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As telehealth visits become more common, here are ways you can make the most of your consultation
By Pierre Elias • [Read more »](#)

Biden Calls For Major Boost To Disability Services - Alongside funding for bridges and roads, President Joe Biden's wide-ranging \$2 trillion infrastructure plan includes a massive investment in home- and community-based services.
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Amid Pandemic, 'Sesame Street' Aims To Help Children With Autism Adapt - "Sesame Street" is turning its attention to helping kids with autism cope with change, something that has become all too familiar during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. [Read More >](#)

People With IDD Can Get COVID-19 Vaccination Help From New Website - To combat what experts deem a public health concern, a website is pointing people with developmental disabilities to trusted resources on COVID-19 vaccines and where to find the shots. [Read More >](#)

Court: Service Dogs May Be Trained By Owners And Allowed Into Shops, Restaurants - Individuals with disabilities can train their own service animals to aid and accompany them into restaurants, shops and hospitals without formally certifying them, a federal appeals court ruled. [Read More >](#)

[One in three COVID patients have gone on to be diagnosed with a neurological or psychiatric condition within six months of infection, a study found. STAT](#)

[Healthcare workers say they need mental health services, but many aren't getting them](#) While more than half of healthcare employees said the crisis harmed their mental health, younger workers have been the hardest hit, according to the survey from the Kaiser Family Foundation and Washington Post.

Feds Ramping Up Vaccine Access For People With Disabilities - The Biden administration is putting big bucks behind an effort to get more people with disabilities vaccinated against COVID-19. [Read More >](#)

Trader Joe's Eyes Improved Shopping Experience For Those With Special Needs - Trader Joe's is looking to make it easier for people with autism and intellectual disabilities to shop in its grocery stores. [Read More >](#)

Family Says Deputies Were Warned Of Man's Autism Before Shooting - When police responded to a mental health crisis they were allegedly told the 25-year-old had autism. But minutes later a deputy shot the man, causing injuries that could leave him paralyzed. [Read More >](#)

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Kids On Medicaid Seek Easier Access To Out-Of-State Hospitals - Many state Medicaid programs pay out-of-state providers much less than in-state facilities, often making it hard for families with medically complex children to get the care they seek. [Read More >](#)

A teenager's death by suicide with her father's gun is dividing a small Missouri town. - The Kansas City Star
[Missouri teen's 2017 death by gun suicide divided Sedalia | The Kansas City Star](#)

Biden Budget Includes 'First Step Toward Fully Funding IDEA' -President Joe Biden is calling for the federal government to make sizable investments in special ed and support other programs benefiting people with disabilities in his first budget proposal. [Read More >](#)

Online Program Addresses Autism In Spanish For Hispanic Families - Cultural barriers, limited English, economic status and stigma can prevent Latino parents from knowing how to act early and find help for their kids. A new program is looking to change that. [Read More >](#)

#FreeBritney Movement Prompts Lawmakers To Consider Changing Conservatorship Rules - A spotlight on Britney Spears' conservatorship has led lawmakers in one state to consider changes, but some say focusing on the pop star could overlook the needs of those with disabilities. [Read More >](#)

CDC Issues COVID-19 Guidance For Day Centers Serving Adults With Disabilities - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is offering up new guidance for day centers and the people with disabilities they're serving during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. [Read More >](#)

New Push Underway To Eliminate Subminimum Wage - Government investigators say that a lack of resources is one of the main reasons people with disabilities continue to work for less than minimum wage. Now, some lawmakers want to change that. [Read More >](#)

A Mysterious Series of Suicides at a Small College Town

[Young people in Kirksville, Missouri, kept killing themselves — and one man seemed to be involved in every case.](#)

Marijuana-Themed License Plates To Benefit Disability Community - In an effort to better support people with disabilities, one state is offering motorists the chance to emblazon their cars with phrases like "BONG," "GANJA," "HASH" and "HEMP." [Read More >](#)

Vaccinations Lag For Home Health Workers - Aides who care for people with disabilities in their homes are less likely to have had COVID-19 shots than their counterparts in nursing homes and logistical challenges may be to blame. [Read More >](#)

Temple Grandin Champions 'Different Kinds Of Minds' On PBS - A cartoon version of autism self-advocate Temple Grandin gets a visit from the kids on "Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum" on PBS KIDS. [Read More >](#)

— **Shawn Pleasants** went from Yale to Wall Street to homelessness. Now he's [rising back up](#), columnist Steve Lopez reports.

— A **mother** who confessed to killing her three children in Reseda had unraveled in [depression and QAnon-style conspiracies](#) in the months before.

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Ed Department Says More Students With Disabilities Graduating - An increasing number of students with disabilities across the nation are graduating high school, according to new federal figures, but the odds of receiving a diploma vary considerably by state. [Read More >](#)

Jimmy Kimmel To Host Celebrity-Filled Autism Benefit - Talk-show host Jimmy Kimmel is teaming up with a popular YouTube creator and big names like Adam Sandler, Chris Rock and Maya Rudolph for an interactive online event to support autism services. [Read More >](#)

Biden Seeks \$400 Billion To Buttress Long-Term Care. A Look At What's At Stake. - There's widespread agreement that it's important to help people with disabilities remain independent, but it's unclear if the nation is prepared to do what's necessary to make that possible. [Read More >](#)

Missing Persons With Special Needs Pose Challenge For First Responders

Police train for all kinds of missing persons cases. But what happens when the missing person has special needs and may be unable to communicate with authorities? [Read More >](#)

Common Causes of Behavior Problems in Kids - Knowing what makes kids act out is the first step to finding solutions. [READ MORE >](#)

Why Are Kids Different at Home and at School? -Some hold it together at school, only to lose it at home. Others stress out in the classroom. [READ MORE >](#)

Why Do Kids Have Trouble With Transitions? - Being asked to switch gears is a common trigger for problem behavior like whining and tantrums. [READ MORE >](#)

How to Help Children Calm Down - Techniques for helping kids handle powerful emotions. [READ MORE >](#)

The Power of Positive Attention - How to use it (instead of negative attention) to change behavior. - [READ MORE >](#)

Choosing a Parent Training Program - Learn techniques to help kids with behavior problems. - [READ MORE >](#)

Best Children's Books on Mental Health - Helping kids understand emotional and learning challenges. [LEARN MORE >](#)

Parents Guide to Problem Behavior - [DOWNLOAD >](#)

Biden Urged To Back Broad Changes To SSI - Dozens of federal lawmakers are calling on the Biden administration to support increasing SSI benefits, growing the asset limit, doing away with the marriage penalty and other changes. [Read More >](#)

Nation's Pediatricians Told To Look Out For Abuse Of Kids With Disabilities - For the first time in more than a decade, pediatricians are getting new guidance on how to identify and address maltreatment of children with disabilities. [Read More >](#)

Sent Home Early: Lost Learning In Special Education - Some students with disabilities have had their school days shortened for months or years, often with devastating consequences. [Read More >](#)

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Teacher Creates Social Justice Curriculum For Students With Special Needs - After George Floyd died last summer, one teacher couldn't find a curriculum that dealt with social justice issues that was written for students with disabilities, so she created her own. [Read More >](#)

Helping Children With Autism Learn to Communicate - How functional communication training can help kids express themselves. [READ MORE ▶](#)

Increasing Cooperation in Kids With Autism - How to communicate effectively and get kids on board. [READ MORE ▶](#)

Autism and Picky Eating - Tips for kids with rigid eating habits and tricky mealtime behaviors. [READ MORE ▶](#)

Do Autism Behaviors Have Medical Causes? - Some problem behaviors turn out to be treatable illnesses. [READ MORE ▶](#)

The Controversy Around ABA - The debate among experts and advocates over the merits, and risks, of this common therapy. [READ MORE ▶](#)

Do Sensory Processing Issues Get Better Over Time? - They may not disappear, but they usually get milder as kids mature and learn to manage them. [READ MORE ▶](#)

Government Ignoring Recommendations On Autism Funding, Study Finds - A panel of federal officials, advocates and other stakeholders is supposed to set the government's autism priorities, but new research suggests that's not what's happening. [Read More >](#)

TSA To Improve Screening For Travelers With Disabilities - The TSA is set to start implementing new staff training and screening procedures to better serve individuals with disabilities as they make their way through airports across the country. [Read More >](#)

Parents Want Schools To Face Burden Of Proof In IEP Disputes - Since the U.S. Supreme Court determined that the burden of proof in IEP disputes is on parents, a handful of states have moved to pin the responsibility to defend their points of view on schools instead. [Read More >](#)

'Crip Camp' Team's Appearance At Oscars Marks 'Tipping Point' For Inclusion - With wheelchairs and a service dog, the team behind "Crip Camp" — a documentary about the origins of the disability rights movement — brought a different kind of diversity to the red carpet. [Read More >](#)

Lived Experience Matters: Coming Out and Sharing - Sharing our lived experiences can help spread awareness and understanding, foster empathy and increase compassion toward people with mental illness. [READ MORE »](#)

The Power of Delusion - "Most of the time I know the delusion is not really happening, but the thoughts are still there, and they can seem very real to me." [READ MORE »](#)

The Pain of Not Seeking Help for My PTSD - "I didn't seek help for my mental health, mostly due to the stigma within the military. After all, a warrior isn't supposed to show any sign of weakness." [READ MORE »](#)



Formerly NAMI Greater Des Moines

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How Understanding My OCD Helped Me Manage It - "Once I knew what the real problem was, I felt like I had more power to do something about it. I could begin to focus on finding treatment that specifically works for OCD." - [READ MORE »](#)

Let My Journey with BPD Be Your Guide- "I've come to appreciate the quality of the treatment I received and the opportunities afforded me." [READ MORE »](#)