



# HOUSING *for* PEOPLE *with* DISABILITIES

## The On-ramp to Community Participation

### Why It Matters

Participation in the community starts at home. If people cannot maneuver safely in their homes

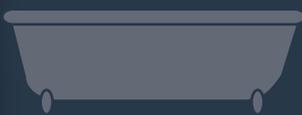
or come and go as they please, their ability to participate in the community is reduced. For the majority of people

with mobility impairments (whether chronic or newly acquired), it is not easy to leave home.

U.S. rental households with individuals who use a wheeled mobility device (wheelchair or scooter). Includes 385,287 households in both urban and rural areas.



do not have an entry-level bathroom.



do not have an entry-level bedroom (in units with more than one floor).



live in multi-family housing built since 1990, which is covered by the Fair Housing Act's Design and Construction Accessibility Guidelines.



are up at least one flight of stairs in apartments with no elevator.



have a stepped entry.



have no personal vehicle, increasing the obstacles to participation.



#### ADVOCATE

Where there is enough accessible housing, consumers and advocates could use new strategies to get people with disabilities into these units.



#### AMEND

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provides for moving tenants out of accessible apartments when someone with a disability needs the apartment. Policymakers could amend the Fair Housing Act with a similar provision.



#### ACT

Most rental units are not covered by the Fair Housing Act's design and construction requirements. Policymakers must find alternative solutions to address housing usability and accessibility needs.

The University of Kansas Research and Training Center on Independent Living

Phone 785-864-4095 • TTY 785-864-0706

Email [rtcil@ku.edu](mailto:rtcil@ku.edu) Web [rtcil.org/cl](http://rtcil.org/cl)

The University of Montana Rural Institute

© 2014. The contents of this infographic were developed under a grant from the Department of Education, NIDRR grant #H133B110006. However, these contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

