

## Help Increase CRT Awareness --- National CRT Week 2014

Members of Congress will be back in their hometowns for the August recess. With that in mind the week of August 18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> has been declared National CRT Awareness Week to shine a national spotlight on Complex Rehab Technology (CRT) and secure more support for the "Ensuring Access to Quality Complex Rehabilitation Technology" (H.R. 942 and S. 948).

If you can't connect the week of August 18<sup>th</sup>, make contact sometime during the month. The contact itself is far more important than the timing!

H.R. 942 now has 146 Members signed on and S. 948 has 19. We are gaining ground but in order to continue making progress we need CRT stakeholders to get their Member's attention and ask for their support. You can see if your Members have already signed on by visiting <a href="https://www.access2crt.org">www.access2crt.org</a>.

The most effective way to make sure your voice gets heard is meeting face-to-face with your Member, and that in-person connection can take many forms. The best setting is to have them visit your store or facility. This priceless experience can be fairly easy to coordinate and we're happy to provide personal assistance with the planning, structure, and materials to ensure an effective visit. You can also find a guide entitled "Hosting a Visit at Your Business" that provides helpful tips in the Educational Material section at <a href="https://www.access2crt.org">www.access2crt.org</a>.

If you can't arrange a visit at your location, there are still plenty of other ways to connect with your Members while they're home. You can set up an appointment or visit them at their local office, attend one of their local fundraisers, or go to a community event that they will be at. Get creative and partner with other CRT stakeholders in your community to deliver the CRT message. Make it fun!

You will find a variety of advocacy documents and tools at <a href="www.access2crt.org">www.access2crt.org</a>. Of particular importance is the CRT Legislative Information Pack. This contains key material relating to our CRT legislation including Dear Colleague letters from the sponsors, educational information on what CRT is, and a list of the national organizations supporting the bill. Be sure to use this document in your discussion with your Member.

Please contact us at info@ncart.us if we can supply any additional information or be of other assistance.

Thanks for your participation and let us know how you do!