

Voting rights, a wheelchair user travels the world, how to make college affordable, and more in this issue of Accessibility for All.

Accessibility for All

by the Disability and Health Program

Recent News

Funding Increases for Disability Programs

The Federal Government has boosted spending for programs that help individuals with disabilities. This includes a \$16 million increase for housing and funding increases at Social Security to improve administrative services. To learn more, [click here](#).

App to Help Visually-Impaired Persons 'See'

Be My Eyes is an IOS app uses video call and a community of sighted volunteers to help visually impaired individuals 'see.' Volunteers of the app are typically engaged in tasks such as checking the expiration date of a food item or locating something in the fridge. To learn more, [click here](#).

Autism Speaks awarded 1,000 iPads!

This past December, Autism Speaks awarded more than 1,000 iPads to financially disadvantaged children and adults with autism. The iPads allow these individuals to access apps that help advance communication and learning skills. Autism Speaks

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Upcoming Events

6th Annual Access Life Expo

February 20, 2016,
10:00am-2:00pm,
Lake Worth, FL

This free event is for individuals and families living with disabilities. Activities will include boat rides, archery, and lunch! To view the event flyer, [click here](#). To register, [click here](#).

asked the families to send in the recipients' reactions.

To watch the video, [click here.](#)

Folic Acid Continues to Prevent Spina Bifida

The American Journal of Preventative Medicine found that adding folic acid to all enriched cereal grain products leads to an estimated 600-700 babies being born without spina bifida, who would have otherwise been affected were it not for fortification. To learn more about this new study, [click here.](#)

Wheelchair User Travels Around the World

Cory Lee has muscular dystrophy, has 12,000 Twitter followers, uses a wheelchair, and has visited 14 different countries. This 25 year-old blogger is determined to visit every continent! To learn more about Cory, [click here.](#) To read Cory's travel blog, [click here.](#)

#VoteDisability

Rooted in Rights has released a few videos about voting rights and accommodations for persons with disabilities. One of their videos addresses the importance of Deaf people voting. To watch this video, [click here.](#)

This website also lists resources to help you register to vote, become informed on the issues, and exert your right to vote! To learn more, [click here.](#)

Funding Increase for NIH

Congress approved has a approved a \$2 billion budget increase for the National Institute of Health (NIH). The NIH announced earlier that it would allocate \$28 million in funding for research to improve the development and evaluation of therapies for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). To learn more, [click here.](#)

Florida Symposium on Aging with Developmental Disabilities

**February 26, 2016,
9:00am-4:30pm**

This day-long symposium focuses on providing families, providers, and professionals with resources to ensure continued quality of life for persons with disabilities. To learn more, [click here.](#) To register, [click here.](#)



Webinars & Applications

2016 Through The Looking Glass Scholarship

Deadline: March 1, 2016

A total of fifteen \$1000 scholarships will be given out for the Fall 2016 semester. High school seniors or college students are eligible to apply to this scholarship. However, all students must be 21 years of age or younger. To learn more, [click here.](#)

PEAT Talks: Raising the Bar On Accessibility

**February 18, 2016,
2:00pm-2:30pm**

The Partnership on Employment and

Tips, Briefs, & Guides

Enhancing Care for Hispanic Children

The National Center for Medical Home Implementation created a fact sheet with strategies on how to enhance care for Hispanic children, youth, and their families.

Strategies include avoiding jargon, engaging the neighborhood, and seeking family and community feedback. To learn more, [click here](#).

Finding Discounts

Did you know that the National Park Service offers free access into all national parks and federal recreational lands for persons with disabilities? The Logan Daily News compiled a few strategies for finding discounts and services for persons with disabilities and persons with chronic illnesses. To learn more, [click here](#).

Fact Sheet: Traumatic Brain Injury

The Brain Injury Association of America created a fact sheet for the National Disability Navigator Resource Collaborative (NDNRC). This sheet highlights the key points to understand when assisting a consumer with a traumatic brain injury (TBI). To learn more, [click here](#).

Guide: Making College Affordable

Affordable College Online has compiled a list of scholarships for persons with disabilities. The guide lists scholarships by Disability and other financial resources to offset the cost of a higher education. To learn more, [click here](#).

Accessible Technology (PEAT) and the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) is hosting a free webinar on advancing technology in the workplace. To learn more, [click here](#). There is limited space, so register soon!



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.

Sincerely,

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://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/people-with-disabilities/disability-and-health-program/index.html>

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