

# FL SAND 2021 Legislative Priorities



## COVID-19 Related Action

People living with disabilities are proven to be among the most vulnerable populations when it comes to increased risk factors for complications and unique challenges associated with COVID 19. As such, FL SAND has made advocating for the solutions to these issues a priority.

**FL SAND will work with legislators, officials, and other stakeholders at all levels to address the following COVID-19-related issues and safety measures in order to protect the disability population.**

### Increased Funding for and Streamlined Access to

- ◆ ***Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)***
- ◆ ***Mobile and/or in-home testing***
- ◆ ***Prioritized status in vaccine distribution for those who rely on multiple individuals to provide in-home care along with their caregivers***
- ◆ ***Durable medical equipment, by increasing funding and decreasing documentation requirements***

### Efficient Transportation

Transportation challenges for people with disabilities have been further complicated by the pandemic, particularly as it relates to access to vaccination and testing sites. Transportation systems statewide need to be specifically funded and adequately accessible to all for this purpose; individuals with disabilities need to be notified of vaccination appointments with enough time to arrange transportation; and vaccination sites should have dedicated individuals ready to assist these individuals as they arrive.

### No Immunity for Abuse & Neglect

FL SAND opposes Civil Immunity as it could potentially give facilities a blanket justification to avoid accountability for abuse and neglect. Our population needs to be protected at all costs. As such, we urge the legislature and all stakeholders to join us in opposition to SB 72 and HB 7.

Florida Self-Advocates Network'D (FL SAND) is a network of grassroots, self-advocacy groups that represents hundreds of people with disabilities throughout the state of Florida. We advocate for disability rights and inclusion for all.



You can learn more about us at [FLSAND.org](http://FLSAND.org),  
or reach us at [contactflsand@gmail.com](mailto:contactflsand@gmail.com)

FL SAND is a project provided by the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc., supported in part by grant numbers 1901FLSCDD-01 and 2001FLSCDD-01 from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official ACL policy.