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[Depression is no joke. So why are comedians so good at talking about it?](#) - Stand-ups and other funny people are performing a revolutionary service for public health. And it happens to be hilarious. [Continue reading →](#)

[CDC Rolls Out New COVID-19 Resources For People With IDD](#) - As the delta surge renews concerns about COVID-19 across much of the country, the CDC is taking steps to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities protect themselves. [Read More >](#)

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[How To Prepare For A Disaster If You Live With A Disability](#) - For people with disabilities, evacuating at a moment's notice or stockpiling supplies can be complicated. However, experts say there are things everyone can do to prepare, no matter their needs. [Read More >](#)

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Schools are increasing mental health support this year, but experts fear it's still not enough - A record number of youths suffered crises during the pandemic, yet even before COVID-19, the educational system was not prepared for the mental health needs of young students. [Continue reading →](#)

Here's what experts recommend to support your child's mental health - Seek help if you notice any significant changes in your children, such as extreme fear or worry, nightmares, dramatic mood changes, sudden aggression or disobedience, changes in academic performance, loss of interest in hobbies, or a sudden lack of interest in friendships. [Continue reading →](#)

Disability Service Providers Shuttering In Many States - Half of states are reporting that Medicaid home and community-based services providers have closed since the start of the pandemic, with many seeing multiple types of services shut their doors. [Read More >](#)

FBI Sees Drop In Disability-Related Hate Crimes - While the number of reported hate crimes rose significantly, those targeting people with disabilities are on the decline, according to new data from the FBI. [Read More >](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters OK'd For Some Group Home Residents - At least one state is moving forward with booster shots for certain group home residents even though the federal government has not yet issued formal rules for when most Americans should get them. [Read More >](#)

Pandemic Leaves Families Of Children In Special Ed Feeling Left Behind - With a wildly spreading delta variant, many families of vulnerable children with disabilities feel forgotten by state and school leaders and disregarded by those who reject mask wearing. [Read More >](#)

'What's going on with our Black girls?' Experts warn of rising suicide rates. For more than a decade, suicide rates have been increasing in Black children and adolescents, and a new study says the sharpest rise occurred among young girls. [Continue reading →](#)

Remote work made life easier for employees with disabilities. Advocates say the option should stay - The pandemic upended corporate culture as workers traded office buildings for their kitchen tables. For most, the change was largely a matter of convenience. But for many people with disabilities, it was transformative — getting to and from a workplace was the most arduous part of their day. [Continue reading →](#)

Signs a Child Might Be Suicidal - What to watch out for and how to help.- [READ MORE ▶](#)

What to Do if You Think Your Teenager Is Depressed - Start by listening without judgment, not trying to 'fix' them. - [READ MORE ▶](#)

Help for Cutting and Other Self-Injury - When kids intentionally hurt themselves as a way to manage difficult emotions. - [READ MORE ▶](#)

What to Do if You're Worried About Suicide - A parent's guide to helping a child in distress. - [READ MORE ▶](#)

When OCD Triggers Suicidal Thoughts - How a form of OCD can be mistaken for being suicidal. - [READ MORE ▶](#)

Taking a Child to the Emergency Room - What the ER can (and can't) do for your child in a psychiatric emergency. - [READ MORE ▶](#)

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COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates Could Impact Services For Those With IDD - A sweeping new Biden administration plan to require many workers to receive COVID-19 vaccinations may have implications for individuals with disabilities and the people who support them. [Read More >](#)

EEOC Suit: McDonald's Worker Fired Because Of His Autism - The EEOC is accusing the operator of numerous McDonald's locations of disability discrimination over the firing of an employee with autism after 37 years on the job. [Read More >](#)

Parents Say State Wants To Move Adults With Severe Disabilities To 'Prison-Like' Facility - The parents of adults with conditions such as autism say they are being forced to choose between sending their child to a fenced-in institutional facility, or lose funding for their care. [Read More >](#)

Ed Department Expands Investigations Of Mask Policies And Disability Rights - Not long after opening investigations into whether bans on mask mandates in five states violate the civil rights of students with disabilities, the Education Department is initiating another. [Read More >](#)

Schools must meet students mental health needs - As they return to the classroom, youths urgently need access to mental health providers and counselors. [Continue reading →](#)

Congress May Halve Biden's \$400 Billion Plan To Boost Disability Services - President Joe Biden proposed a massive \$400 billion investment in Medicaid home and community-based services earlier this year, but now Congress is considering less than half that amount. [Read More >](#)

Netflix Brings Back Autism Dating Show - A documentary series following young people with autism as they experience the world of dating is set to return. [Read More >](#)

Tech Firm Helps Youth With Developmental Disabilities Find STEM Career Paths - A university program is offering youth of color with intellectual and developmental disabilities introductions to STEM careers with real-life experiences working in the field at a tech company. [Read More >](#)

Clinic's Prescription for Healthier Patients? Lawyers - The Medicaid-funded program operates on the notion that fixing patients' legal ills is a vital part of their medical care. [Read More >](#)

Caring for new moms shouldn't depend on who pays the bill - Expanded coverage for postpartum depression is a small step on the road to mental health parity. [Continue reading →](#)

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Social Media and Self-Doubt - How parents can help kids resist the pressure created by artfully curated social media feeds. - [READ MORE ▶](#)

Managing Social Media Stress With Mindfulness - The technique that lets you stay connected while boosting self-awareness. - [READ MORE ▶](#)

13 Ways to Boost Your Daughter's Self-Esteem - How to help girls build confidence based on what they can do, not what they look like. - [READ MORE ▶](#)

What Is Social Anxiety? - When fear of how you appear gets in the way of functioning. - [READ MORE ▶](#)

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FDA Wants Court To Reconsider Ban On Shock Devices For Those With IDD - The Food and Drug Administration is fighting back after a federal court overturned its ban on devices used to administer electric shocks on people with developmental disabilities. [Read More](#) >

Intervention For Babies Greatly Reduces Odds Of Autism Diagnosis, Study Finds - A first-of-its-kind study finds that intervention for infants showing signs of autism can dramatically reduce symptom severity and lessen the chance that a child will later be diagnosed. [Read More](#) >

Feds Push Back On State's 5-Year Residency Requirement For Medicaid Waivers - The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services says a new law in one state requiring individuals with IDD to be residents for five years before they can apply for waivers is "not permitted." [Read More](#) >

Changes Wrought By Pandemic Helped People With Disabilities. They're Not Ready To Give Them Up - Some people with disabilities say they're hesitant about going back to in-person services and want to keep things virtual, but the practicality of whether that's possible remains uncertain. [Read More](#) >

Study: Among Vaccinated, Those With Down Syndrome Face Highest Risk From COVID-19 - People with Down syndrome are the most likely of all vaccinated adults to die from COVID-19, new research suggests. [Read More](#) >

Hallmark Movie To Feature Actor With Autism - Hallmark is putting autism front and center in its signature holiday movie lineup with a film starring an actor on the spectrum and an actress with well-known ties to the autism community. [Read More](#) >

Senator Wants To Increase SSI Benefits That Haven't Been Updated In Decades - With a hearing this week, one senator is pushing for major changes to the long-overlooked Supplemental Security Income program's modest benefits and low asset limits. [Read More](#) >

For People With Disabilities, Few Good Options During Disasters - With extended power outages and other slow-burning consequences, the aftermath of Hurricane Ida exposed just how vulnerable people with developmental disabilities are. [Read More](#) >

People With IDD, DSPs May Qualify For COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters - The CDC's endorsement of a booster shot of the Pfizer vaccine for certain Americans means many people with developmental disabilities are now eligible for a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. [Read More](#) >

Feds Step In So Group Homes Can Get Mortgages - Federal officials are working to ensure that financing doesn't get in the way of developing new group homes. [Read More](#) >

Low Wages And Pandemic Gut Staffing Support For Those With Disabilities - Group homes and facilities that serve people with disabilities were hurting for staffers before the pandemic. Now the nationwide job crunch and pandemic pressures are making it even worse. [Read More](#) >

Workers With Developmental Disabilities Owed \$304,000 - A state-funded center must pay thousands in back pay to people with developmental disabilities who were not provided required employment counseling and due to poor records. [Read More](#) >

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What Is Oppositional Defiant Disorder? When disruptive behavior drives a wedge between parents and children. [READ MORE ▶](#)

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