



Archdiocese of Philadelphia
OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES & THE DEAF APOSTOLATE
APOSTOLATE CONTACT FORM



We are asking each Parish and Apostolate to appoint a person to this role.
Please complete and return the attached form.

The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD) goal is to have a Apostolate Contact from each apostolate acting on behalf of persons with disabilities and their families in assisting chaplains/coordinators in their role of inviting people to full participation within the Church. Contacts are volunteers who serve as liaisons between persons with disabilities and their Parish/Apostolate and between the Parish/Apostolate and Archdiocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities. Responsibilities include:

- Assisting the chaplain/coordinator in ministry with persons with disabilities and their families
- Identifying persons with disabilities in the apostolate.
- Sensitizing the Church community to the needs and gifts of persons with disabilities
- Welcoming and making recommendations for accommodating persons with disabilities in Church life.

Did you know: More than half of people 65+ years of age report having at least one disability; one in twelve children are diagnosed with a physical or intellectual disability; one in ten of those sitting in pews every Sunday has a serious mental illness. Surveys indicate that there are 14 million of our Catholic brothers and sisters that live with a disability.

The Office provides Apostolate Contacts with support, resources and workshops through Parish/Apostolate Contact Meetings that are held twice a year at accessible locations throughout the Archdiocese. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Sr. Kathleen Schipani, IHM @ 215-587-3530 or email: sr.kschipani@archphila.org.

Office for Persons with Disabilities & the Deaf Apostolate
APOSTOLATE CONTACT - APPOINTMENT FORM

Name of Apostolate: _____

Address: _____ **Email:** _____

Name of contact person recommended: _____

Address: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Newly Appointed <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Service

Phone: _____ **Email address:** _____

Signature of Chaplain/Coordinator: _____ **Date:** _____

Please fax, mail or email to:
OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES & THE DEAF APOSTOLATE
 222 North 17th Street-8th Floor
 Philadelphia, PA 19103
 215-587-3530 (phone), 267-507-1215 (video phone for Deaf), 215-587-3561 (fax), sr.kschipani@archphila.org