



President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities  
Washington, D.C. 20447

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities (PCPID) enthusiastically submits to you the Committee's 2015 report, *Leveling the Playing Field: Improving Technology Access and Design for People with Intellectual Disabilities*, in accordance with Executive Order 12994, as amended by Executive Orders 13446 and 13652. This highly collaborative Annual Report is a product of the expertise, analysis and judgment of your Committee appointees, all of whom are motivated and dedicated to make a difference in the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities (ID). PCPID is, therefore, honored to offer recommendations embodied in this Report that serve people with ID.

Technology is the Committee's focus this year, as we continue to advocate for many advances that enhance the capacity of people with ID to fully participate in their respective communities, in their own health care decisions, in their educational attainment, and in their economic well-being. The Committee is convinced that in today's world the full participation of people with ID in their communities is achievable, but requires accessible, affordable and sophisticated technology. Little of the world's technology is available to individuals with ID, though research and accessible design are prerequisites for change. We see this as a matter of access and we see this as a matter of democracy.

Brilliant minds have offered the world extraordinary technological conveniences to manage common-place occurrences of daily life. So many enjoy these conveniences and organize their lives around them, and so could people with ID, if the necessary resources and will are leveraged to accomplish this goal. Rapidly developing technology, while a great thing, remains such a significant factor in everyone's life that without focused intervention a gap continues to widen between the kinds of lives available to people with ID and other Americans. It is our hope that this Report provides vital information that will bring together the necessary technological resources to close that gap.

The Committee greatly appreciates the opportunity to address these matters with you and your Administration. We also look forward to the enormous differences we can make together in the lives of people with ID.

Sincerely,

Julie Petty  
PCPID Chair