

CITY OF FORT COLLINS

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

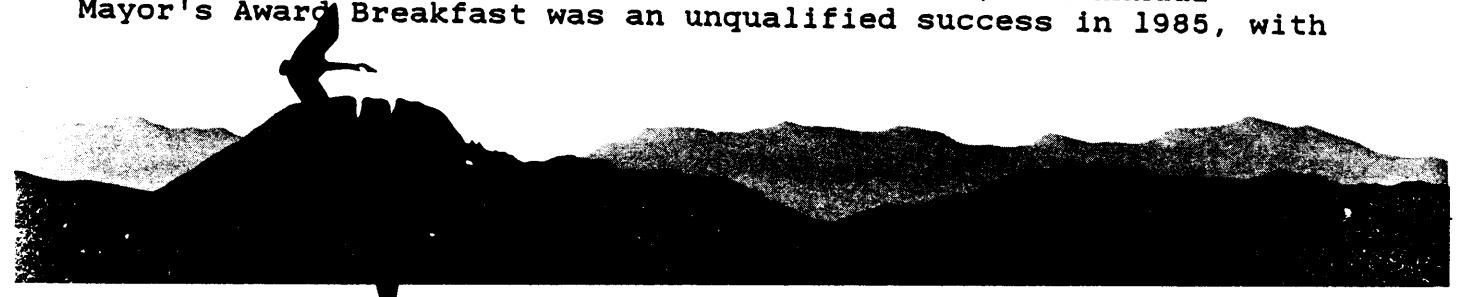
The Fort Collins Commission on Disability has had an active year. Throughout the preceding year the Commission has continued in its efforts to promote awareness of and sensitivity to the handicapped members of the Fort Collins community.

The Commission continued to offer advice and guidance on handicapped issues throughout the year both to City Council and to the city staff. The Architectural Barrier Removal Program, administered through the CDBG office is of particular importance to the Commission in its role as overseer of the program. The Commission reviewed and approved or denied --4-- qualified projects which have been carried out by the CDBG office.

Members of the Commission have also been active in several ongoing awareness efforts including participating in such projects as review of public buildings for handicapped accessibility, review of the City's curb cut and ramp project, input into Transfort's plans for routing handicapped accessible buses, review of the plans for the new swimming pool and ice rink at Edora Park and review of the 5-year Transportation Development Plan. Members have also been actively reviewing new building plans for handicapped accessibility. Commission members also offered their input concerning City Hall signage. The Commission also provided input to local businesses when oversights of accessibility occur and suggested ways of solving those problems.

The Commission participated in an ongoing effort to establish workable criteria for handicapped accessibility in new multi-family housing developments in the 5-Year Handicapped Accessibility Plan. The Commission and members of the development community worked together to provide the City with modified handicapped accessibility requirements to the Uniform Building Code which would be both livable and economical to build. On this issue, the Commission also took a strong stand on enforcement of the state law's requirement of 1:7 handicapped accessible units for new multi-family housing. In an effort to provide more information, the Commission conducted a survey of the city's population to determine the numbers of handicapped people who live within the city and the kinds of disabilities that occur.

The Commission's largest awareness effort, The Annual Mayor's Award Breakfast was an unqualified success in 1985, with



attendance much greater than in previous years. Many community members participated in disability simulation and reported back to the breakfast participants on their experiences.

In general, the Commission members were very active in promoting awareness and support for the disabled both professionally and personally.