Accessibility for All
by the Disability and Health Program

New Resource: End-of-Life Decisions for Adults with Significant Intellectual Disabilities

The Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development - UCEDD has developed a website, Complex Moral Issues: End-of-Life Decisions for Adults with Significant Intellectual Disabilities, to help guardians who have been given the responsibility to assist people who have never been able to express their intentions about end-of-life care and life-sustaining treatments due to the extent of their cognitive disability and limited ability to communicate abstract and complex messages.

SpectrumSingles

A California mother and daughter team worked together to create SpectrumSingles, a unique dating and social media website created by people on the spectrum for people on the spectrum. The goal of the website is to create a safe environment where individuals will be able to share experiences. There is also an accompanying YouTube page with dating and communication tips, available here.

Upcoming Events

Effective Strategies for Communicating With People who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Other Functional and Access Needs
May 12, 2015, Governor's Hurricane Conference, Orlando, FL
June 3 & 4, Broward County Emergency Operations Center, Plantation, FL
What: This training is sponsored by the Florida Department of Health Bureau of Preparedness and Response and the Bureau of Chronic Disease, Disability and Health Program. Some information is available here.

Making a Difference Through Research, Practice, and Policy
June 1-4, Louisville, Kentucky
What: AAIDD's 139th annual conference offers four blocs of concurrent sessions featuring information on the outcomes of more than 100 projects, programs,
Selecting the Right Accessible Vehicle

There is a lot of thought that needs to be put into buying an accessible vehicle before you take the leap, and there are several sizes and options to choose from while looking. Luckily, the National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association (NMEDA) has constructed a list of vehicles and their features to point out what may or may not work for you. If you need information on how to make your vehicle wheelchair accessible you can contact a NMEDA dealer in your local area.

Recognizing an Unrecognized Health Disparity Population

Individuals with disabilities account for more than 12% of the US population. Gloria Krahn et al. recently published an article summarizing evidence and recommendations that observed differences related to disparity status would be sufficient to allow federal and state government stop actively work to reduce inequities. The article is available here.

Updated Resource: Principles of Community Engagement

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Clinical and Translational Science Awards Consortium, and Community Engagement Key Function Committee Task Force have released the second edition of the and research studies. The full schedule of events is available here.

Florida Council for Exceptional Children 69th Annual State Conference

October 1-3, 2015, Hilton Double Tree, Orange County, Florida
What: The conference will continue the collaborative efforts with school districts, universities, family organizations, and Florida Student CEC. The conference will celebrate mutual commitment to children and youth with special needs. Click here for more information.

Webinars

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Application Assistance Webinars
May 20, 2015
June 3, 2015
CMS is hosting a series of webinars to provide technical assistance on completing applications for their funding opportunity announcement. To register, click the date above.

Florida Center for Inclusive Communities 2015 Webinar Schedule:
May 20, 2015: Transportation Disadvantage-getting to and from work
June 17, 2015: Transition to adulthood: essential Skills to getting a job
August 19, 2015: Navigating the Workplace with Invisible Disabilities
Principles of Community Engagement. This tool provides public health professionals, health care providers, researchers, and community-based leaders and organizations with both a science-based and practical guidance for engaging partners in projects that may affect them. The primer also provides tools for those who are leading efforts to improve population health through community engagement. [Available here](#).

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**FDCC Project Achieve Guide**

The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council has posted a guide describing Project Achieve, a program that provides a support system for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities who enroll in Career and Technical Education programs at Florida State College at Jacksonville. This inclusive program model assists students with intellectual and developmental disabilities to attend classes and earn certification alongside their peers without disabilities. [Click here](#) to access the website and view the guide.

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**Ticket to Work**

Finding Your Path to Employment with Ticket to Work is a new American Sign Language (ASL) video series from the Ticket to Work program at the Social Security Administration. These videos can help interested Social Security disability beneficiaries who are deaf or hard of hearing learn about the Ticket to Work Program, how work may affect benefits, and the resources available to find and keep a job. More information can be obtained by clicking [here](#).

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September 16, 2015: Coping with the employment process: Effective relaxation and stress management techniques. [Click here for more information](#).

**Healthy People 2020: Tobacco**

**May 21, 2015; 12-1pm**

This webinar will focus on activities and interventions related to tobacco cessation and prevention, with a particular focus on the LGBT population. Register by clicking [here](#).

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**About the DHP**

The Disability and Health Program (DHP) is funded through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Formerly the Florida Office on Disability and Health, the DHP is housed under the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention in Tallahassee, FL with partnership from the University of Florida.
10 Things to Know about Becoming an Entrepreneur

Disability.gov recently released an article in their Disability Connection Newsletter that includes 10 things to know about becoming an entrepreneur. Information provided include building your foundation, financing, and social security. To see the whole article, click here.

State Policy Matters Newsletter

The Arc recently launched the first edition of the "State Policy Matters" newsletter for the purpose of highlighting the legislative, policy and legal work of The Arc's state chapter network. They aim for this to be a useful tool to aid in getting a handle on current policy developments related to I/DD. The newsletter will be issued quarterly.

2014 FDDC Annual Report

The FDDC has released the 2014 Annual Report, "Investing in Florida's Communities." To access the report, click here.

Falls Prevention Summit Data

New CDC data and resources for community educators has been released following the Falls Prevention Summit at the White House Conference on Aging. Click here to read new data and get materials.

Racial/Ethnic
Differences in Mental Health Service Use Among Adults

New findings on mental health service use by racial and ethnic groups are now available in a report by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The report is based on combined National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) data from 2008-2012. The report is available here.

2014 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has produced the National Healthcare Quality Report and the National Healthcare Disparities Report, integrated into a single document. The report highlights the importance of examining quality and disparities together to gain a complete picture of health care. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the quality of care received by the general U.S. population and disparities in care. The report is available here.

Economic Benefits of Reducing Racial and Ethnic Inequality

These fact sheets provide state statistics on demographic changes and the statewide economic gains of eliminating racial and ethnic
disparities. Click here to access the Center for American Progress fact sheets.

**Assuring the Quality of Home and Community Based Services**

The AcademyHealth convened a group of researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to discuss what is known today about the quality of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS), how to define and measure HCBS quality, and how measures might be used to improve quality. Click here for more information.

**Get Involved**

**Florida Council for Exceptional Children 69th Annual State Conference**

The Florida Council for Exceptional Children has released a call for presentations. Submissions focused on celebrating diversity, effective instructional strategies and the family are being encouraged. Presentations professional deadline is May 15, 2015 and the Student Kaleidoscope Deadline is September 15, 2015. More information is available here.

**UMass Online Survey for Mothers with Physical or**
Mobility Disabilities

The University of Massachusetts (UMass) is looking for participants for an online survey for mothers with physical or mobility disabilities. Mass Medical School would like to learn about the health care experiences of mothers with physical or mobility disabilities during pregnancy. To find out if you are eligible, click here. If you prefer to complete the survey over the phone, call 1-888-386-7157.

Call for Comments on the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation State Plan

The Florida Rehabilitation Council works in strategic partnership with VR to ensure quality services and help Floridians living with a disability to find or maintain employment. This is an opportunity to share your success story or concerns with Council Members. The Public Forum will be held at the Embassy Suites on Baymeadows Road in Jacksonville, Florida on May 19th, 11am-12 pm. You may also participate by phone. For more detailed information click here.

Accessibility Resolution Introduction

The Citizens Coalition For Equal Access in Connecticut was recently successful in getting an accessibility resolution introduced for debate in both houses of the United States Congress. If passed, the House and Senate resolutions would put the Congress on record as affirming that more needs to be done to
make federally funded buildings fully accessible. Get involved by contacting your Representatives and Senators and asking them to co-sign and vote for S.Con.Res.12 and H.Con.Res.37. Click here for more information.

No Wrong Door Survey

The Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) is working with other agencies to determine how to make it easier for individuals to learn about and access the services and supports they need for long term services and supports (LTSS). To assist in this effort, DOEA and partnering agencies are conducting a survey to obtain vital input. To provide feedback on your experience in accessing current systems and services, click here. To learn more about No Wrong Door, click here.

Call for Comments on Speech Generating Device

Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) opened a public comment period regarding changes to its Speech Generating Devices (SGD) guidelines. The public comment period conclude May 29th. Newly covered SGD features include the capacity to generate email, text or phone messages to allow beneficiaries to "speak" or communicate remotely. For more information or to participate in the public comment period click here.

Camp TBi

Camp TBi is a weekend retreat packed with social events, activities, and learning
opportunities for survivors of brain injury and their families. This year’s camp is being held at the Life Enrichment Center in Fruitland Park, FL. To find more info, click here.

Awards and Scholarships

Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) Releases Navigator FOA

CMS released the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for navigators in both the federally facilitated marketplace as well as the state partnership marketplaces. These grants will now be awarded for three years. The deadline for applications is June 15, 2015. To read more, click here. The Personal Learning Scholarship Accounts (PLSA) is a new tter.

Correction

Community Resilience PSAs

Last month we provided a link with the announcement about the videos from Community Resilience. The videos are not posted on the Community Resilience website.

Best,

Florida Disability and Health Program
Disclaimer: These links are provided for informational purposes, not to solicit donations to an organization nor to promote one organization or resource over another.


http://fodh.phhp.ufl.edu

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