

## **Emergency Management Task Force Resources**

This document presents a number of websites offered by various disability organizations, many of them members of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, addressing aspects of the current health care pandemic as well as a separate section with links to several of the main government websites addressing COVID 19 issues. As additional material is brought to the task force's attention, we will try to add to this document.

**AAPD** – The American Association of People with Disabilities has produced a number of materials related to COVID including basic advocacy information at - How the Disability Community Can Respond to COVID 19 - <https://www.aapd.com/covid-19/> and has led efforts to protect disability rights during the pandemic - [https://www.aapd.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Disability-Civil-Rights-COVID-Letter\\_Final\\_3.24.20.pdf](https://www.aapd.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Disability-Civil-Rights-COVID-Letter_Final_3.24.20.pdf)

**Center for Public Representation** - CPR uses legal strategies, advocacy, and policy to promote the integration and full community participation of people with disabilities and all others who are devalued in today's society. They have been active in state level advocacy to protect the rights of people with disabilities during the COVID 19 pandemic. Information about these and other efforts of CPR can be found at <https://www.centerforpublicrep.org/>

**Communication FIRST**, a fairly new human and civil rights group with a focus on individuals with disabilities who have little to no understandable speech. The link will lead directly to the group's COVID19 communication rights toolkit, including a section that can be printed and filled in by hand to alert medical providers to someone's communication needs and preferred auxiliary aids and services: <https://communicationfirst.org/covid-19/>

**Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund [DREDF] and Disability Rights California [DRC]** teamed up to create "Know Your Disability Healthcare Rights" sheets that people can print up at home and have with them in the event that they have to go to the hospital or call for emergency help at their homes during this COVID crises. The sheets are in English on the top and are currently available with Spanish or Chinese translation on the bottom. Other languages are coming. This resource can be accessed here: <https://dredf.org/covid-19-advocacy-and-resources/>

**Justice in Aging** – has produced a COVID-19 Resources for Advocates Serving Older Adults available at <https://www.justiceinaging.org/covid-19-resources-for-advocates/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=1866375e-5a2a-48ec-8c99-0516c21b519c>

**National Council on Independent Living** - <https://ncil.org/covid-19/>

The National Council on Independent Living is a national cross-disability, grassroots organization run by and for people with disabilities. Founded in 1982, NCIL represents thousands of organizations and individuals including: individuals with disabilities, Centers for Independent Living (CILs), Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs), and other organizations that advocate for the human and civil rights of people with disabilities throughout the United States. The link above connects to a page dedicated to information, resources and opportunities for advocacy during the pandemic.

**Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies** – The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies is hosting daily COVID-19 Disability Rights Calls where partners across the nation come together to share good and promising practices, systematic rising issues, and community-wide advocacy engagement related to the rights and needs of people with disabilities during this public health emergency and concurrent disasters. They have been cataloging a COVID-19 disability focused Community-Wide Resource List of all the systems advocacy tools, templates, call to actions, information, media coverage, webinars, and more that are being published and released by and throughout the community. See below an evolving, community-wide resource document that is updated continuously, and share your COVID and disability-related resources to be added with us at [dart@disasterstrategies.org](mailto:dart@disasterstrategies.org) - <https://tinyurl.com/COVIDisabilityResources>

**Partnership Disaster Hotline**  
**(800) 626-4959**  
[info@disasterstrategies.org](mailto:info@disasterstrategies.org)

**Please join us today, April 7, 2020 at 6pm ET, 5pm CT, 4pm MT, 3pm PT**

**CALL-IN INFO:**  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/2114337114>  
**\*\* Password: 336330 \*\***

Meeting ID: 211 433 7114

One tap mobile  
+1.312.626.6799,, 211 433 7114# US (Chicago)  
+1.646.876.9923,, 211 433 7114# US (New York)

**Paralyzed Veterans of America** is the nation's only Congressionally chartered veterans service organization solely dedicated to representing veterans with spinal cord injury and/or disorders. This page offers veterans with disabilities and their caregivers information on VA health and benefits resources during the pandemic - <https://www.pva.org/covid19/>

**Reeve Foundation** – is dedicated to curing spinal cord injury by advancing innovative research and improving quality of life for individuals and families impacted by paralysis. This page offers information and resources for people living with SCI dealing with the COVID 19 pandemic. <https://www.christopherreeve.org/blog/daily-dose/insurance-and-covid-19-what-to-know>

**State Developmental Disabilities Councils Plain Language Guidance on COVID 19**  
– Green Mountain Self Advocates – Vermont DD Council -  
<https://selfadvocacyinfo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Plain-Language-Information-on-Coronavirus.pdf>

### **Transportation Coalition Recommendations for Implementing New COVID-19 Policies for People with Disabilities**

Several national organizations representing people with disabilities have issued a memo with valuable suggestions for transportation operators implementing rear door boarding procedures, reminding providers to take into consideration the needs of people with disabilities. Involving people with disabilities, older adults and their advocates in developing procedures to ensure that these populations are able to travel safely is most likely to ensure a good result for everyone. Read the memo [here](#)

### **Federal Government Resources**

**Administration on Community Living (ACL) – COVID 19 Resource Page- What Do Older Adults and People with Disabilities Need to Know -** <https://acl.gov/COVID-19>

**ADA Centers** – The Southeast ADA Center is one of ten regional ADA Technical Assistance Centers and has developed a website devoted to the corona virus at <http://www.adasoutheast.org/coronavirus/#toc>. Other ADA Centers can be found at <https://adata.org/>

### **CDC**

The Centers for Disease Control has released [coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus), a new website to share CDC updates on COVID-19. The website provides ways in which the community can take measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in different settings.

### **CMS**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) posted these Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the [Medicaid.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) website to aid state Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) agencies in their response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. You can find the updated FAQs here: <https://www.medicare.gov/state-resource-center/downloads/covid-19-faqs.pdf>

And the Memo Nursing Home Guidance QSO-20-14 –NH  
here: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/3-13-2020-nursing-home-guidance-covid-19.pdf>

**EEOC – Employment Rights and COVID 19 Pandemic -**  
[https://www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/newsroom/wysk/wysk\\_ada\\_rehabilitaion\\_act\\_coronavirus.cfm](https://www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/newsroom/wysk/wysk_ada_rehabilitaion_act_coronavirus.cfm)

**HHS OCR Bulletin on Civil Rights Laws and HIPAA Flexibilities That Apply During the COVID-19 Emergency**

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a bulletin to ensure that entities covered by civil rights authorities keep in mind their obligations under laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, and exercise of conscience and religion in HHS-funded programs, including in the provision of health care services during COVID-19. <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ocr-bulletin-3-28-20.pdf>

**Medicaid Waivers Tracker** – This Kaiser Family Foundation page aggregates tracking information on approved Medicaid emergency authorities to address the COVID-19 Coronavirus emergency. We currently include details on Section 1135 waivers and 1915 (c) Waiver Appendix K strategies, but will update soon to add additional emergency authorities. <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/medicaid-emergency-authority-tracker-approved-state-actions-to-address-covid-19/>