



BASIC HINTS FOR INTERACTION WITH PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

- ♿ Ask the person who walks with difficulty whether he/she prefers a chair with armrests or a higher seat.
- ♿ Be prepared to offer assistance to persons with limited hand, wrist or arm function
- ♿ Never ask a wheelchair user to hold Coats, etc. Do not put your drink, for instance, on the desktop attached to someone's wheelchair
- ♿ Do not push a person's wheelchair without the permission of the user or being requested to do so.
- ♿ When talking to a wheelchair user, sit on a chair in order to **be** at eye-level. If you have to stand, stay at a distance so that the person does not strain his/her neck.
- ♿ Place items within a wheelchair user's easy reach.
- ♿ People using canes or crutches need their arms to balance themselves, so never grab the person by the arm.
- ♿ Don't push a wheel chair without asking and getting permission (offer to help).
- ♿ Wheelchairs are part of the individual's personal space - don't kick or stand on the wheels.
- ♿ Placing mats on slippery floors is not wise - slippery floors and small mats can cause accidents .



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

Public Education & Awareness (P&A)
National Council for Persons with Physical Disabilities in
South Africa (NCPDSA)
Website: www.ncppdsa.org.za
Cell: 082 820 7358 (SMS only);
E-Mail: therina.wentzel@vodamail.co.za



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

