



Justice-seeking.
People of faith.



Plumbline: Accessibility

Methodist Federation for Social Action

www.mfsaweb.org

Facebook: [MFSAVoices](#) or Twitter: [@MFSAVoices](#)

“I am setting a plumbline in the midst of my people...” - Amos 7:8

Resources:

[UM Committee on Disabilities](#)

[UM Association of Ministers with Disabilities](#)

[UM Committee on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ministries](#)

[Interfaith Network on Mental Illness](#)

[Faith for All](#)

Values at Stake

“We do not have bodies—we are bodies.”

- Christopher Loren

In both the Church and the wider world, we are often informed by a dualism of body-spirit, preferring to subvert the importance of the body in our social, cultural, and theological concepts. But indeed, if we are the Body of Christ, we suffer when one suffers. For this reason, MFSA supports General Conference legislation seeking to create systems that provide access to care that affirms the physical, mental, and spiritual health of individuals and communities.

Some in our communities and congregations are often problematized because of differences in physical or mental abilities. **MFSA affirms the human rights of our neighbors and siblings in faith who differ in physical or mental abilities.** We support quality health care for all who need it, and decry abusive treatment of patients, prisoners, and students because of such differences.

We also fully believe that our Church must be a place of welcome for all people. **We celebrate legislative action to encourage our**

United Methodist seminaries to strive for greater accessibility and to offer courses in theology and practical ministry to meet the needs of persons of diverse abilities.

Finally, we support important changes to the candidacy process which do not force disclosure of disabilities, allowing candidates to be examined on their merits for ministry, not their disability status.

Key Legislation: SUPPORT

CB 60711 : Right to Health Care

CB 60469 : Health Care for All in US

CB 60221 : Quality in UM Healthcare

CB 60314 : Abusive Treatment Methods for Persons with Mental Disorders

CB 60405 : Ministries in Mental Illness

FA 60017 : Non-Discrimination in UMC Employee Benefits

FO 60700 : UM Seminary Accessibility

GM 60306 : Global Health

GM 60329 : UM Committee on Deaf & Hard of Hearing Ministry

MHS 60016*, 60208 : Candidates with Disabilities

* = Stronger Legislation

Key Legislation: DO NOT SUPPORT

CB 60708 : Right to Good Health Care