September is FASD Awareness Month

The first Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Awareness Month is September 2015. FASD Awareness Month is an annual campaign to increase recognition about the risks of prenatal alcohol exposure and the needs of children and adults living with FASDs. This year's theme is "Alcohol and Pregnancy: No safe amount; No safe time; No safe alcohol. Period." For more information click here.

Housing Resource Locator App

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) new Resource Locator mobile application (app) for smartphones and electronic tablets can help you get answers to your housing-related questions. The app connects you with building managers, public housing authorities, and property management companies to learn about available HUD housing, including affordable housing for people with disabilities and seniors.

Download the app in Apple iTunes or Google Play Marketplace. To read more about the HUD app, click here.

Upcoming Events

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.

SportsAbility Ocala/Gainesville
October 2, 10am-2pm; ED Croskey Center, Hampton Aquatic Center, MLK Recreation Complex, Ocala, FL
October 3, 10am-3pm; Paynes Prairie State Park, Micanopy, FL (outside Gainesville)
What: Activities are designed for people of ALL ages and ALL abilities! Family, friends, and people that serve persons with disabilities are also invited to participate. Click here for
Autism and Exercise

The National Center on Health, Physical Activity and Disability (NCHPAD) and the Exercise Connection launched a new video series, *Improving the Lives of Individuals with Autism through Exercise*. The goal of the series is to help parents, caregivers, educators and therapists introduce exercise to their children or students on the autism spectrum. The series will unveil on NCHPAD's [YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com) with three new episodes released per week. [Click here](https://www.youtube.com) to read more.

Parenting with a Disability

Author Christinne Rudd has been an advocate and speaker on various disability issues including parenting, relationships and dating with a disability for her entire life. Recently, her article on empowerment through parenting for people with disabilities was published in the Huffington Post. In her own words, she's here to say, "if you're a person with a disability thinking about becoming a parent, or are in a relationship with someone who has a disability and are contemplating parenthood, all is not lost." To read more of Christinne's essay, [click here](https://www.huffingtonpost.com).

Rights of Parents with Disabilities: Clarified

In response to an increasing number of discrimination complaints that the federal agencies say they have received from people with disabilities, the Obama

The Arc 2015 Annual Convention

October 3-5; Indianapolis, IN

The Arc's 2015 National Convention is a three day gathering of individuals with I/DD and their families, chapter leaders and staff and those dedicated to the movement, to come together to learn, grow, and be inspired. [Click here](https://www.thearc.org) to register.

FSSP Training Workshop -Florida Deaf-Blind Association

October 17, 9am-5pm, Jacksonville, FL

What: Florida Support Service Providers (FSSP) is holding a training workshop to teach sighted participants how to guide safely and effectively, how to relay visual information, and more. Each participation will wear blindfolds or vision stimulator glasses and earplugs to experiences how the deafblind function in various activities. Contact Darlene Laibl-Crow (386-546-5706, dlaiblcrowe@att.net) for more information, or [click here](https://www.fssp.org).

Making Sense of the Madness

October 20, 9am-4pm, Sarasota, FL

What: Jeff Noble, founder and CEO of Noble Initiatives, an organization that provides hope and education to people caring for someone living with a Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD), will cover information on what a FASD is, understanding brain dysfunction, primary and secondary disabilities and more. To save your seat, call 941-371-8820x1025 or email michelle.moreno@thefloridacenter.org

Effective Strategies for Communicating with People Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Others with Access and Functional Needs

October 28, 8am-5pm, Gainesville, FL
administration is warning state and local officials not to discriminate against people with disabilities who have children or would like to. Technical assistance issued jointly this month from the U.S. Department of Justice and the Department of Health and Human Services clarifies that children should not be taken from their moms and/or dads simply because a parent has a disability. Similarly, federal officials said that people with disabilities should not face added barriers to becoming foster or adoptive parents due solely to their special needs. Click here to read more.

Tuesday's with Liz: New Video!

Liz Weintraub, Disability Policy Fellow at the Association of University Centers on Disabilities, has a weekly YouTube show called Tuesday's with Liz. This week, she interviewed Sharon Lewis about the new Home Community Based Service Rules and her daughter, who just started college this Fall. Click here to see Liz in action.

Florida Lifespan Respite Alliance Formation

The Florida Lifespan Respite Alliance (FLRA) is a new organization whose mission is to promote access to affordable, high-quality lifespan respite care services in Florida for all disability types. In partnership with FLRA, the Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) has recently been awarded the Lifespan Respite Care Program Grant by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. FLRA and DOEA will use the grant funds ($200,000 over three years) to

Emergency managers, law enforcement personnel, emergency medical services personnel, and other health care workers are encouraged to attend. This training will teach the importance of effective communication, how to avoid legal and safety missteps, ways to provide effective communication and more. Register through SERT TRAC.

Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD) Conference Registration now open! Click here to register for the AUCD conference, or to learn more.

Webinars

Florida Centers for Inclusive Communities' 2015 Employment Webinar Series
September 16, 2015, 5-6pm ET
Coping with the Employment Process: Effective Relaxation and Stress Management Techniques. Presenter Lydia Abrams is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the Tampa Bay area. She will help attendees identify signs of stress, triggers of stress that occur during various stages of the employment process, and effective relaxation techniques. Click here to register.

NCBDDD's Division of Blood Disorders
September 24, 2-3pm ET
"Diagnosis of von Willebrand Disease: Challenges and Opportunities," presented by Connie Miller, medical geneticist and director of the Clinical Coagulation Laboratory for the Division of Blood Disorders at the
build a statewide coalition of respite stakeholders, improve the accessibility of respite services by more efficiently connecting family caregivers with available respite services, raise public awareness of and stakeholder knowledge of the critical role that respite services play in the lives of family caregivers, and more. Contact and develop a long-term Sustainability Plan supporting the project goals. Contact Kayla Sutherland (ksutherland@ounce.org) for more information.

**iHear with iPhone**

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office granted Apple 52 patents in June 2015, including a new hearing aid technology that would make the iPhone an even better device for the hearing impaired. The new technology could be implemented in a portable audio device, detect if the user has a hearing aid, and then automatically adjust the audio signal. Apple has been a leader in accessible technology, and also won a Helen Keller Achievement Award for its VoiceOver feature to help those with vision impairments. To read more, click here. Thanks to DHB Weekly updates for making us aware of this development!

**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.

**Briefs, Guides, and Tip Sheets**

**Guide: Accessible Meetings, Events,**
and Conferences
The DIDILRR-funded Mid-Atlantic ADA Center has released the Guide to Accessible Meetings, Events, and Conferences. The extensive guide covers site selection, pre-event activities, physical and audio-visual considerations, food service, personal assistants and service animals, tips for presenters and attendees, and emerging promising practices. The guide also includes a discussion of the market case for making an event accessible to all attendees.

Guide: Air Travelers with Developmental Disabilities
The U.S. Department of Transportation released the Guide for Air Travelers with Developmental Disabilities. The document is a guide to the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA) and its implementing regulations. It serves as a brief but authoritative source of information for passengers with developmental disabilities as well as airlines about the services, facilities, and accommodations required by the ACAA and the provisions of Part 382.

Guide: How-to Offer Inclusive Internship Programs
The U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy have released a new guide on offering internships to students with disabilities in your company.
Titled "Inclusive Internship Programs: A How-to Guide for Employers," the manual contains information on various topics employers should consider when establishing internship programs to ensure that they are open to all qualified candidates. Click here to access the manual.

Guide: Health Care & Job Training for Youth with Disabilities

The U.S. Departments of Labor (DOL) and Health and Human Services have issued a "Dear Colleague" letter for youth service providers, state and local agencies, and policy makers. The letter offers guidance to ensure that young people with disabilities or chronic health conditions receive health care transition and job training services under the Affordable Care Act and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Find more resources on DOL’s website, and click here to access the guidance letter.

Get Involved

Research Opportunity on Disability and Disasters

The Office of Disability Integration and Coordination announced a research opportunity on disability and disorders. The
George Washington university is conducting research about how adults with physical disabilities think about and prepare for disasters. Participants are invited to complete a survey online or by telephone. The survey will take approximately 20-30 minutes when completed online and approximately 40 minutes when completed by telephone. For more information, send an email to emergencyprepstudy@gmail.com or call 202-994-1887.

**ABLE National Resource Center Survey**

The ABLE National Resource Center has constructed an informal survey to gather a better understanding of the level of enthusiasm behind creating ABLE accounts and how potential beneficiaries may utilize these accounts for purposes of maintaining and increasing their health, independence and quality of life. The information gathered will be used to assist in the development of effective and response state ABLE programs. [Click here](#) to access the survey (includes instructions).

**Awards, Scholarships, and Applications**
Nova wins $3.4 Million Grant!

Congratulations to Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine! The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded the College a $3.4 million grant to train dentists on the special sensitivities and strategies needed to care for the growing population of children and teens affected by autism. Click here to read more.

2015 Legislative Award Winners

The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) recently voted to present the 2015 Outstanding Service Award to Senate President Andy Gardiner of Orlando. He joins Senator Nan Rich and former Governor Jeb Bush as the only recipients of this distinguished recognition. President Pro Tempore Garret Richter, Senator Rene’Garcia and Representative Patrick Rooney Jr. are recipients of the 2015 Outstanding Legislator Award. This award recognizes legislators who have made extraordinary contributions to the State of Florida and its citizens with developmental disabilities during the 2015 legislative session.

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.


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