

DID YOU KNOW?

More than 50 million Americans with disabilities - 18% of our population - are potential customers for businesses of all types across the United States.

This group has \$175 billion in discretionary spending power, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. That figure is more than twice the spending power of American teenagers and almost 18 times the spending power of the American "twens" market.

RVING ACCESSIBILITY GROUP, INC.

"A Little Bit of Freedom Goes A Long Way"

Accessibility attracts not only people with disabilities but also their families and friends. Like others, these customers often visit stores, restaurants, movie theaters, and other businesses accompanied by family or friends. This expands the potential market exponentially!

This market is growing fast. By the year 2030, 71.5 million Baby Boomers will be over the age of 65 and demanding products, services, and environments that address their age-related physical changes.

<http://www.disabled-world.com/disability/statistics/american-disability.php>



These kids deserve every opportunity for inclusion rather than exclusion.

COMPANY DESCRIPTION

RVing Accessibility Group, Inc. provides accessible resource information to disabled RV travelers and caregivers who want to experience the joy and freedom of RV travel by being able to access accurate information about RV parks and rest areas that are ADA accessible, which meet the needs of physically challenged RV travelers. Information will be available as it is posted to our website www.rvingaccessibility.org. All information will be disseminated via internet as well as periodically in print and bound in full upon completion of our 3-phase unbiased research project involving one-on-one surveys with physically challenged campers and their caregivers to determine their likes and dislikes.

COMPANY HISTORY

Being disabled, Mark and his wife/caregiver, Ellie, found too many accessibility issues in RV parks they visited. They began traveling via RV in 1998 and Mark, who became permanently disabled in 2001, realized that information available for physically challenged RV travelers was essentially non-existent. What was available was inaccurate and misleading. There is a growing population of disabled RV travelers who need to know where truly ADA accessible RV parks are located so they enjoy their stay with dignity and independence. Mark and Ellie's experience with RV traveling led them to develop a non-profit organization dedicated to providing accurate information to all persons with disabilities, who are interested in, and capable of, enjoying RV and recreational travel.



Wheelchair friendly site easily accessible with scooter or wheelchair and easy access to amenities.



Accessible Arizona RV park with paved interior roads.

Enhanced Outdoor Disability Awareness

Education to Both Private & Public Sectors

For Physically Challenged Travelers

Focusing on Campgrounds, Parks & Large Rest Areas

RVing Accessibility Group, Inc.

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MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance awareness of recreational accessibility through education, example and experience to the RVing Community, the public and private business community for physically challenged travelers, be it age, injury or illness.

VISION STATEMENT

To provide published resource information to all persons with disabilities, who are interested in and capable of enjoying RV and recreational travel, obtain suitable camping facilities in an overall environment conducive to dignity and independence.

CORE VALUES

RVAG fosters these core values:

- ▶ Truth and Equality
- ▶ Accessibility Awareness
- ▶ Freedom and Integrity
- ▶ Dignity and Independence
- ▶ Respect Regardless of Age, Illness or Injury



◀ *The industry is changing to be more accommodating for physically challenged RVers.*

RV PARKS EXEMPT? FLYING UNDER THE RADAR

In an email to The U.S. Access Board, a reader asked, "I am a permanently disabled person who travels in an RV for convenience. Most of the RV parks I have stayed in do not have accessible bathrooms or showers, and some offices are not accessible. Where do RV parks fall under the ADA guidelines?" The following response was provided for clarification.

According to William R Bolton, Accessibility Specialist for The U.S. Access Board in Washington, DC, "If they (RV Parks) are privately owned they are covered by Title III and if they are state or local municipalities they are covered by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The enforcement agency is the Department of Justice (DOJ)."

REACHING OUT TO CUSTOMERS WITH DISABILITIES

The ADA says people with disabilities are entitled to "the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations" that a public accommodation provides to its customers. In other words, every type of good or service a business provides to customers is covered by the ADA. All businesses that serve the public must provide equal opportunity for customers with disabilities.

A common misconception about the ADA is that older buildings are not covered, they are "grandfathered." This is not true. Businesses that serve the public must remove barriers in existing facilities based on the following considerations.

For more information, please visit,
<http://www.ada.gov/reachingout/intro1.htm>

SOLUTIONS FOR REMOVING BARRIERS:

Other than the required 20 foot wide RV pad that is required to have a firm and transportable surface, the following barrier modifications are required:

- 1) Installing ramps
- 2) Making curb cuts at sidewalks and entrances;
- 3) Repositioning shelves
- 4) Rearranging tables, chairs, vending machines, display racks, or other furniture to create adequate maneuvering space
- 5) Widening doors
- 6) Provide roll-in showers with benches, accessible shower heads and assist handles
- 7) Installing accessible door hardware
- 8) Installing grab bars in toilet stalls
- 9) Rearranging toilet partitions to increase maneuvering space
- 10) Installing a raised toilet seat
- 11) Installing a full length bathroom mirror
- 12) Repositioning the paper towel dispenser in a bathroom

The Justice Department is also authorized to file lawsuits in Federal court in cases of "general public importance" or where a "pattern or practice" of discrimination is alleged. If you are sued by the Justice Department and you lose the case, you will not have to pay the Department's attorneys' fees, but you may have to pay monetary damages for compensatory relief (but not punitive relief) and civil penalties. Civil penalties may run as high as **\$55,000 for a first violation or \$110,000 for a subsequent violation.**

◀ *Fully accessible RV site with paved interior roads and concrete pads for your ease and comfort in Breckenridge, CO*

