Welcome & Introductions

Visitability - Basic Home Access features are:

- One zero step entrance on the main floor
- Doorways and hallways measuring 32”-36”
- A half bath on the main floor with maneuver space for a walker, wheelchair, or scooter.

Emerging themes from visitability interviews:

Isolation and frustration—commons themes

1. Disappointment/anger about being excluded from events/barriers not being addressed
2. Barriers to strengthening/maintaining relationships
3. Being denied opportunity to view people’s home interiors
4. Preventing reciprocation of social/tangible support
5. Raising topic of home barriers creates tension
6. Disappointment that newly-built home not accessible
7. Lack of discretion when gaining access to homes

Increased health risks—mental and physical health

Less robust relationships—less “face” time and less sharing = less intimacy

Difficulty in discussing this issue with family/friends—taboo topic

Questions from audience

Learn how to develop your own housing task force to advocate for Visitability.

- Build a partnership
  - Identify the CILs in your community or state
  - Identify other disability agencies in your community
• Who wants to advocate for Visitable?
  - Set a set time during the month to meet
  - Make a plan – i.e. Educate or Policy Change or Both

• Learn how to use the research to engage stakeholders and begin creating “Visitable” housing in your area.
  o Educate Stakeholders
    - Architects, builders, developers, realtors, City officials, State officials, legislators, general public
    - Trade shows
    - Conferences
    - Staff or committee meetings
    - Legislative sponsor days
    - Media outreach

  o Policy Change for Public Sector
    - Participate in annual citizen participation plans
    - Low Income Housing Tax Credit – Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP)
    - Home & Community Development Block Grant – Consolidated Plan

  o Policy Change for Private Sector
    - City ordinance – building codes, tax credit

Kathy
Questions/Discussion from audience
Wrap-up and close the session