional, volunteer, family member, or friend, who accompanies a person with a disability in order to help with communications, personal care, medical needs or with access to goods and services.  Mission Services will allow the support person to access goods and services only with the consent of the service user.  Mission Services has established protocol in the event that a service user is bringing into a program with them a support person who identifies as the gender that the space is not set up to serve, the individual is still able to bring this support person with them as long as they are willing to speak to management about guidelines in the space.			
Current and Potential Future Barriers:	Allowing an individual with a disability to be accompanied by a support person while also protecting the confidentiality of the individual with a disability  In the case of Inasmuch House, addressing a situation where the support person is also the abuser of the service user			
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Before discussing confidential information in front of the support person, staff will seek the consent of the person with the disability for the support person to have access to this confidential information. In some cases, the support person will need to remain because they assist the person with the disability with their communication. When a support person remains with the person with the disability, the support person may be asked to sign a Confidentiality Agreement.			



	In the case of Inasmuch House, if the support person is also the abuser of the service user, then that support person will not be allowed entry onto the property or premises of Mission Services			
Responsible Authority	Program Managers and Employees	Results		
Accessibility Requirement	Waive the Admission Charge When a Support Person is Required to Accompany a Person with a Disability		Compliance Deadline	January 1, 2016
Past Achievements:	Mission Services has adopted the policy to waive admission fees or ticket prices for a support person when that support person is accessing fundraising events in the capacity of providing support for an individual with a disability.			
Current and Potential Future Barriers:				
Plan to Meet Requirements:	Any information about admission fees or ticket prices will be clearly posted in an accessible format with information advising the service user that an admission fee will not be required for the support person.			
Responsible Authority	Results			
Accessibility Requirement	Provide Notice of Any Temporary I Services that May Affect Persons v Disabilities		Compliance Deadline	January 1, 2012
	Services that May Affect Persons v	procedure to noti	Deadline fy the public of se n. Postings will inc	1, 2012 rvice
	Services that May Affect Persons values Disabilities  Mission Services has implemented a disruptions by posting signs near the reason for service disruption, the duration of the control	procedure to noti area of disruptior ation of service di	Deadline fy the public of se n. Postings will incommend any	1, 2012 rvice lude the
Requirement	Services that May Affect Persons of Disabilities  Mission Services has implemented a disruptions by posting signs near the reason for service disruption, the dural alternatives available.  Mission Services works to prevent dis	procedure to noti area of disruptior ation of service di sruptions by ensu	Deadline  fy the public of se n. Postings will inconstruction and any  ring regular maint	1, 2012 rvice slude the
Requirement	Disabilities  Mission Services has implemented a disruptions by posting signs near the reason for service disruption, the dura alternatives available.  Mission Services works to prevent disof publicly accessible spaces.  In the event of a service disruption, Macroices when available.  Mission Services fixes service disruption, Macroices when available	procedure to noticarea of disruption ation of service disruptions by ensufication Services partions in a timely market in the services particular in the servic	Deadline  fy the public of se n. Postings will inconstruction and any  ring regular maint  provides alternative	1, 2012 rvice slude the enance
Requirement	Services that May Affect Persons of Disabilities  Mission Services has implemented a disruptions by posting signs near the reason for service disruption, the dura alternatives available.  Mission Services works to prevent disof publicly accessible spaces.  In the event of a service disruption, No services when available	procedure to noticarea of disruption ation of service disruptions by ensufication Services partions in a timely market in the services particular in the servic	Deadline  fy the public of se n. Postings will inconstruction and any  ring regular maint  provides alternative	1, 2012 rvice slude the enance



Plan to Meet Requirements:	Mission Services will continue to ensure that service disruptions are prevented by regular maintenance of publicly accessible spaces		
	Employees should report any service disruptions to their managers as soon as possible.		
	Mission Services will continue to provide alternative services when available		
	Mission Services will continue to fix all service disruptions in a timely manner		
	Mission Services will continue to provide essential goods and services wherever possible during the pandemic by following organizational protocols outlined in the Pandemic Handbook.		
	Mission Services will develop a procedure to ensure that service disruptions are posted on the organizational web site and social media sites (when applicable).		
Responsible Authority	Director of Operations	Results	

# Availability of Policies and Plans

For more information on this accessibility plan, please contact the Director of Human Resources

Mission Services shall, upon request, provide a copy of any policy or plan to a service user. When providing a document to a person with a disability, the document, or information contained in the document, will be provided in a format that takes into account the person's disability, and is agreed upon by that individual as being accessible.

Copies of this plan can also be viewed at www.mission- services.com