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**CSAVR National News Brief**

**March 24, 2024**

CSAVR *National News Brief* is a regular series covering legislative activity, media stories, research initiatives, webinars, reports, conferences, and national advocacy activities of interest to member state VR agencies.

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**HIGHLIGHTS:**

* [**SPENDING PACKAGE – SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**](#SPENDING)
* [**OUR PROFESSION**](#OUR)
* [**WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY – CSAVR STAFF WORLD PRESENCE**](#WORLD)
* [**NATIONAL NEWS**](#NATIONAL)
* [**CSAVR SPRING 2024 CONFERENCE AND RELATED EVENTS**](#CSAVR)
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## **SPENDING PACKAGE – SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Senate passed a sprawling $1.2 trillion package to fund large swaths of the government in the early hours Saturday morning, capping off dramatic negotiations in the upper chamber and an intense spending fight where discretionary programs, including vocational rehabilitation grants funding, were targeted as dealmakers as they looked everywhere to find funds to ensure the government was not shut down and Homeland Security had an extra 2.2. billion sprinkled throughout its agencies.

While the Labor-HHS-Education bill included an increase of close to 8% ($287 million) for vocational rehabilitation state grants, that increase was moved to the Department of Homeland Security through rescission language in the final bill going to the President's desk.

The VR grant is flat funded with no increase for mandatory COLA.  CSAVR will be working with our Beltway partners to gain additional information and will be sharing more information with our network.

## **OUR PROFESSION**

## We trust you were able to celebrate with your counselors and staff this past week on National Counselor Appreciation Day.  As we think about the strategic priority of Recruitment and Retention, it is important to not only recognize their work and contributions one day a year and throughout the year.

## Of course I am preaching to the choir here, but personally I wanted to express my thanks to all of you for sending those thank you notes, taking time when you visit your offices to stop and talk with the staff, and expressing your appreciation and recognition in so many other ways because good work needs to not be recognized one day a year.

## Thank you, thank you, thank you. I appreciate your continuing commitment and leadership.

Our Virginia General agency pulled together a [special video](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DKTEzCHI-qZQ&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492641530%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=flHqyF9uIHts2JFhhi4S0WawHc1bkIpaeW9VmYlP3eA%3D&reserved=0) that I wanted to pass along.  Many thanks to Commissioner Hayfield and her communications team, Betsy Civilette  and Rick Sizemore for their always outstanding work in communication our value proposition.

**WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY – CSAVR STAFF WORLD PRESENCE**

## **[World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD)](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.worlddownsyndromeday.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492651504%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=N5jv%2BA4l1ePt9nMmZJ1TY2cHgg4pZQXru2bpTlzhpQ4%3D&reserved=0" \o "https://www.worlddownsyndromeday.org/)**, March21 , is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012.All over the world, events are held to amplify the voices of people who have Down’s syndrome, highlighting their vital role in our communities and calling for their full participation in anything that affects their lives.

## We are honored that our own Tonia Ferguson was celebrating and sharing her story as a mom with advocates in Trinidad/Tobago with this year's theme #endthestereotypes for a two-day conference.  Thank you Tonia!

## **NATIONAL NEWS**

In his recent State of the Union address President Biden urged Congress to add funding for Medicaid home and community-based services. Beyond requesting more investment in home and community-based services, his budget includes a $200 million increase in spending on special education services, $10 million more to train special educators and early intervention providers as well as funding to improve customer service at the Social Security Administration.

One of the frustrations that some of our customers who are Social Security beneficiaries have experienced is receiving benefit overpayments wrongly sent to them by SSA and then being faced with having to repay those dollars. Recently, SSA Commissioner Martin O’Malley, confirmed in December, said that in the coming days he would propose changes to address this situation. He said he has concrete steps in mind, such as establishing a statute of limitations, shifting the burden of proof to the agency, and imposing a 10% cap on clawbacks for some beneficiaries. O’Malley said the agency plans to cease efforts to claw back years-old overpayments and halt the practice of terminating benefits for disabled workers who don’t respond to overpayment notices because they did not receive them or couldn’t make sense of them.

Mathematica has released a report indicating that thousands of children who may be eligible for SSI benefits are not receiving them. Between 2013 and 2021, there was a 20% drop in the number of children receiving Supplemental Security Income benefits, according to the [report](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmathematica.org%2Fpublications%2Fthousands-of-children-potentially-eligible-for-supplemental-security-income-arent-getting-it&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492656189%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tUeBahLZimqdZouSewrP4%2BdCu4KGMiB8DLADe%2B2r6%2FU%3D&reserved=0) . To assess how many kids may qualify for SSI, the researchers looked at Medicaid. They found that over 110,000 children may be eligible for SSI, an increase of nearly 10% over current program participation. But depending on the probability threshold used, the increase could be as high as 55%.

The report suggests Medicaid and SSI data be connected in the future to help identify more children who are potentially eligible for SSI to conduct targeted outreach. SSA said that it is looking for ways to address the report recommendations including doing more work with third parties to reach people who might be eligible for SSI and is starting to see “substantial increases in child SSI applications.”

Reportedly, several 504 and ADA new rules that could improve access to health care, education, websites, and apps.  are currently waiting for finalization at the Department of Justice. Some disability advocacy groups are urging the USDOJ Civil Rights Division and the Domestic Policy Council, to action in three areas impacting individuals with disabilities and those are:

● The Department of Justice (DOJ) proposed rule to strengthen web and mobile app access (known as the web access rule);

● The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) proposed rule to strengthen prohibitions against discrimination on the basis of disability in health care and human services programs (known as the HHS 504 rule); and

● The Department of Education (ED) anticipated rule regarding discrimination against children with disabilities in educational settings (known as the ED 504 rule).

Even though some of the regulations originate from a different it is felt that the essential nature of DOJ’s review and the power of DOJ’s influence would help move these regulations to finalization.

Finally, despite many layoff announcements, Microsoft, Alphabet, Meta, and Netflix employ roughly 50% more workers than before the pandemic. Amazon’s workforce remains twice as big as it was in 2019. *The Wall Street Journal*

**CSAVR SPRING 2024 CONFERENCE AND RELATED EVENTS**

We are looking forward to seeing all of you in Bethesda in just two weeks! We have a great conference agenda with something for all. Registration for the conference has passed the 370 mark and for the Leadership Forum it is over 150.

Details about the conference and related events are on the CSAVR website under the EVENTS page. Hopefully, you have already been there and registered. **Note that conference registration closes on April 2nd.**

Things to be aware of:

* Registration is open and will close on April 2nd.
* Registration for CSAVR does not register you for NCSAB or NCSRC.  You must register with each organization separately:
  + NCSAB website: [http://www.ncsab.org/](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncsab.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492661123%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=c%2FnBlKsfuWEwvnTRuPqIsAZ39bn%2BdaHCb3UO9nxa%2Fxw%3D&reserved=0)
  + NCSRC website:  [https://www.ncsrc.us/](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ncsrc.us%2F&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492665700%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=c%2BHHWA3rK0qllVoEB4SAxuqhwKTHg5qCXROXGGZm5fY%3D&reserved=0)
* ​Agendas for the Leadership Forum and conference are posted on the CSAVR website.
* The Hyatt Regency Bethesda, the conference hotel, is sold out on 4/6,7, and 9. The Hilton Garden Inn Bethesda is listed on the website as an overflow hotel with a reservation link.

**DIRECTOR UPDATE**

Welcome Dana Phelps who has been appointed as permanent Director of WA-G.

Also, Libby Stone Sterling ME-G has been appointed to be the DSA director and DVR Assistant Director Samantha Fenderson will be Acting DVR Director until they are able to hire a permanent director. Judy Boone has been named as the interim director for MD-C.

Congratulations to all!

Keith Ozols from Oregon General has agreed to be the new Region 10 Representative.

On a sad note, I learned from Greg Trapp that Joe Cordova, who held several important VR posts including RSA Regional Commissioner, VR Director at OK-C, HI-C and NM-G as well as Deputy Director with the New Mexico Commission for the Blind, passed away recently.  Our condolences to his family.

**CSAVR NEWS**

One of our newest Networks, the HR Professional Network, has 61 participating agencies and a total of 92 members. Among their many projects, they are hoping to develop a "How to" guide to present at the fall CSAVR conference. It will be a combination of all the activities they have had presenters share and a description of how the agencies can replicate those activities in their states as best as possible. Many thanks to Josh McAtee of WV-C for taking the lead on developing this Network and continuing to facilitate it. Don’t let your HR folks miss out on this Network so if you have someone interested in joining have them reach out to Josh at [Joshua.mcatee@wv.gov](mailto:Joshua.mcatee@wv.gov).

Speaking of professional networks, there has been interest expressed in developing a national network of staff who work with VR consumers who speak Spanish as their primary language. If you and/or staff members from your agency are interested in participating, the Oregon VR agency is collecting response and that will be shared back through CSAVR membership and the DEI&A community of practice. Please respond to Sheila Hoover via: [vr.directservices@odhs.oregon.gov](mailto:vr.directservices@odhs.oregon.gov)

CSAVR, the Interwork Institute at San Diego State University and others are partners on a National Expansion of Employment Opportunities Network (NEON) project to build a repository of state agency MOUs and policies to better understand how VR agencies braid funding and sequence services to better serve identified segments of our client population.  The project is tied to DOL/ODEP’s efforts to increase Competitive Integrated Employment throughout the country. It would be greatly appreciated if you could share copies of any MOUs or similar types of agreements and/or policies that address areas noted in the request you received this past week. Please send relevant documents or questions to Chip Kenney at San Diego State University at the following email**:** [**rkenney@sdsu.edu**](mailto:rkenney@sdsu.edu)

YesLMS has partnered with CSAVR to provide a series of free webinars highlighting the work being done in VR agencies across the country to address the three strategic priorities. The aim of these webinars is to share ideas, spark deeper conversations and build on the foundations already being laid.

**Addressing Recruitment/Retention in VR**

**Thursday, April 25**

3:00-4:30 PM ET

[Register Here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyeslms.us10.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D9d996878987ae49775d14b40b%26id%3D5f3f43707a%26e%3D71ef964d87&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492670204%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=EYDhz6LMLqBI6JGmvs7%2Bet4eh%2Bk%2BDfejECNNFjaBbFw%3D&reserved=0)



**The Value of Mentoring Programs**

**Wednesday, May 29**

3:00-4:30 PM ET

[Register Here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyeslms.us10.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D9d996878987ae49775d14b40b%26id%3Dde0764cc96%26e%3D71ef964d87&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492675295%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WTEradRPa8xo2bo3Xj3ma98qvKzw906%2BHUY%2Fv8oqSZI%3D&reserved=0)



**Casework Efficiencies – Working Smarter**

**Thursday, June 27**

3:00-4:30 PM ET

[Register Here](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyeslms.us10.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D9d996878987ae49775d14b40b%26id%3Deea500f5d5%26e%3D71ef964d87&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492680355%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FX2CE0Dl%2B0wmmQA7l81oxhecHZEStcS%2FLtXarklJu0I%3D&reserved=0)



Want to attend these courses but can’t make the dates? SIMPLY REGISTER NOW, and you will be able to view the webinar in a recorded form at a later date.

**ED AND RSA UPDATE**

Things can change with advocacy and RSA’s recent amendment of their guidance concerning the application of BABAA is a prime example.  This past week you should have received from David Steele that BABAA does not apply to home modifications provided to consumers for their own personal and private use. It is still applicable to costs associated with a public use such as community rehabilitation programs, one-stop centers, VR office space, and vending facilities. Thanks to RSA for revisiting this issue and to all of you who advocated for the amendment.

On February 23, 2024, DOE and DOL published a [final rule](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.federalregister.gov%2Fdocuments%2F2024%2F02%2F23%2F2024-03278%2Fworkforce-innovation-and-opportunity-act-effectiveness-in-serving-employers-performance-indicator&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492685378%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VL0w7hKBGMlsRcCRVTeVVEr%2BsHd63WuyzyTQSXEjhl8%3D&reserved=0) in the Federal Registerthat defines the WIOA Effectiveness in Serving Employers performance indicator as *Retention with the Same Employer.* **The final rule takes effect on March 25, 2024.** The Departments issued [joint FAQs](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Frsa.ed.gov%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fsubregulatory%2FFAQ%252024-01.pdf&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492690172%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=XMe4ozkpD1%2FBdWT%2BM3FE3BjJQJ3ju00bSDejih8%2FT5k%3D&reserved=0) that outline when States must begin collecting and reporting *Retention with the Same Employer* data and inform States of the information collection requests and joint policy guidance the Departments will revise in accordance with the new regulatory definition. These [joint FAQs](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Frsa.ed.gov%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fsubregulatory%2FFAQ%252024-01.pdf&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492694984%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZA0%2Frr1MAJH3QVNPGpDgtc3KEdm%2F5%2Bb7TRJUeNT4UJU%3D&reserved=0) are listed with RSA’s other FAQs at [Sub-Regulatory Guidance](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Frsa.ed.gov%2Fstatute-legislation-and-policy%2Fsub-regulatory-guidance&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492699815%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jVu8rHK4jDO61JldjMGDCEHdoUs7hp1JLJRvwqTxt0s%3D&reserved=0). Please contact your [RSA State Liaison](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Frsa.ed.gov%2Fabout%2Fpeople%2Fstate-liaisons&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492704667%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2DGRQSdML1kcQOJm28QExZr6t1y%2BuxA4QlY0ZQr%2BsS0%3D&reserved=0) with any questions.

OSERS issued a Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) in the Federal Register on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, for fiscal year (FY) 2024 for the Braille Training Program. The NIA is available at: [https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/03/13/2024-05290/applications-for-new-awards-braille-training-program](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.federalregister.gov%2Fdocuments%2F2024%2F03%2F13%2F2024-05290%2Fapplications-for-new-awards-braille-training-program&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492709413%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dZUrIKromN8htK7UcEKI1mBH2oei2WX2nIfhi1d3NCo%3D&reserved=0). Applications deadline: **May 13, 2024.** Applications are available now at [**grants.gov/search-results-detail/352905**](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgrants.gov%2Fsearch-results-detail%2F352905&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492714135%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=g73BqxIktXomII4j7PjevrtQQGm7oXRJ%2BO9MlSu7Woo%3D&reserved=0).

Last week RSA shared an updated version of the Case Service Report (RSA-911) Data Dashboards including data reported for the second quarter of PY 2023. This workbook includes performance results for all VR agencies and five quarters of previously reported RSA-911 data.

Email any questions to [RSAData@ed.gov](mailto:RSAData@ed.gov). Thank you.

**THOUGHT OF THE EDITION**

Agencies are using exit interviews and now stay interviews and wondering if anyone is using what I will call “Newbie Interviews”. The purpose is to reach out to recently hired counselors and others to ask them about their hiring and onboarding experiences. Inquiring about such things as the source(s) they learned of the job from, whether or not the interview questions were relevant to the job, did the vacancy announcement accurately describe the job, and did the onboarding training they received prepare them or not. Suggest we need to ask our new hires about their experience while it is fresh in their minds and to get insights as to how the recruitment, interviewing, and onboarding processes might be improved to attract and hopefully ultimately retain more staff. If your agency is doing these types of interviews, please share with CSAVR how they are working and thanks.

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**REPORTS, TRAINING, NEWSLETTERS AND CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES**

The [Housing and Services Resource Center](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947809%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255751%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Facl.gov%252FHousingAndServices%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D204434a9563656d36f9ff817f1729386f57e96233f11387e4c1c6096f688463b&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492718760%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ecSkP11gQDbwfIrR3eCcxst9vdtPhIuihO12H2gMxbg%3D&reserved=0) will host a webinar, [Enhancing Housing Stability for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) at Risk for or Experiencing Homelessness](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947809%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255751%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Facl.gov%252FHousingAndServices%252Fenhancing-housing-stability-individuals-tbi-risk-or-experiencing-homelessness%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D1a6aa872a662234cf1da5295504bb22f5fe1e76a84fafbddacd10e797278f68c&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492723405%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=pFULrQEH8TdZtgKmsrLJKJN4WFOyO6tbChBB78E5qQQ%3D&reserved=0), March 27th, 2:30 - 3:30 pm ET. Presenters will discuss the types of services and supports that can enhance housing stability for people with TBI. Advocates, self-advocates, organizations, and agencies will learn about best practices for collaboration between disability, housing, health, and social care services to increase access to those supports. Registration is free and required. The Center is part of a partnership between the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Disability Statistics and Demographics (StatsRRTC)](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fiod.unh.edu%252Fdisability-statistics-demographics-rehabilitation-research-training-center-statsrrtc%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D841a7e7559bba329e85141f77ce051233c0af3b5cd97ce4090a222c859d8389a&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492728442%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5BqO4RXJihdR%2B6Zq5NsuheDACxzTaWyXLmsO48miCAw%3D&reserved=0) will host the [2024 Annual Disability Statistics Conference: Surveys, Statistics, and Identity](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwww.researchondisability.org%252Fannual-event%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D5595677e106b7d6a21337902a2e8192c3df6854fde3f0a10b361f468a0fbcaec&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492733479%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZJRLHWsW9Pqo2lvz9TpGQDFejKzQ0lePLSRD0rx3cTA%3D&reserved=0), March 28th, 11 am - 4:30 pm ET. The conference will be available in person in Washington, DC, and via live stream. The conference will include the release the Annual Disability Statistics Collection.The conference will also address the latest in disability statistics, including survey methods and how disability is defined in national surveys. Registration is free and required, and remains open for virtual attendance. For more information, contact [Disability.Statistics@unh.edu](mailto:Disability.Statistics@unh.edu) or [866/538-9521](tel:866/538-9521).

The NID [Southeast ADA Regional Center](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947809%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255751%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fadasoutheast.org%252F%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D27b84236712aec1454bb408cce41c983322905f8c96753e561d0f26e1d1f4031&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492738100%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=j9dH9TuxmLJxORjMS3nRqkwosWo7EiC3up2re5J3Ql8%3D&reserved=0) will host a webinar, [Supported Decision-Making and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947809%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255751%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fadasoutheast.org%252Fevents%252F4th-thursday-supported-decision-making-and-ada%252F%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D4685491d6c856f04fd0e25b8390e43697c5558ac5e814a133b9309f78a34b76d&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492742735%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IE1Z%2B%2FEwiDj%2Bs8cw80Jb61Hld2ks80xbxoYlw8fwyUc%3D&reserved=0), March 28th, 10 - 11 am ET, the third webinar in the 4th Thursday ADA Talks of 2024. Presenters will discuss disability rights, supported decision-making, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Presenters will share resources to help families and service providers to support people with disabilities in making decisions about their employment, health care, and community living. Registration is free and required.

The [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Employment of Transition-Age Youth with Disabilities](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Ftransition.vcurrtc.org%252F%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D33165389be66af0674624fd0f11a9be18e1b3b614596ba757dce49b94cfe1904&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492747735%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=H6Vp7dnE2xFeJiAXdSHy7bqlXTOnDU3vHvb6DA%2BqmOs%3D&reserved=0) announced a four-part webinar series, [Voicing Resiliency: State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Best Practices with Indigenous Communities](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fvcurrtc.org%252Fdocuments%252Fnative_initiatives_webinars_2024_V.pdf%26cf%3D1190%26v%3De02aca82744a235b2850bf7f2d38208ba2f54cb021b39c236ec010240c7dd0ca&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492752379%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dsvbW%2FvZ%2BAECOT2r9BZeJWHdQcbdn8jJW3pDt7m74Jg%3D&reserved=0) (PDF). The series features speakers from tribal communities, as well as federal and state partners, who discuss indigenous disability history, community-centered solutions for serving indigenous populations, interagency insights for holistic services, and tribal self employment. [The series begins April 3rd](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fvcurrtc.org%252Ftraining%252Fwebcasts%252F%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D55cedddc8d8c7c28d6d23f9259c527f002b85ff53c35a681a81b59626938a78d&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492757089%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TJu4hAVaIsIQhQWbzKkoeti5lyyROHyOaUUvQGNYLHM%3D&reserved=0). Registration is free and required for each session.

On Thursday, April 4th at 1 pm ET ABLE in collaboration with SSA will provide a webinar with a focus on representative payees and ABLE reporting. The webinar will highlight how ABLE accounts interact with Social Security Disability Benefits, Income/Asset Tests, Reporting ABLE information to SSA, and Representative Payees managing ABLE accounts.

The [Rocky Mountain ADA Regional Center](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Frockymountainada.org%252F%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D6c1ec49b191ccf67dd3b1484bd35b23484fec044f99e31e13d200ddff44497c5&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492763771%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sfwsb4NluH0L%2Bv2%2FlfmeESPYNp47DgnFLbzub2X3Prs%3D&reserved=0) released a new online training course, [Overview of Disability Rights Laws](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Frockymountainada.talentlms.com%252Fcatalog%252Finfo%252Fid%253A181%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D92736c8bc189a5fb18afef05ab815f94063f93201855e3c452913076eccb1e8e&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492770076%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Kpm3%2Fkicy9vUOY4hsJCg3CXRTjIZ6rRmn4aAfcOGkoo%3D&reserved=0). The new course provides an overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other relevant laws and regulations related to disability rights. Registration is free and required to take this and other courses in the catalog.

The [Northeast ADA Regional Center](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwww.northeastada.org%252F%26cf%3D1190%26v%3Dfbcc423329911fe6f770b44048bfe429ee4fda083d756afec772c30f5a21e557&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492776248%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZOQXkaHFeawjeKJfjHQ6RuzdN9Q2zaESARmuUpd12II%3D&reserved=0) seeks participants for a [study to identify emerging workplace flexibility policies, practices, and implementation strategies for Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fnortheastada.org%252Fworkplace-study%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D5f3b0c451529220222cdc84e0e4fee46225dc2a4864858378eac60f2f715f5b1&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492782282%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2F5hSj0dEZPMewEgCDmTaTJlo7CUJ5PwR%2BNviRyQA8tU%3D&reserved=0) that support workers with disabilities. Participants must be human resources (HR) or Diversity and Inclusion professionals, have at least two years of experience at their current organization, and have knowledge about their organization's flexible work arrangements and accommodations. Eligible candidates will participate in a 60-minute interview about their experience with disability workplace inclusion and implementing different flexible work options. For more information, contact Sarah von Schrader at [sv282@cornell.edu](mailto:sv282@cornell.edu).

The [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Community Living and Participation Among People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (RTC-CL)](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947809%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255751%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fici.umn.edu%252Fprogram-areas%252Fcommunity-living-and-employment%26cf%3D1190%26v%3Df5cf50ebcd9f40d1fb84ab0c2968be5af215d74e969cb9e1e818b164fe017e77&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492789450%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SH%2BXEDgKcSUlfs%2FKxiQHZtGxTLxexm8EMo7Uv8Tb5Ls%3D&reserved=0) released a report, [Research and Training Center on Community Living: Summaries of Research Studies 2018-2023](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947809%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255751%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fpublications.ici.umn.edu%252Fcommunity-living%252Fsummaries-of-research-studies-2018-2023%252Fmain%253Fj%253D12406772%2526sfmc_sub%253D38649782%2526l%253D54878_HTML%2526u%253D255050555%2526mid%253D6379454%2526jb%253D0%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D57c944359110957113f5fd68727e0471c95e0132e9b61c97929c213212e4a8d0&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492794888%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JnDBIuNC2QhmvMMv3QmkK6BSxVBunHMcSnNQ141ZLKk%3D&reserved=0). The report shares the research, training, and outreach activities of the RTC-CL to enhance the community living and participation for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). The report includes the key findings, products, and publications of the RTC-CL research studies conducted from 2018-2023.

The NIDIL [Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Employment of People who are Blind or Have Low Vision](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947809%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255751%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwww.blind.msstate.edu%252F%26cf%3D1190%26v%3Dd1d052ea968e28032b5627fe3d16e8cccc15c9257c6f7974c92d5eeda25db37d&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492800218%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Kv13iNb8TeF2VLu0ES%2FS3PK4bncHtnmrGbpwEZR3FuM%3D&reserved=0) seeks participants for a [study on career mentorship experiences and employment.](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947809%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255751%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwww.blind.msstate.edu%252Fnews%252F2024%252F03%252Fnrtc-recruiting-participants-career-mentoring-survey%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D9dcdb7c1dfa2771708adb0fb54fa18d0d2ce1a74cedaa157859b51c91720a3e6&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492804900%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=H2Xvj8R0TBd9e7w3b3BCnMGJQPbrBRZg83utiNiCXb8%3D&reserved=0) Participants must people with blindness or low vision, between the ages of 30 and 65, and who have had a career mentor or received career mentorship. Participants will complete a survey of approximately 10 minutes. Participants who complete the survey will have the option to enter a drawing for one of three $100 gift cards. For more information, visit the study webpage. Questions may be sent to Jamie Boydstun at [jboydstun@colled.msstate.edu](mailto:jboydstun@colled.msstate.edu) or [662-325-2001](tel:662-325-2001).

The [Employee Benefits Security Administration](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwww.dol.gov%252Fagencies%252Febsa%26cf%3D1190%26v%3Deef685505ea338995e929d6bc1d0a8c7531c96d7488665fe74b99838b8827351&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492809561%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=a4e2KD5ePvITBw9g2X0faoQi3SH7PxnYF27PMOgsrwo%3D&reserved=0) at the Department of Labor released two resources to guide individuals and their families in understanding mental health benefits and their rights. [Understanding Your Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Benefits](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwww.dol.gov%252Fsites%252Fdolgov%252Ffiles%252Febsa%252Fabout-ebsa%252Four-activities%252Fresource-center%252Fpublications%252Funderstanding-your-mental-health-and-substance-use-disorder-benefits.pdf%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D3532999f5bcb139764cd8eb3446605a87d98669a6c4f81ab13a821380221506f&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492814201%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3MCQeLNVwtOqk18tIzTiuB%2BuK0YgLM2JjlDnRgwtnbA%3D&reserved=0) (PDF) explains how to access mental health services covered by employer-based health plans for individuals and family members who may be covered under their plans. [Understanding Parity: A Guide to Resources for Families and Caregivers](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947666%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255136%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fwww.dol.gov%252Fsites%252Fdolgov%252Ffiles%252Febsa%252Flaws-and-regulations%252Flaws%252Fmental-health-parity%252Funderstanding-parity-a-guide-to-resources-for-families-and-caregivers.pdf%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D656e2690fecb6937f12c1cfbd1bd5a164e8ce42a922a9eb583e37630be99050a&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492819018%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZhjsXT7GVwouo%2FWQNzut6lWRF7pgxVVp4WRkpqzanxI%3D&reserved=0) (PDF) provides information and tools necessary for parents, family members, or other caregivers to secure behavioral health services for their loved ones.

**COVID 19 UPDATE**

**Gender diversity, disability, and well-being: Impact of delayed and foregone care because of COVID-19.** LGBT Health. NARIC Accession Number: J93432.  
New to the NARIC collection, this NIDILRR-funded study assessed the impact of delayed and foregone care due to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on well-being of gender diverse adults with disabilities. Using data from the 2021 National Survey on Health and Disability, researchers found that people with disabilities reported high rates of delayed and foregone care and subsequent negative effects on well-being. Gender diverse participants were over four times more likely to have delayed any care and three times more likely to have foregone any care due to COVID-19 compared to cisgender participants. They were three times more likely to report any negative impact on their health and well-being because of delayed and foregone care. The COVID-19 pandemic affected the healthcare of people with disabilities, resulting in high rates of delayed care, foregone care, and negative impacts on well-being, including physical health, mental health, pain levels, and overall level of functioning. These effects were intensified for people with intersectional disability and marginalized gender identities. [Access the full abstract and ordering information in REHABDATA](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclick.icptrack.com%2Ficp%2Frelay.php%3Fr%3D114021060%26msgid%3D947809%26act%3DHP5I%26c%3D654309%26pid%3D8255751%26destination%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Fnaric.com%252Fcontent%252Fcf-rehab-adv-srch-redirect%253Fsearch_id%253D385293%26cf%3D1190%26v%3D21def512a2af96d63892b920f625fa638fdb2bd1e701e3f85d96a4ec63535591&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cee4c024907164cedf13e08dc4c0d97d6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638468868492823714%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=gjVzOIcRCzYPEBIqXVkGB46djQqJsmfJB%2BZ9C2A3u5k%3D&reserved=0).

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