

From Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council

COVID-19 resources re: to disabilities and access and functional needs

Below is a compilation of information that I hope that you find helpful during this national and state emergency responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. I do believe that there are resources here for responders, health professionals, individuals with disabilities and other access and functional needs, families and others. I hope that you find these resources helpful. We will continue to upload key resources on our website: <https://moddcouncil.org/>, such as state, federal, national and other resources so be sure to visit the website.

Resources that Individuals with Disabilities Can Use to Communicate Information to the Medical Community, First Responders or Others:

- **Health Passport** – attached is a resource created by the Ohio Association of County Boards of Developmental Disabilities for individuals and families to use when seeking treatment for COVID19 symptoms. People can use this form to assist health care professionals with the care and treatment of patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities in these extreme circumstances. When sharing the Health Passport, please also share the document, [Applying HHS's Guidance for States and Health Care Providers on Avoiding Disability-Based Discrimination in Treatment Rationing](#). As mentioned in the previous update, this document was developed by the Center for Public Representation that provides guiding principles for avoiding disability discrimination.
- **COVID-19 Disability Form** – this is another form that could be completed by individuals with disabilities in advance, so if one becomes ill, the information will help physicians provide you with the proper medical care.
- **COVID-19 Symptom Visual Checklist** – a checklist created by the TN Developmental Disabilities Council.
- **Coronavirus and Accessible Medical Settings:** This site provides information and tools developed and shared by the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)
- **Safeguard Against Disability Discrimination During COVID-19** – a fact sheet for health professionals created by the Center for Dignity in Healthcare for People with Disabilities.
- **COVID-19 Patient and Visitor Updates: Coronavirus update on procedures, surgeries and clinic appointments** – A good model for practices during this time of a pandemic, developed by Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, IL.
- **New York Deaf-Blind Collaborative Tipsheet: Providing Access Through Sign Language and Text for Low Vision and Tactile Communicators During the Coronavirus Pandemic.**

Rationing Care and the Law:

- **Rationing care of people with disabilities:** I know that I provided this information in the previous update. However, in addition to contacting [Protection and Advocacy \(P&A\)](#) if you hear of someone being placed in a nursing home or institution because they “may” have COVID-19, you can also contact P&A if you hear of hospitals rationing care to people with disabilities. Calls should go through the Application Unit by calling 573-659-0678 / 800-392-8667 or by emailing at app.unit@mo-pa.org. Susan Eckles at susan.eckles@mo-pa.org is the secondary contact for this issue. I would also be interested in learning if you hear that this is occurring in MO.
- **Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund resource Preventing Discrimination in the Treatment of COVID-19 Patients: The Illegality of Medical Rationing on the Basis of Disability**
- **DREDF Know Your Healthcare Disability Rights factsheet (available in multiple languages).**
- **“Don’t Deny Disabled People Ventilators”** - op-ed by National Council on Disability Chairman Neil Romano and Sam Bagenstos.

- [Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights \(OCR\) Bulletin on Civil Rights, HIPAA and COVID-19](#) – OCR is providing information to ensure that entities covered by civil rights authorities keep in mind, their obligations under laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination.
- [Stemming the Risk of Disability Bias During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) - The COVID-19 pandemic has raised a number of ethical dilemmas related to equal access to health care diagnostic and treatment services. In doing so, it is shedding light on many populations that are uniquely impacted and compromised by this public health crisis — including people with disability.
- [May Hospitals Withhold Ventilators from COVID-19 Patients with Pre-Existing Disabilities? Notes on the Law and Ethics of Disability-Based Medical Rationing](#) - Yale Law Review Article from Sam Bagenstos.
- [#NoBodyIsDisposable](#) a “Know Your Rights” toolkit for people facing potential triage discrimination based on disability or weight during the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States.
- [COVID-19 Medical Rationing](#) - Webpage with additional resources and federal and state advocacy (including OCR complaints and state advocacy coalition letters) compiled by the Center for Public Representation.

Federal Information:

- [Social Media Toolkit](#) – Provided by the CDC to help localize efforts in responding to COVID-19.
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\): Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) – Information about COVID-19 and how to protect oneself and what to do if you become ill. Scroll to the bottom of the page and you will be able to access the information in other languages (Spanish, simplified Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean).
- [What You Can do if You are at Higher Risk of Severe Illness from COVID-19](#) – a fact sheet developed by the CDC. In addition, the CDC has information for [people who have asthma](#), [older adults](#), [people with disabilities](#) (new), and [caring for children and tips to keeping them healthy while school’s out](#).
- [Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about the Coronavirus](#) – the CDC answers FAQs regarding the virus. This web page, updated on April 8, 2020, provides answers to frequently asked questions about Coronavirus Disease 2019 Basics; How COVID-19 Spreads; How to Protect Yourself; COVID-19 and Children; School Dismissals and Children; Preparing Your Home and Family for COVID-19; In Case of an Outbreak in Your Community; Symptoms and Testing; Higher Risk; Healthcare Professionals and Health Departments; COVID-19 and Funerals; What CDC is Doing; and COVID-19 and Animals.
- [ASPR-TRACIE Planning Resources](#) (e.g., alternate care sites, crisis standards of care).
- [Federal COVID-19 websites](#) – ASPR-TRACIE has compiled a listing of federal websites in one place (e.g., CMS, FEMA, CDC, WHO, Food and Drug Administration, etc.).
- [Reminder Regarding Obligations to Make Televised Emergency Information Accessible to Viewers with Disabilities](#) – this is information from the Federal Communications Commission.
- [COVID-19 Long-Term Care Facility Guidance](#) - The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have issued the new recommendations in this three-page document to state and local governments and long-term care facilities (also known as nursing homes) to help mitigate the spread of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

General Information:

- [Need grows as 4-H Feeding Missouri drive enters final weeks](#) - 4-H is sponsoring a Feeding Missouri statewide food drive. MU Extension is looking at how they can continue to assist Feeding Missouri past this food drive; the needs are great.
- [Amazon Urged To Prioritize Food Deliveries To Group Homes](#) - Amazon is being asked to help ensure that people with developmental disabilities living in group homes and other community settings can access groceries and necessities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- [Disability considerations during the COVID-19 outbreak](#) – The World Health Organization (WHO) and public health authorities around the world are taking action to contain the COVID-19 outbreak. Certain populations, such as those with disability, may be impacted more significantly by COVID-19. This impact can be mitigated if simple actions and protective measures are taken by key stakeholders.
- [Coronavirus Plain Language Glossary: Words To Know](#) - These are words you may be hearing or seeing due to the Coronavirus outbreak. These definitions were written by a team of self-advocates and their aspiring allies. This glossary goes with [Plain Language Tips For Working With Support Staff During COVID-19](#).
- DIY cloth face covering instructions – Attached is a document that provides information about face coverings.
- [Your Coronavirus Handbook](#) – this is a 27 page booklet that provides more complex information about COVID-19, using concrete wording and pictures by Laine Yuhas, journalist and disability advocate.
- [Supporting Individuals with Autism Through Uncertain Times](#) – this is a 60-page toolkit for families created by the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute Autism Team. This guide includes action steps, printable social stories and visuals, and recommended apps and tools for supporting people with autism or other intellectual disabilities through COVID-19.
- [My Story about Pandemics and the Coronavirus](#) – booklet by Carol Gray that provides information about pandemics that is easy to read.
- [My Coronavirus Story \(Easter Seals Illinois\)](#) – this is a children’s book that provides an explanation about the virus and tips for staying safe.
- [My Social Distancing Story \(Easterseals Illinois\)](#) – a children’s book that provides information about social distancing.
- [Project ECHO: Parent Autism Resources During COVID-19](#) – this is a resource for parents who have children with Autism (much of the information can be generalized to other disabilities as well). There are a number of resources for hygiene, staying at home, therapies during the COVID-19 response, and much more.
- [Housekeeping Training for Continued Cleaning at Facilities](#) – This is a video developed by the MO Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS).
- [Coronavirus resources for the blind and visually impaired community](#): this site provides information about considerations and needs when it comes to navigating the now new normal of the spread of Coronavirus for those who are blind or have visual limitations.
- [To Support Older Adults Amidst The COVID-19 Pandemic, Look to Area Agencies On Aging](#) – a blog by Health Affairs that discusses the critical importance of community services to support health and social care for aging populations.
- [Addressing Social Isolation for Older Adults during the COVID-19 Crisis](#) – ADvancing States has published social isolation responses from states, organizations, and individuals with activities and ideas on how to address social isolation for older adults during the COVID-19 crisis.
- [Actions Can Strengthen Connections Between Families and Nursing Home Residents During COVID-19 Crisis](#) by Edem Hado and Lynn Friss Feinberg. The AARP Public Policy Institute has posted a blog on the importance of keeping family caregivers and long-term care residents connected during COVID-19. This blog post identifies strategies that the federal government, states, and facilities can utilize during this pandemic to ensure family engagement, communication, and inclusion in long-term care settings, such as nursing homes and assisted living facilities.
- [Q&A on COVID-19 and Down Syndrome](#) – information to better understand the virus and the impact for people with Down Syndrome.
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): What People with Spina Bifida Need to Know](#) – Guidance and Recommendation Regarding COVID-19 for People with Spina Bifida.
- [Wheelchair and Assistive Technology Users: Precautions for COVID-19](#).

- [National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\): COVID-19 Information and Resources](#).
- [Self-care resources](#) compiled by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Institute.
- [Parent/Caregiver Guide to Helping Families Cope With the Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) – a recent publication from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network.

Webinars:

- [Mapping the Need for Child Care for Essential Workers during the Coronavirus Outbreak](#) – this is a Child Care Aware webinar where one can learn about the demand of child care for essential workers and how to use a new interactive map.
- [Emergency Child Care a Look from on the Ground](#) – a webinar provided by Child Care Aware that provides solutions in child care and what still needs to be done during this pandemic.
- [Trauma Assessment in Youth & Adults with IDD](#) - Due to the alarming rates of abuse and neglect of people with intellectual disabilities, as well as diagnostic overshadowing that often occurs when people with ID seek treatment, it is important that clinicians have the knowledge and tools to properly recognize signs of trauma and assess its impact on an individual. In this webinar, we will introduce trauma assessment tools developed in-part by the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, as well as important assessment adaptations for the IDD population. Very appropriate at this time when people with IDD may be more isolated from others.

Videos:

- [American Sign Language video on accessible emergency information](#): This video provides focuses on how people who are deaf and hard of hearing can obtain information about emergencies.
- [A Message from the NAD About Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) – “The NAD CEO Howard A. Rosenblum shares news about Coronavirus (COVID-19) and how the U.S. Government has failed to make information accessible in ASL, how this disease affects education and employment access, how this affects the NAD office, and that the NAD Conference is still going on as planned.”

Information below my signature block includes:

- Update from the Administration for Community Living (ACL), April 10, 2020. This update includes information about how FEMA and HHS are working to address shortages of PPE and other critical supplies.
- Update from ACL, April 26, 2020. This update focuses on tools and resources to include FAQs for Older Americans Act grantees during this pandemic response.
- American Red Cross National Partner Update – April 9, 2020 update provides information about how the Red Cross is helping communities during this COVID-19 pandemic.
- Hospitalization Communication Guide for Individuals who are Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing or DeafBlind developed by Missouri Assistive Technology.
- Assistive Technology and Remote Monitoring for Intellectual and Developmental Disability Community Webinar. This webinar is scheduled for two different times on two different days (a total of 4 opportunities) on **April 14th and 16th**. Registration information is included in the information provided by MO Assistive Technology.

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