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ADA anniversary, amputation, and activism, all this and more in this issue of Accessibility for All.

# Accessibility for All

## - Disability and Health Program -

### Recent News

#### [COVID-19 Infections And Deaths Are Higher Among Those With Intellectual Disabilities](#)

"People with intellectual disabilities and autism who contract COVID-19 die at higher rates than the rest of the population, according to an analysis by NPR of numbers obtained from two states that collect data. They also contract the virus at a higher rate, according to research looking into group homes across the United States."

#### [COVID-19 Disability Needs Assessment Report](#)

"Lakeshore Foundation and the National Center on Health, Physical Activity and Disability (NCHPAD), initiated a survey to explore current needs of people with disabilities and/or chronic health conditions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey was released online over a two-week period from April 2, 2020 through April 17, 2020 targeting people with disabilities and/or chronic health conditions and those who are family members or caregivers. A national representation of over 1,400 people resulted in findings consistent with public health evidence showing the

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### Events and Survey Opportunities

[Wednesday Wind-down: Free Weekly Guided Meditation](#)

**Every Wednesday  
3:30pm-4:00pm Eastern Time  
Zoom Meeting**

Kathy Randolph and Yoga for Scleroderma. Cost: Free. The only thing you need to join these sessions is a phone.

Join Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82635317704>  
Meeting ID: 826 3531 7704

Dial in:  
+1 669 900 6833 US (US)  
Meeting ID: 826 3531 7704

Find your International number:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kFpADxL27>  
Meeting ID: 826 3531 7704

disability community continues to see critical, unmet needs during the COVID-19 pandemic."

## [The Black American Amputation Epidemic](#)

"Despite the great scientific strides in diabetes care, the rate of amputations across the country grew by 50% between 2009 and 2015. Diabetics undergo 130,000 amputations each year, often in low-income and underinsured neighborhoods. Black patients lose limbs at a rate triple that of others. It is the cardinal sin of the American health system in a single surgery: save on preventive care, pay big on the backend, and let the chronically sick and underprivileged feel the extreme consequences."

## [Disability justice and racial equity go hand in hand, city's advocate says](#)

"As Black Lives Matter has raised a call to end racial injustice in policing, public health, and education, Luticha André Doucette (city of Rochester's equity coordinator), believes that justice for disabled people of color is also part of the equation. "We can't really talk about getting people out of prisons without talking about getting people out of institutions," she said. Data from the New York State Department of Health shows that people with developmental disabilities die at a rate two and a half times higher than others who contract the virus. Researchers say this is in part due to group home settings. Doucette said that even though she can't join protests, she supports the Black Lives Matter movement and sees opportunity for a myriad of voices to contribute to the cause for racial equity."

## ['Begrudging Tolerance': New Report Reveals Deaf Students' Experience On Campus](#)

### [Family Network on Disability \(FND\) School Year 2020-2021 Survey](#)

**For: Parents of students with disabilities**

"This school year is almost over. We want to congratulate all students and their families for their incredible effort to keep up with distance learning among the many challenges that the pandemic has brought to our lives. We understand summer vacation is a relief for many, but we are also aware of the concerns of planning for a new school year under the uncertainty of the current situation. As an organization dedicated to the service of students with disabilities and their families, we want to hear from you. Your voice is important and helps us shape our services and resources. Thank you for your time."

### [University of Florida's Institute on Aging COVID-19 Survey](#)

**For: Adults 20 years old and over**

"Doctors and researchers at the Institute on Aging at the University of Florida are conducting a study to understand how COVID-19 is impacting their lives. We are asking you to take this survey. This survey consists of questions about your medical health, activity levels, mood, use of technology and food availability before and during the COVID-19 outbreak."

**For more upcoming events, search through the [Agency for Persons with Disabilities \(APD\) Event Calendar!](#)**



"There has been no institutional interest in learning how to become more deaf friendly. The attitude is one of begrudging tolerance at best.' Deaf students across the country echoed this student's story in the 2018-2019 Deaf College Student National Accessibility Report, "ACCESS Is More Than Accommodations," released today by the National Deaf Center on Postsecondary Outcomes."

## How disability can help STEM progress

"Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) industries have faced criticism recently over workplace equity and discrimination, including gender, race, and disability inequality. STEM employers have historically been behind the curve in terms of welcoming diversity — in 2017, it was reported that STEM industries have 75% fewer people with disabilities than in the general population, which certainly isn't representative. Engineering seal supplier, FPE Seals, take a look at how STEM industries can benefit from increasing its workforce diversity"

## FDHP Partner and UF PhD Candidate Receives Competitive Grant to Support Dissertation Research with the Deaf Community

Congratulations to our FDHP partner, Tyler G. James, for being awarded an R36 grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) for his dissertation research: "Development of a Conceptual Model of Emergency Department Utilization Among Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Patients: A Mixed Methods Study".

## Webinars & Applications

[Best Practices for Patient-Clinician Communication for People with Disabilities in the Era of COVID-19: A Webinar](#)

**Friday, June 19, 2020  
12:00pm-1:00pm EST**

"On June 19, 2020, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will host a webinar on Best Practices for Patient-Clinician Communication for People with Disabilities in the Era of COVID-19. This webinar will feature an overview of key patient-clinician communication challenges and disability law and policies applicable for accessible and effective communication during the COVID-19 pandemic, identify techniques to facilitate health care communication with people with disabilities, and provide tools and resources to consider for better communication in the COVID world."

[ADA Live! The ADA Then and Now: Celebrate ADA 30th Anniversary with the Honorable Tony Coelho](#)

**Wednesday, July 1, 2020  
1:00pm-1:30pm EST**

"The ground-breaking civil rights law, the Americans with Disabilities Act, turns thirty in 2020. What better way to celebrate than a conversation with the chief sponsor of the ADA bill in the House of Representatives, the Honorable Tony Coelho. Mr. Coelho is a lifelong advocate for the rights of people with disabilities and as someone with a disability who has faced discrimination, Tony shares his unique perspective on how the ADA has made an impact in the lives of people with disabilities. Mr. Coelho has had a distinguished career as a Congressman including serving as Chair of the President's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities from 1994 until 2001. He currently serves as Chairman of the

## [For Mothers Of Black Children With Disabilities, Living With Twice The Fear](#)

"Kim Kaiser's son was 10 years old when she first spoke with him about the challenges he'd face as a black man with disabilities. It's a conversation they've continued every day since, and it covers a little bit of everything. How should he act in public? Where should he put his hands? How should he respond if police stop him? What type of people should he avoid?"

## Tips, Briefs, & Guides

### [The ADA and Face Mask Policies](#)

"Wearing a face mask may be difficult for some people with a disability. State and local government agencies or private businesses that want customers to use a face mask may have questions and concerns. This fact sheet offers answers to questions about the issue of face mask policies, wearing face masks, reasons why a person with a disability might not be able to wear a face mask, and the legal rights a person has under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)."

### [How to Be an Activist When You're Unable to Attend Protests](#)

"Nonviolent direct action, including attending a march or a rally, can be a powerful way to speak out on an issue you care about, but it's just one of many ways to have an impact. Here are some tips for ways to "show up" when you aren't able to show up in person, as well as suggestions for all of us for building more inclusive movements for social justice and human rights."

### [Tips for Keeping Your Young Child With a Disability Busy During COVID-19](#)

Epilepsy Foundation. Eve Hill, one of the nation's foremost disability rights attorneys will chat with Mr. Coelho about the passage of the ADA, how the ADA has transformed the lives of people with disabilities, and a look toward the future of disability rights.

**FREE (no registration is required)**  
**LISTEN: [soundcloud.com/adalive.org](https://soundcloud.com/adalive.org)**  
**VIEW & READ: [transcript and resources at adalive.org](#)**"

[Analyzing Relationships between Disability, Rehabilitation and Work \(ARDRAW\) Small Grant Program](#)

**Application Deadline:**  
**Friday, June 19, 2020**

"The Social Security Administration's (SSA's) Analyzing Relationships between Disability, Rehabilitation and Work (ARDRAW) Small Grant Program is a one-year \$10,000 stipend program awarded to graduate-level students to conduct supervised independent research designed to foster new analysis of work, rehabilitation, and disability issues, which may develop innovative and fresh perspectives on disability. ARDRAW focuses on research relevant to SSA's work incentives and employment supports – specifically rehabilitation, work and the disability program. Applicants must be masters, doctoral, or post-doctoral-level part-time or full-time graduate students pursuing studies in accredited programs at the time of the award (Fall semester of 2020) with an academic emphasis in topics of interest to disability programs, including, but not limited to, public health, social work, economics, occupational medicine, vocational and rehabilitation counseling, public policy and administration, sociology, psychology, education, medicine, employment, and law. "

This article offers disability-friendly activities to do with your child while physical distancing, including art activities, physical activities, sensory activities, and online resources.

## COVID-19: Older Adults and People with Disabilities

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) provides information about COVID-19 for older adults and people with disabilities, including tips about staying safe, staying connected, and resources for reopening.

**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.

[Florida Department of Health - Disability and Health Program](#)

[Florida Office on Disability and Health](#)

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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.

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