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# Accessibility for All

## by the Disability and Health Program

## Welcome to the 2nd issue of our monthly newsletter!

The Disability and Health Program (DHP) hopes to deliver a comprehensive and informative newsletter every month filled with updates, information, and upcoming events. This is a continuation of the Accessibility for All newsletters that were done in our first round of funding. You have been added to our email list because you are a member of the Disability Community Planning Group (DCPG), but if you are not interested in receiving our newsletter please unsubscribe. If you have any ideas, topics, or events that you would like featured in our newsletter please let us know.

## News from DHP

Thank you to partners who participated in the in-depth partner survey!

We are in the process of writing up the results from the in-depth partner survey. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey because the feedback is very helpful. If you would like to view the results then please contact Claudia Tamayo at [ctamayo@php.ufl.edu](mailto:ctamayo@php.ufl.edu).

## Upcoming policy brief to educate legislators on the health care needs of PWD

The University of Florida has created and will be disseminating a policy brief on the Health Status and Healthcare Access for Persons with Disabilities in Florida to state legislators and their legislative aids in the upcoming weeks. The brief focuses on the health disparities of people with disabilities including health status, healthcare access, health behaviors, chronic illness, and caregivers. The brief will be accompanied by a short, confidential survey addressing the knowledge and awareness that state legislators have about people with disabilities and their health-related policy needs.

## In Other News

### Bullying Prevention Training Center from HRSA

Children and youth, especially those with disabilities, are often exposed to or victims of bullying. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) created resources to empower individuals to address bullying in the community. The Bullying Prevention Training Center provides toolkits for schools and community organizations to promote education, conduct assessments, and research-based training curricula for educators and other school staff. For more information, please visit <http://www.stopbullying.gov/prevention/training-center/index.html>

### CMS releases stronger rules on community living

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has issued a final rule to make sure that Medicaid's home and community based services (HCBS) provide comprehensive community living benefits for senior citizens and people with disabilities. The rule strengthens the requirements for personal autonomy, community integration, and choice in HCBS funded

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### Webinars

[Helping Floridians with Disabilities Work in their Communities](#)

February 25, 2014  
7-8:15 PM EST  
Hosted by FDDC & ICI

[Living Independently In My Home and Community](#)

Archived  
Hosted by FCIC

[Working with Patient-Centered Medical Homes](#)

Archived 3-Part Webinar Series

Hosted by the Arthritis Council & the Consortium for Older Adult Wellness

[Healthcare Transition for Youth with I/DD: A Review of Research, Policy and Next Steps](#)

Archived Recording  
Hosted by Autism NOW

through Medicaid. It applies to both residential and non-residential settings and sets more specific and stringent rules for provider-owned or controlled residential settings. It requires an independent assessment of individual needs and strengths and a person-centered planning process to ensure that individuals receive the services they need in a manner they prefer. CMS will hold several webinars soon to explain the rule and additional technical assistance and guidance will soon be available. AUCD has released many different resources explaining the rule including a fact sheet, issue brief, and press release. For more information and resources from AUCD, please visit [http://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news\\_id=9656&parent=16&parent\\_tit](http://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news_id=9656&parent=16&parent_tit)

## Birth defects tracking in Florida

The Florida Birth Defects Registry (FBDR) collects, analyzes, and shares information about birth defects in Florida. Of all the babies born in Florida every year, 1 out of 28 will be diagnosed with a major birth defect before their first birthday. The treatment of birth defects costs hospitals in the U.S. more than \$2.5 billion every year. Also, babies born with a birth defect are more likely to die before their first birthday, compared to babies born without a birth defect. For more information, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/birthdefects/states/florida.html>

## Division of Vocational Rehabilitation releases 2012-2013 Annual Report

The Florida Department of Education (DOE) - Division of Voc Rehab is committed to the belief that people want to work and to help Floridians with disabilities get or keep jobs of their choice, as well as to live independently in communities of their choice. An accessible pdf version of the Annual Report can be found here: <http://rehabworks.org/docs/AnnualReport13.pdf>

## Upcoming deadlines for the DDP Small Grant Program

The Disability Determination Process (DDP) Small Grant Program awards \$10,000 stipends for graduate-level research on improving disability determination processes. It is a one-year stipend program that allows graduate students to conduct supervised independent research on improving the efficiency and reducing the complexity of disability determination processes. Policy Research, Inc is pleased to announce the fourth round of this federally-funded stipend program. The application deadline is March 1, 2014! For more information and to apply, please visit <http://ddp.policyresearchinc.org/>

## Social Security expands list of conditions qualifying for expedited processing

The SSA has announced 25 new Compassionate Allowances (CA) conditions. The CA program reduces the time it takes to make decisions on disability applications filed by Americans with the most serious disabilities, so they receive decisions on their claims within days, instead of months or years. For more information, please visit <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances/>

## 2014 APHA Disability Section Awards

Do you know someone who has made a significant contribution through scholarship,



### Upcoming Events

[A Medicaid Managed Care and Community-Based Care Forum](#)

Hosted by The National Council on Disability  
February 21, 2014  
Tallahassee, FL

[Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day 2014](#)

Hosted by The Arc of Florida & The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council  
March 18, 2014  
Tallahassee, FL

[WalkAbout Brain Injury](#)

Hosted by BIAF  
March 22, 2014  
9-11 AM  
Lake Ella in Tallahassee, FL  
Call [850-410-0103](tel:850-410-0103) for more information

[The American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities \(AAIDD\)](#)

[Annual Conference](#)  
June 23-26th 2014  
Orlando, FL at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel

[Camp TBI](#)

June 6-8  
Life Enrichment Center  
Fruitland Park, FL



### About the DHP

teaching, practice and/or advocacy to advance the health and quality of life of people with disabilities? Do you know an especially dedicated student? If you do, now is the time to nominate him or her for one of the 2014 APHA Disability Section Awards. Join us in honoring those who have made significant contributions to the field of disability within the context of public health. Students are encouraged to nominate a fellow student or mentor.

The Disability Section offers the following awards: 1) Lifetime Achievement, 2) Allan Meyers, 3) New Investigator, 4) Student Member, and 5) Advocacy. For further information and to obtain a nomination form, please contact Adriane Griffen, APHA Disability Section Awards Committee Chair, at [agriffen@aucd.org](mailto:agriffen@aucd.org) with the words "Awards Nomination Form Request" in the email subject line. The deadline for nominations is 5pm ET Wednesday, April 2, 2014. The winners will be presented with their awards at the 2014 APHA Annual Meeting in New Orleans during the Disability Section Business and Awards Meeting.

## Online training modules on providing reasonable accommodations for PWD

This series of short trainings from the Computer Accommodations Program (CAP) provides basic information about reasonable accommodations for people with different types of disabilities, including vision and hearing, dexterity and cognitive disabilities. Simple modifications to the work environment and assistive technologies enable people with disabilities to perform their jobs, and allow employers to benefit from the skills and talents they bring to the workplace. For more information, please visit

<http://cappublic.uat2.keymind.com/NewsEvents/Training.aspx>

## The NACCHO is looking for people to participate in a key informant interview

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is looking for local health department staff who are knowledgeable about working with children with special healthcare needs, pregnant women, and/or adults with disabilities and immunizations. Your opinions and experiences will be incorporated into a report that will help practitioners and public health professionals better understand strategies, tools, and policies that will improve seasonal influenza vaccination rates among children with special healthcare needs, pregnant women, and adults with disabilities. The 45-minute interview will take place in February at a time that is convenient for you. It can be done from any location where you have access to a phone. Please fill out a quick questionnaire here and you will be contacted if you are selected: [http://naccho.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_3rvWxditH0Xbbi5](http://naccho.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_3rvWxditH0Xbbi5)

## Job opportunity with the FDDC

The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) is seeking a full-time Deputy Director of Programs to plan, develop, manage and provide oversight of the Council's funded initiatives and of the State Plan. This is a management level position that provides supervision to the program managers, and is responsible for the Council's contract management, strategic planning and evaluation of its initiatives to meet the goals and objectives of the State Plan. Candidates with experience in the developmental disabilities field, supervision of multiple staff, contract management, strategic planning and evaluation is preferred. If you would like to be considered for this position you must submit a resume, a cover letter describing your experience in the identified fields and skills you would bring to the position, and a writing sample. You may submit your resume, cover letter and writing sample to: Vanda Bowman via postal mail to 124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203, Tallahassee Florida 32301; or email [vandab@fddc.org](mailto:vandab@fddc.org); or fax to [\(850\)-922-6702](tel:(850)922-6702). The Deadline to submit your resume, cover letter and writing sample is Friday, February 28, 2014. For more information, please

visit <http://www.fddc.org/sites/default/files/Deputy%20Director%20of%20Programs%20full%20job%20announcement.pdf>

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Best,

Florida Disability and Health Program

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