

## ***Making Housing More Welcoming***

The basic rule of thumb is:  
“*elbow heights make it right*”

- ◆ Light switches
- ◆ Electrical outlets
- ◆ Thermostats

You may also consider:

- ◆ Ramps
- ◆ Wide door frames
- ◆ Levered door handles
- ◆ Railings on both sides of stairs
- ◆ Flashing lights added to door bells, smoke detectors, and fire alarms
- ◆ Cabinets removed from under sinks
- ◆ Loop handles on cabinets
- ◆ Grab bars for the bathroom

Remove unexpected obstacles:

- ◆ Obstacles in the entryway
- ◆ Low hanging lights
- ◆ Protruding cabinets

### ***Brochure statistics are from:***

U.S. Census Bureau, Statistical Abstract of the U.S., 2001; National Apartment Association; American Association of People with Disabilities; and INclusion Network Surveys.

**For more information:**

### **United States Access Board**

(800) 872-2253

[www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov)



### **Prime Time Office on Aging**

(740) 314-5197

[www.primetimejeffersoncounty.com](http://www.primetimejeffersoncounty.com)

For ideas about making your apartment units more accessible:

### **Soc. for Equal Access**

(330) 343-9292

[www.accessusc.org](http://www.accessusc.org)

### **HomeMods**

(213) 740-1364

[www.homemods.org](http://www.homemods.org)

[Have accessible housing?](#)

*Have it listed in the following database.*

[ohiohousinglocator.org](http://ohiohousinglocator.org)



Free online listing of affordable and accessible rental housing units available statewide with special features for the elderly and people with disabilities.

### **Where to File a Complaint if Your Rights Have Been Violated:**

The Fair Housing Programs  
of Steubenville, Toronto & Jefferson County  
Ohio Valley Fair Housing Center  
Steubenville Fair Housing Practices Commission  
115 South 3rd Street, Suite 108  
Steubenville, OH 43953  
(740) 283-6000 extension 1700

## **Attention Landlords and Developers!**

**Accessible  
Housing  
is  
an  
Untapped Market**

**AH!**



**People with disabilities usually stay in their apartments a minimum of 5 years.**

**Turnover costs average \$1,000.00 per unit.**

**About 26% of the U.S. population has a disability.**



**EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY**

# Accessible Housing



*New markets!*  
*New opportunities!*

Would you like a great way to expand your market and create new opportunities for long-term residents?

Have you ever considered what keeps residents in apartments?

### *Additional Tips*

Convey notices and information in written and non-written formats.

Remember that all service animals are permitted.

Make sure bushes and trees do not obstruct walkways.



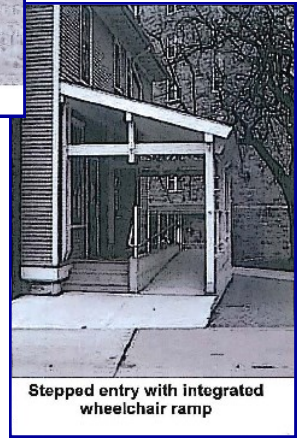
Wheelchair space under counter and stove with controls in front



Roll-in shower and toilet with grab bars



No-step entry



Stepped entry with integrated wheelchair ramp

Turnover costs average \$1,000.00 per unit..

Turnovers average over 6% of total expenses.

In the U.S., \$250 billion is spent annually by people with disabilities.

The average cost per year spent on housing is approximately \$9,552.00 per person.

About 29% of the households in most metropolitan areas have a family member who has a disability.

**REMEMBER:**  
You can reduce turnover with modifications that allow people with disabilities to live comfortably.

### Barriers in Existing Floor Plan (Before)

- ◆ Galley design in kitchen limits wheelchair maneuvering space
- ◆ Lack of maneuvering space in bathroom
- ◆ Counter height 36"
- ◆ Lower cupboards interfere with counter access
- ◆ Upper cupboards inaccessible
- ◆ Bathtub in bathroom

### Modifications to Floor Plan (After)

- ◆ L-shaped design in kitchen
- ◆ Turning area in bathroom and living room 5'
- ◆ Counter height 27"-32"
- ◆ Outlets installed on edge of countertops
- ◆ Increased maneuvering space at entry
- ◆ Roll-in shower installed in bathroom

