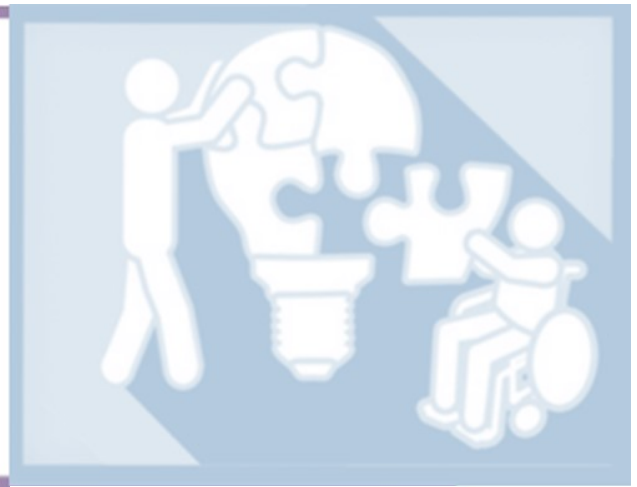


P&A TiDBITS

LEGAL NEWS & other
Disability-Related info

April 2020



APRIL IS NATIONAL
**AUTISM
AWARENESS
MONTH**



April is
**Fair
Housing
Month**



During the COVID-19 Pandemic



Fact Sheet: Overview on Using Medicaid to Respond to COVID-19

In a new fact sheet, Director of Health Policy Leo Cuello discusses how states have several major paths to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic using Medicaid. States have numerous points of discretionary authority, some special discretionary authority that arises in emergency scenarios, normal state plan amendment (SPA) options, and waiver authorities (particularly section 1135 authority). This overview is intended to help advocates better understand and shape state Medicaid responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

You can download the Fact Sheet and To read about other resources, by going to: <https://healthlaw.org/resource/overview-on-using-medicaid-to-respond-to-covid-19/>



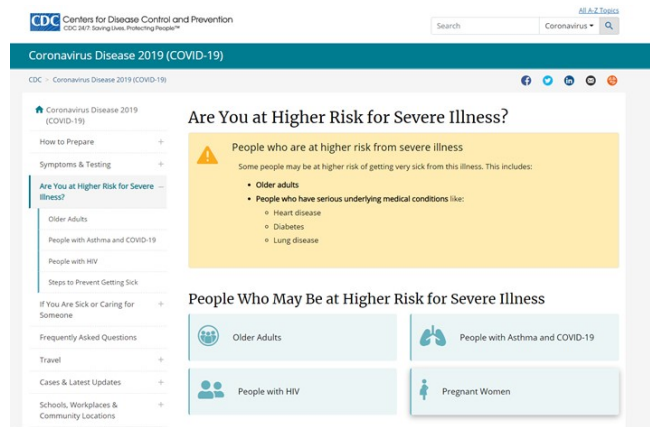
Administration for Community Living

What People with Disabilities and Older Adults Need to Know About Coronavirus

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) created this page for information and resources on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and all respiratory diseases.

As guidance is updated, ACL will post or link to it on this page and share it through the ACL Updates email service. If you need help finding services in your community, the Eldercare Locator can help. Visit <https://eldercare.acl.gov/> or call 1-800-677-1116. To sign up for the email update service, go to: — <https://acl.gov/COVID-19>

In addition, ACL recommends following the guidance issued by state and local health departments, and watch the CDC website for the latest national information.



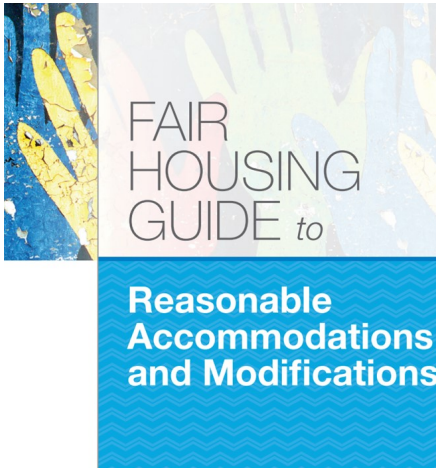
Go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html#Have-supplies-on-hand>

DISCLAIMER

P&A Legal Tidbits is provided to clients and other interested persons. No legal advice is intended nor should this publication be interpreted as providing legal advice.

Accessibility NEWS

Fair Housing Guide to Reasonable Accommodations and Modifications



The Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania published this new guide, outlining the provisions of both the federal Fair Housing Act (FHA) and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act (PHRA). The comprehensive guide covers a broad range of disability-related issues that may arise in housing, provides sample letters for requesting reasonable accommodations or permission to make structural modifications, and much more.

If you have a question about fair housing rights or resources, start here! To get the guide, go to: <https://www.equalhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Fair-Housing-Guide-to-Reasonable-Accommodations-and-Modifications.pdf>



The 2020 session of the Wyoming Legislature, a budget session, enacted some bills that have particular significance to voting in the upcoming elections.

One bill is Senate Enrolled Act 37 amending portions of Wyo. Stat. § 22-9-125(a) (ii) relating to absentee voting and authorizing the establishment of satellite absentee polling places. The amendment provides that if a board of county commissioners establish absentee polling places, also required to accommodate all voters, in designated buildings, the county clerk may also establish in one (1) or more public buildings within the county additional satellite absentee polling places to accommodate voters." The amendment also provides that "A satellite absentee polling place shall be open only on the dates and at the times specified by the county clerk during the time period allowed for absentee voting." This amendment became effective immediately upon passage. The accommodation requirement is not necessarily synonymous with "accessibility," although this may be implied as voting places are required by several Federal laws to meet accessibility requirements, including the ADA and Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

Another bill, House Enrolled Act No. 63, amends Wyo. Stat. § 22-3-103(a)(vi) to provide an alternative form of identification for voter registration purposes of the tribal identification card issued by recognized tribes, which contain either the person's driver's license number or the last four (4) digits of the person's social security number. Wyo. Stat. § 22-3-105(b)(iv) also was amended to permit the county clerk to accept the tribal identification card meeting the requirements of Wyo. Stat. § 22-3-103(a)(vi)(B) for qualification for registration for voting. This amendment became effective immediately upon passage. This legislation avoids the possibility that tribal members not possessing a driver's license or other recognized identification card would be precluded from voter registration.

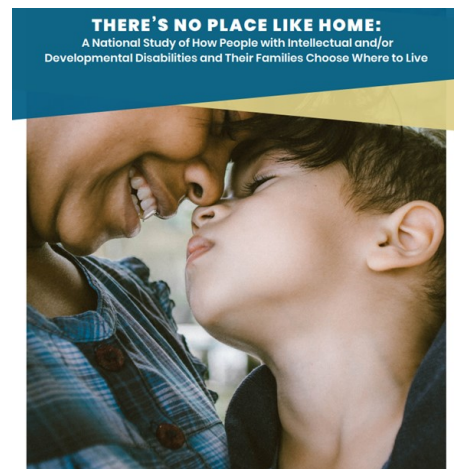
There's No Place Like Home: A National Study of How People with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities and Their Families Choose Where to Live

This study sought to better understand how people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families make decisions about where to live. Deinstitutionalization has reached an all-time high, and people with I/DD are more likely to be living with family or in other community-based settings, which is both more cost effective and results in increased positive outcomes in health and safety, community participation, strengthened relationships, and self-determination.

However, around 75% of adults with I/DD live with a parent or other caregiver, and are not connected to publicly available services and supports; Nearly one-million households have a caregiver over the age of 60, and more than half of these families indicated that they do not have a plan for the future.

The report highlights a number of needs and related recommendations, including

- the need for a centralized place for information and resources;
- eased system navigation and transparency;
- an expanded and adequately funded community infrastructure;
- increased attention to quality including person-centered practices and rights; and,
- facilitation of choice-making opportunities for people with I/DD.



To get the report, go to:

https://futureplanning.thearc.org/assets/CFP_Housing_Survey_Technical_Report-80e6eb718c816d07a15a9972df06a6e73b1393d5b56ae145acc058fce243cd93.pdf

FOR MORE
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