

# New York's Protection & Advocacy System and Client Assistance Program

# PROTECTION & ADVOCACY FOR VOTING ACCESS (PAVA) PROPOSED PROGRAM PRIORITIES OCTOBER 1, 2017 to SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

#### **Priority I**

Advocate to ensure full participation in the electoral process for individuals with disabilities, including assisting individuals with disabilities in registering to vote, casting a ballot, and accessing polling places.

#### **Priority II**

Provide education, training, and assistance to individuals with disabilities that will promote their participation in the electoral process, including education and training about legal rights and voter registration and assistance in accessing polling places.

### **Priority III**

Advocate to ensure full implementation of the Help America Vote Act and similar state legislation in New York State, including participating in advisory committees, task forces, and coalitions.

### **Priority IV**

Provide training and education to election officials, poll workers, and volunteers regarding the rights of voters with disabilities and best practices for ensuring that people with disabilities are able to vote.

#### **Priority V**

Assist individuals with disabilities in filing complaints under the state administrative grievance procedure required by HAVA and represent individuals with disabilities in hearings that may be held regarding the complaint.

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#### **Priority VI**

Advocate to ensure accessibility of all polling places and all voting equipment and systems by people with disabilities, including conducting surveys and advocating for appropriate modifications.

## **Priority VII**

Obtain appropriate training and technical assistance regarding voting issues, including issues regarding accessibility of polling places and voting equipment and systems.

#### **Priority VIII**

Conduct outreach, education, and training to assure that persons with disabilities have increased knowledge regarding DRNY and the voting-related advocacy it provides.