

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Resource Guide 2024



Artwork by Lee Waters, "What?"

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

This resource guide is intended to help provide content for posting on social media during Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (March 2023). There are no set guidelines for posting – feel free to share whatever you want, whenever you want! For more information about DD Awareness Month, or if you need help posting to social media, please visit:

<https://nacdd.org/ddam1/>

Resource Guide

Podcast

- [BoggsCast](#) - A podcast from The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities where faculty and staff explore best practice, showcase success stories, and help listeners envision possibilities for innovation through interviews with state and national experts.
- [Disability After Dark](#) - Hosted by Disability Awareness Consultant Andrew Gurza; this podcast that looks at disability stories.
- [Disability Visibility](#) - a podcast hosted by Alice Wong featuring conversations on politics, culture, and media with disabled people.
- [Disarming Disability](#) - The podcast's mission is to powerfully deconstruct disability through candid conversations with experts exploring topics related to disability. The podcast looks to educate, empower, voice, and build a more inclusive society.
- [Down to the Struts](#) - Qudsiya Naqui is a lawyer and activist living in Washington DC. She identifies as a blind, South Asian woman, and is dedicated to making spaces and systems more inclusive of disabled people through public education, storytelling, and amplifying the voices of disabled people.
- [Included: The Disability Equity Podcast](#) - A podcast from the Johns Hopkins University Disability Health Research Center that challenges stereotypes of disability by sharing stories, data, and news.
- [Including You: A Disability Rights Arkansas Podcast](#) - Disability Rights Arkansas, we are focused on guidance for people with disabilities – navigating your rights, things that help with your everyday life, and navigating the complex systems of how to get the support you need.
- [OurView: Disability Awareness](#) At OurView, we aim to raise awareness, educate, and change the tone of conversations about disabilities, and those who live with disabilities.
- [Power Not Pity](#) – The podcast explores the lives of disabled people of color everywhere! Through storytelling, commentary and analysis, the podcast aims to amplify the lived experiences and perspectives of disabled people.
- [The Accessible Stall](#) - podcast by Emily Ladau and Kyle Khachadurian. This podcast keeps it real about issues within the disability community.

Videos

- [Accessibility is for Everyone \(2018\)](#) - NV DD Council
- [Breaking Barriers of Autism: The Power of Kindness and Friendship | Benjamin Tarasewicz](#) – TEDx Talks
- [Caregiving Across the Continuum \(2020\)](#) – Think + Charge

- [Claws & Wings](#) (2020) - Delaware DDC
- [Conversations on Showing Up for Kids!](#) – CYSHCN
- [Delaware disability pride Media Campaign Fall compilation 2022](#) – Delaware DD Council
- [Disability Inclusion in the Workplace](#) (2018) - New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
- [Down Syndrome Didn't Stop Me Becoming A Cheerleader | BORN DIFFERENT](#) (2019) – Truly
- [Dream project @ Home](#) (2020) – National Dance Institute
- [I Dream of a World](#) (2020) - Informing Families
- [Employment Matters](#) – Seven Hills
- [Everyone Wins When Everyone's Included!](#) (2018) - Informing Families
- [Healthy Boundaries Lesson](#) – Elevatus Training
- [Hear Me! People with Developmental Disabilities Speak Out](#) (2017) - NV DD Council
- [Housing Opportunities that Help Promote Independent Living](#) (2019) - New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
- [Inclusion Today, Community Living for Life](#) (2019) – Georgetown UCEDD
- [Interview with Second Story Press](#) (2021) – Rita Winkler
- [It's All About Attitude](#) (2019) - Institute on Human Development & Disability / UGA
- [My Autistic Friend Explains Autism \(And Why He's Proud to be Autistic\)](#) (2018) - Special Books by Special Kids
- [Niko's Story](#) (2019) - DRO social media
- [Redefining Inclusion](#) (2018) - Taishoff Center
- [RIDDC Small Business Classes](#) - RIDDC
- [Small Business Saturday SHOP RI 2021](#) | RIDDC
- [Treat me like everyone else | Self-Determination | WI Board for People w/ Develop. Disabilities](#) - Self-Determination Channel
- [Voting in Local Elections | Self-Determination | WBPDD](#) - Self-Determination Channel
- [What Women With Autism Want You to Know](#) (2018) – Iris

Toolkits

- [The Arc of Monmouth Resources - Advocacy and Resources](#) – The Arc of Monmouth
- [Art Access](#) - Art Access increases access to the arts in Utah through creative opportunities for artists with disabilities and accessibility education and resources.
- [All Brains Belong VT](#) - a Primary Care & Community organization located in Montpelier, Vermont who use principles of inclusive design to offer healthcare and community connection.
- [Can You Hear Me Now? Listening to Adults with ID in Health](#) – The Ohio State University

- [Communicate and create your way: What's new in Microsoft 365 Accessibility for October-December 2022](#) - Aleš Holeček
- [Creative Like Me](#) - a collaboration between Fulton County Arts and Culture (FCAC) through the Public Art Program, and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (BHDD).
- ["It's Time for a Reimagining of Disability Etiquette"](#) - Forbes
- [One Workforce: Inclusive Employment in North Carolina](#) - a digital look book from the **NorthCarolina Council on Developmental Disabilities.**
- [My name is Rita](#)
- [Navigating Workforce More Challenging For Those With Disabilities, Advocates Say](#)
- [Self Advocacy Start-Up Toolkit: More Power, More Control Over our Lives!](#) - Self Advocates Becoming Empowered
- [Stephan Soares' Story](#) - Community Access Unlimited. Read Stephan's story about perusing his lifelong goal of being a truck driver
- [Tips4Inclusion](#)
- [Super Smiles for your Child](#) - Oral Health Kansas has created a new web experience for families with young children. Explore Super Smiles for Your Child together to watch fun videos, test your knowledge with exciting games, and listen to children's books that will provide you with great edutainment.
- [Student group's workshop aims to overcome barriers](#) - By John Keenan of UNMC. An example of a higher-education program profile with a focus on its participants
- [Talking about Healthy Relationships](#) - Elevatus Training.
- [Finding Your Way: A Navigation Guide for Wisconsin Families Who Have Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and Disabilities](#) - designed to help families and professionals navigate the system of care in Wisconsin.
- [Pittsverse Magazine](#) - quarterly publication written exclusively by adults diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder that aims to increase inclusion and broaden the general understanding of autism
- [Progressive Art Studio Collective](#)
- [Programs and Supports - College Experience - Kach](#) – The Arc of Monmouth
- [Programs and Supports - Health Services](#) – The Arc of Monmouth
- [Programs and Supports - Recreation](#) – The Arc of Monmouth
- [Programs and Supports - Adult Services](#) – The Arc of Monmouth
- [Progressive Art Studio Collective](#) - Progressive Art Studio Collective (PASC), launched in 2021, is a dedicated art and design studio with a professional gallery for disabled artists or artists with disabilities, serving Detroit/Wayne County.
- [We Do Life Together](#) - an organization in Connecticut dedicated to supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities reach their full potential.

News

- [Books Honored For Disability Storylines](#) – Disability Scoop
- [Businesses praise work of developmentally disabled](#) - The Tahlequah Daily Press
- [Disabled Workers Shatter Employment Myths](#) - The Laconia Daily Sun
- [15 inclusive books by disabled women writers](#) by Disability Horizon
- [Davos: Employees with Disabilities on the Agenda](#) by TravelAbility
- [It's Time for a Reimagining of Disability Etiquette](#) – Forbes
- [People with Disabilities Report Fewer Voting Troubles](#) - Disability Scoop
- [Prosecutor starts first N.J. program to train people with special needs to work in law enforcement](#) - NJ.com
- [Transforming Impossible to Possible: Josh's Journey to Success](#) - Perspectives Corporation
- [100 Women of the Year: Judith Heumann](#) - Time Magazine
- [The ADA is Turning 30. Here's What You Should Know](#) – Changing America
- [Random Acts of Kindness Kick Off DDAM](#) – The Citizens' Voice
- [This Craft Brew Pub Thrives, Thanks to a Secret Ingredient: Workers with Disabilities](#) - Los Angeles Times
- [What Companies Gain by Including Persons with Disabilities](#) – World Economic Forum
- [How Educators Secretly Remove Students With Disabilities From School](#) – The New York Times
- [Opinion: Reimagining paratransit requires federal leadership and funding](#) – City&State New York

COVID-19 Resource

While numerous organizations have created, gathered, and/or promoted COVID-19 (coronavirus) general resources, it's important to share I/DD-specific resources as well given the virus's potential impact on people with compromised immune systems or other such complications that lead to increased risk. A significant percentage of people with I/DD fall into this category, and many more are at risk if the pandemic disrupts the Direct Support Professional (DSP) workforce or overtaxes the healthcare system.

If it makes sense for you to use DD Awareness Month as a context or reason to share DD-specific COVID-19 resources, please go ahead and share away. It is extremely important to counteract the narrative that the virus's danger is overblown because of its low mortality rates with younger adults without previous respiratory issues. The type of person-focused stories that are often shared during DD Awareness Month can be an effective complement to these resources, as it can help everyone become better able to view people with I/DD as individuals and not as a group or demographic.

Below are some resources you can share. For those interested in state-specific resources, we

encourage you to contact one of the state's DD Act organizations (the DD Council, Protection and Advocacy, or University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities).

- **[Get Out The Vaccine](#)**: NACDD campaign with the goal to provide people with I/DD, their families, and their communities with resources. With this campaign, the goal is to provide relevant and accurate up-to-date information on the COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Disability-focused Information**: The [ACL COVID-19 page](#) has put together a list of disability-related COVID-19 information and resources. It is updated regularly.
- **Medicaid**: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services have [a list of Frequently Asked Questions and other resources](#) about Medicaid and CHIP programs.
- **Plain-Language Information**: The Green Mountain Self-Advocates and the Vermont DD Council have a plain-language guide to COVID-19 set at a 3rd-grade reading level.
- **General Information**: The [CDC COVID-19 page](#) is the most reliable source of general information about the virus. It is updated regularly.
- **The National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD)** the CERES Institute for Children & Youth at Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development to examine general educators' experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic, with a specific focus on their experiences instructing students with learning and attention issues. To read the full report, [click here](#).