

RURAL HOUSING for PEOPLE with DISABILITIES

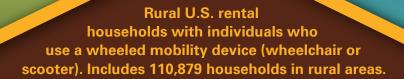
Community Living The On-ramp to Community Participation

— Why It Matters

Participation in the community maneuver safely in their homes

or come and go as they please, their starts at home. If people cannot ability to participate in the community chronic or newly acquired), it is not is reduced. For the majority of people

with mobility impairments (whether easy to leave home.





do not have an entry-level bathroom.



do not have an entry-level bedroom (in units with more than one floor).



live in multi-family housing built since 1990, which is covered by the Fair **Housing Act's Design** and Construction **Accessibility** Guidelines.

are up at least one flight of stairs in apartments

with no elevator.



have no personal vehicle, compounding the obstacles to participation.

Data: American Housing Survey, 2011





Implications for Change



Where there is enough accessible housing, consumers and advocates could use new strategies to get people with disabilities into these units.



Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provides for moving tenants out of accessible apartments when someone with a disability needs the apartment. Policymakers could amend the Fair Housing Act with a similar provision.



Most rental units are not covered by the Fair Housing Act's design and construction requirements. Policymakers must find alternative solutions to address housing usability and accessibility needs.

The University of Kansas Research and Training Center on Independent Living

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