Living Well with a Disability, a Self-Management Program

CDC’s Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, in collaboration with the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDDD) has published a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) supplement looking at health interventions that are evidence-based and/or show promise in reducing health differences affecting certain population groups, including people with disabilities at the local and national levels. One of the highlighted interventions is Living Well with a Disability, a program developed by University of Montana in partnership with the national network of Centers for Independent Living (CILs) and with support from CDC’s Disability and Health Branch. This program helps people with disabilities learn skills to manage their health by teaching goal-setting and problem solving skills that help them remove barriers to maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Approximately 56.7 million people in the United States live with a disability, and although people with disabilities have, on average, poorer health than people without disabilities, they are often not included in health promotion programs. Living Well with a Disability is one program that helps people with disabilities address the unique barriers they face for managing and preventing health conditions. The program can be adopted and widely implemented by national, state, and local organizations that seek to improve the health and well-being of people with disabilities and reduce healthcare cost. You can help NCBDDDD in its mission to support the inclusion of people with disabilities in this and other public health programs by sharing this report and other inclusion tools as well as visiting the Living Well with a Disability Website to learn more about this program.

Visiting CDC’s Office of Minority Health and Health Equity website to learn more about this and other interventions and strategies that reduce health disparities.

World Birth Defects Day is March 3, 2016

What can you do to help?

- Lend your voice to raise awareness! Register with your social media account and Thunderclap will post a 1-time message for you on March 3rd. Sign up for the Thunderclap here: http://thndr.me/RKrAZR
- Join the buzzday on Twitter, March 3, 2016 using the hashtag #worldbddd. We want to see you there. Plan to send one or more messages using the #WorldBDDay tag at some point during the day.
Please retweet both promotional and day-of messages to build our buzz for the day. Remember to include the #WorldBDDay tag in all messages that you/your organization posts on this topic

• Look for our CDC Feature on World Birth Defects Day

Information on the Donut Hole and Medicare Preventive Services

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released information showing that millions of older adults and people with disabilities on Medicare are saving money on prescription drugs thanks to the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Since ACA was enacted, "nearly 10.7 million Medicare beneficiaries have received discounts over $20.8 billion on prescription drugs - an average of $1,945 per beneficiary." Medicare beneficiaries are also more informed and educated and are taking advantage of recommended preventive services with no coinsurance.

The prescription drug "donut hole" refers to the gap in coverage where beneficiaries paid the full cost of their prescriptions out of pocket before catastrophic cover for prescriptions took effect. Beneficiaries that are in the donut hole in 2016 will receive discounts including, "savings of 55 percent on the cost of brand name drugs and 42 percent on the cost of generic drugs." The hole will be closed by the year 2020. In an effort to remove barriers to prevention, the ACA added coverage for an annual wellness visit and eliminated coinsurance and the Part D deductible for specific recommended preventive services.

View the donut hole discounts.
View information about Medicare drug benefits.
View the preventive services document.

Money Follows the Person: 2014 Annual Evaluation Report

The Money Follows the Person (MFP) demonstration program represents a major federal initiative to give people needing long-term services and supports (LTSS) more choice about where they live and receive care, and to increase the capacity of state long-term care systems to serve people in community settings. Calendar year 2014 marked the eighth year of the national MFP demonstration.

This is the sixth in a series of annual reports from the national evaluation of the MFP rebalancing demonstration. It presents four broad sets of analyses that report on the overall progress and effects of the MFP demonstration: (1) progress grantees are making on their statutory transition and expenditure goals, (2) the extent to which the MFP demonstration is associated with changes in transition rates from institutional
Care to community-based long-term services and supports (LTSS), (3) post-transition outcomes and whether the MFP demonstration is associated with these outcomes, and (4) a qualitative assessment in how the quality of life of MFP participants change after the transition to community-based services. To the extent possible, the analyses cover the program from its inception through December 2014.

Stories Can Save Lives (and Win!)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response is calling for young people to submit a creative 60-second video showing how they help others stay safe and resilient.

Submissions can gain national recognition and win cash prizes. To widen the initiative’s impact, participants are encouraged to share their videos on social media with the hashtag #WatchMePrep.

Visit My Preparedness Story Video Challenge for more information.

IDEA Funds for Children Slightly Rise Under Budget Proposal

The Obama administration has proposed a budget that would provide modest funding boosts to programs that serve children with special needs ages 5 or younger under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Funding for programs for older students with disabilities and those who are gifted would remain unchanged.

Read more at Education Week.

Target Offering Carts for Shoppers with Special Needs

Brian Britz’s 2-year-old daughter cannot sit in a regular shopping cart because of health issues and developmental delays. That means shopping is a family affair with one parent pushing the medical stroller while the other pushes the shopping cart.

To alleviate the difficulties that parents like his face, Target said that by March 15 the majority of stores will have at least one Caroline’s Cart, and many will have more, depending on guests’ needs. The smallest Target stores that don’t have full-sized shopping carts will not carry Caroline’s Cart.

Read more at Disability Scoop.
UPCOMING TRAININGS

NCBDDD Partner Briefing
Monday, February 22, 2016, 11:00 – 12:00P.M ET

You are invited to join the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) Partner Briefing

Agenda:
- 11:00 a.m. Budget Briefing on NCBDDD FY17
- 11:30 a.m. Zika Briefing

Presenter: Dr. Coleen Boyle, NCBDDD Director
Coleen Boyle serves as Director of the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) at CDC. Dr. Boyle joined NCBDDD’s Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities in 1988, first as Section Chief and later as Branch Chief and Division Director. In 2001, Dr. Boyle was named the Associate Director for Science and Public Health for CDC’s newly created National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD). In October 2004, she was appointed the Director of the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities.

Webinar Handouts:
- Direct link to NCBDDD FY17 President’s Budget Request factsheet.
- Link to all CDC FY17 President’s Budget Request factsheets.

Register here.

Tuesday, February 16, 1:00 - 2:00PM ET

Please plan to attend the next session of Public Health Grand Rounds, titled “Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Advancing Research and Clinical Education,” which will be held on Tuesday, February 16, at 1:00 p.m. (ET).
Doctors and scientists have not yet found what causes chronic fatigue syndrome. Infections and other medical and biological events are among the many possible triggers, but there is no certain cause and the condition is difficult to diagnose. A systematic approach to evaluating people with persistent symptoms, combined with new diagnostic criteria, offers hope for more accurate and faster diagnosis.

In this session of Public Health Grand Rounds, our expert panel of clinicians, epidemiologists, and researchers will discuss how they approach diagnosis and treatment in their own practices, how the diagnostic criteria for chronic fatigue syndrome have changed over the years, and how the public health community can continue to improve knowledge and understanding of this complex disorder.

A live external webcast will be available. For individuals who are unable to view the session during the scheduled time, the archived presentation will be posted 48 hours after each session.

Public Health Webinars Series On Blood Disorders

**Impact of Public Health Surveillance on Hemophilia Care**  
*February 18, 2016, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET*  
The Division of Blood Disorders (DBD) is proud to offer its “Public Health Webinar Series on Blood Disorders.” This webinar series provides evidence-based information on new research, interventions, emerging issues of interest in blood disorders, as well as innovative approaches in collaborations and partnerships.

[Webinar Flyer](#).

**Assessing the Risk for Venous Thromboembolism in Hospitalized Medical Patients**  
*March 3, 2016, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET*  
The Division of Blood Disorders (DBD) is proud to offer its “Public Health Webinar Series on Blood Disorders.” This webinar series provides evidence-based information on new research, interventions, emerging issues of interest in blood disorders, as well as innovative approaches in collaborations and partnerships.

[Webinar Flyer](#).
Webinar: Results from the 2013 BRFSS Cognitive Module
Friday, February 26, 2016, 1:30 - 2:30PM ET

The Alzheimer's Association is hosting a webinar on the results of the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). BRFSS suggest that a significant portion of midlife and older adults are experiencing worsening memory problems that interfere with daily activities. Presenters, Dr. Lisa McGuire, Lead, Healthy Aging Program, Centers for Disease Control; and Linda Stemnock, BRFSS Coordinator, Indiana State Department of Health will discuss the new 2013 BRFSS findings and ways states and localities can leverage this BRFSS cognitive data to address systems change and educate stakeholders.

View details and register.

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Education for All: An Evening with AUCD
Wednesday, March 2, 2016, Washington DC

Education for All: An Evening with the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) will be the first of what will be an annual celebration honoring the AUCD network’s accomplishments and, more importantly, the millions of people with disabilities who benefit from them. On March 2nd, AUCD will shine the spotlight on their impact promoting inclusive disability policies and improving education outcomes for children and youth with disabilities.

Learn more about this event.

2016 Tourette Association National Education & Advocacy Conference
March 8-13, 2016, Arlington, VA

The Conference offers sessions for adults & teens with TS, parents, and professionals on a variety of topics that are grouped by track. Networking opportunities, allowing attendees to connect with one another to share information, stories, and inspiration will also be provided.

Learn more about this event.
National Family Leadership Meeting and Reception

On March 29-31, 2016, family leaders from across the US will convene near Washington, DC, for a national Family Leadership Meeting and Reception. The Family Leadership Meeting, co-sponsored by HRSA (MCHB) and Family Voices, is an opportunity to build leadership skills for family organization staff and other family leaders, with a special focus on engaging diverse families, through workshops on topics such as systems change at the local, state, and national systems level; recruiting, training, and supporting diverse leaders; youth leadership development; the cultural implications of health literacy; and more! The meeting provides a forum for family leaders to interact with family organizations from every state, MCHB leaders, and other key Family Voices national partners. In conjunction with the meeting, Family Voices is sponsoring a Champions for Children’s Health Reception on Capitol Hill to celebrate national champions for children and youth with special healthcare needs and their families.

Learn more about this event and register.

APHA 2016 Disability Section Awards

The American Public Health Association (APHA)’s Disability Section awards individuals or organizations that make major contributions to the health and quality of life for people with disabilities through research, teaching, advocacy or practice.

Nomination Instructions:
In addition to the completed award nomination form, please provide a 1-page description of your nominee’s contributions in addition to the nominee’s curriculum vita or resume. Within your 1-page description, you may address the importance of the contributions, the quality of the work, and the originality of the contribution as an exemplar. Nominators do not need to be members of the APHA Disability Section. See eligibility criteria for each award listed to determine the nominee’s membership requirements associated with each particular award.

If you have questions about the nomination process please contact Adriane Griffen, APHA Disability Section Awards Committee Chair, by email at agriffen@aucd.org with the words “Awards Nomination” in the email subject line. The deadline for nominations is 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on Friday, April 1, 2016. The winners will receive their awards at the 2016 APHA Annual Meeting in Denver during the Disability Section Business
and Awards Meeting in November. Winners will be notified by mid-May and must provide a digital photograph in a .jpg or .tiff format and at least 300 dpi for the annual program.

2016 CMV Public Health and Policy Conference
Sep 26 – 27, 2016, Austin, TX.

The goal of the Congenital CMV conference is to present the latest research on diagnosis and treatment, raise awareness, delineate prevention efforts, provide information about early intervention options, and disseminate family support resources in an effort to reduce the number of babies born with CMV and connect families affected by CMV with the resources they need to improve their quality of life.

Abstract submission is now open.

Child Care Aware® of America Symposium 2016
April 4 – 6, 2016, Washington, D.C.

Child Care Aware® of America’s Symposium 2016 will be held April 4-6 in Washington, D.C. and will address the latest topics in research, policy, and practices of interest to the child care and early education communities. An emergency preparedness session featuring special guest speakers will explore new preparedness resources, tools, and policies that emerged in 2015. The session will also discuss numerous man-made and natural disasters that impacted communities throughout the United States last year.

Find more information about all of the sessions and register.

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STAYING CONNECTED

• CDC DHB Weekly Updates
  o We welcome and encourage your feedback on the activities included in the Weekly Updates. Please let us know how we can improve these announcements. Our goal is to ensure that our programs are supported and that people with disabilities are included in public health programs.
  o Have something to share?
    ▪ If your program or organization would like to contribute to the DHB Weekly Updates, please send your requests to disabilityandhealthbranch@cdc.gov.
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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- [CDC Disability and Health Website](#)

- CDC Disability and Health Social Media
  - NCBDDD Social Media; CDC Facebook; CDC Pinterest; CDC LinkedIn; CDC Instagram; CDC Google+
  - CDC Twitter: @CDCgov; @DrFriedenCDC; @CDC_NCBDDD