



Department of Health & Human Services

ACL News & Info

Administration for Community Living

For seniors and people with disabilities

Monday, July 23, 2012

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New State Innovation Models Initiative

The Department of Health and Human Services last week [announced](#) a new initiative for States to design and test improvements to their health care systems that would bolster health care quality and decrease costs. The [State Innovation Models initiative](#) is a competitive funding opportunity for States to design and test multi-payer payment and delivery models that deliver high-quality health care and improve health system performance.

The solicitation invites states interested in participating in the State Innovation Models initiative to propose innovative approaches to improving care and lowering costs for their residents. States can apply for either Model Testing awards which are intended to assist in implementing their already developed models, or states can apply for the Model Design awards that will provide funding and technical assistance as they determine what type of system improvements would work best for them. Up to five states will be chosen for the initial round of Model Testing awards and up to 25 states will be chosen for Model Design awards. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) anticipates offering a second opportunity for all states to apply for a Model Testing award next year.

All applications must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov. Applications for both award types are due September 17, 2012, by 5:00pm Eastern Time.

To learn more about this new initiative, CMS Innovation Center staff will host a webinar to provide an overview of the State Innovation Models initiative.

Topic: [Webinar: State Innovation Models Initiative Overview](#)

Date: Thursday, July 26, 2012

Time: 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET

[Sign up to register.](#)

Notes:

Participants are strongly encouraged to use the web link for full access to the presentation. If you are unable to hear audio via your computer speakers or would prefer to listen via the telephone, please dial 877-306-0462 and enter Conference ID 8055039 when prompted. Please connect to the webinar and dial in ten minutes early to ensure that you are joined into the webinar.

If you are unable to join, the slides, audio recording and transcript will be made available following the webinar.

Additional Information:

[State Innovation Models Initiative Fact Sheet](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[07/26 Webinar: State Innovation Models Initiative Overview](#)

[Funding Opportunity Announcement \(FOA\) \(PDF\)](#)

To learn more about this new funding opportunity, go to <http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/state-innovations/>

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Update on Administrator Greenlee's Activities

Administrator Greenlee Shares Thoughts on Caregiving in PAN Interview

Last week, Administrator for Community Living & Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee, was in the interview chair for the Parkinson's Action Network's (PAN) Caregiver Interview Series. The focus of the PAN series is to help educate the community on caregiving, and what federal and state support might be available to spouses, partners, children, friends, and loved ones who help care for a person with Parkinson's disease. The interview was conducted by PAN CEO Amy Comstock Rick.

To watch interview, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K75zTMvKf1o&list=UU4xb51k96i4z0eUqraIaASA&index=4&feature=plcp>

To learn more about PAN, go to the website at <http://www.parkinsonsaction.org>

Recording of Recent Changes at the Administration on Aging- Impact on the Aging and Disability Networks Webinar

If you did not participate in this American Society on Aging Grantmakers In Aging webinar series, you can listen to it at <http://www.screencast.com/t/1n5eBs979YYh>

Administrator for Community Living & Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee discusses the recent major reorganization of the federal programs on aging and disability, and the creation of the new Administration for Community Living (ACL). Plans for the future of aging and disability services are also outlined. John Feather, Grantmakers In Aging CEO, moderates the session.

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Funding Opportunity Reminders

Research and Demonstration Program to Improve Coordinated Transportation Systems for People with Disabilities and Older Adults

The goal of this 5 year project is to identify proven models and approaches that can be used by states and communities across the country to empower people with disabilities and older adults to be actively involved in the design and implementation of coordinated transportation systems in ways that successfully make those systems responsive to the needs of these populations. Applicants seeking funding under this announcement may find it helpful to subcontract out some of the activities undertaken to implement this project to one or more national organizations with a successful track record and demonstrated experience in empowering people with disabilities and older adults to improve systems, such as making transportation systems responsive to meet the needs of people with disabilities and older adults.

The application deadline is August 14, 2012.

To learn more about this funding opportunity and to download the application, go to http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Grants/Funding/docs/2012/FY2012_Transportation_FOA.pdf or www.grants.gov. The Funding Opportunity Number: HHS-2012-ACL-TC-1216.

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Funding for Health Center Controlled Networks (HCCN) in FY 2013

The Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is soliciting applications for Health Center Controlled Networks (HCCN) in fiscal year (FY) 2013.

The application deadline is September 10, 2012, 8:00 p.m. ET.

To learn more about this funding opportunity and to download an application, go to www.grants.gov. The Announcement Number is HRSA-13-237.

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Stay Informed

ACL Webinar Series on the Affordable Care Act

On Tuesday, July 24, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) will continue its series of webinars on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (also known as the Affordable Care Act, or ACA) and its impact on older adults, people with disabilities and the aging and disability networks, focusing on managed long-term services and supports.

Title: Managed Long-Term Services and Supports: Engaging in the Stakeholder Process (Part 2)

Date: Tuesday, July 24, 2:00-3:30 pm Eastern

Description:

As states develop managed long-term services and supports systems for older adults and individuals with disabilities, it is critical that stakeholders – consumers and professionals alike – provide input during the proposal and implementation processes. Last month we began exploring tools advocates can use to analyze proposals, particularly in the areas of home and community based services benefits packages, assessment and person-centered planning.

The recording of Part 1 is available at

http://www.aoa.gov/Aging_Statistics/Health_care_reform.aspx#webinar

This month we will continue that discussion, presenting analysis and advocacy tools related to other critical implementation issues such as appeals and grievances, financing, and oversight.

Presenters:

Mary Lou Breslin, Senior Policy Advisor, Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund

Georgia Burke, Directing Attorney, National Senior Citizens Law Center

Silvia Yee, Senior Staff Attorney, Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund

To register for the online event

1. Go to <https://aoa-events.webex.com/aoa-events/onstage/g.php?d=663237084&t=a>
2. Click "Register".
3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

Once your registration is approved, you will receive a confirmation email message with instructions on how to join the event.

Please note: Space is limited, so please register as early as possible. This webinar will also be recorded and posted on our web site http://www.aoa.gov/Aging_Statistics/Health_care_reform.aspx#webinar soon after the webinar.

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VA Benefits Webinar Promotion Guide

Help VA connect our nation's veterans to their VA benefits

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) wants you to know that you are in a unique position to help our nation's Veterans by making sure they know about their VA benefits. With more than 22 million military Veterans, chances are you already serve Veterans.

Too often, according to VA, these Veterans don't have a full understanding of all of the VA benefits they may be eligible to receive. That's why VA is sponsoring this webinar targeting professionals who treat, serve or otherwise interact with Veterans in their job. The webinar will give you a basic understanding about VA benefits and resources that you can use to refer Veterans to VA and make sure our nation's heroes get the benefits to which they may be entitled.

Date: Tuesday, July 24, 2012

Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. EDT

You can register for this webinar at: <http://goo.gl/OROVb>

Please contact Voncelle James at (202) 530-9219 or voncelle.james@va.gov if you have any questions about this effort.

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ASA Webinar on Pride in Caring: Empowering Decision-Making and Advance Planning for LGBT Caregivers

Presented by the American Society on Aging's LGBT Aging Issues Network, this webinar will address the financial, healthcare and end-of-life decisions made by LGBT caregivers and care recipients. Knowledge about available legal protections, the state-controlled limitations and how to avoid potential pitfalls is essential for aging network professionals who work with the LGBT community to ensure that they are on secure legal footing before the need arises.

Date: Thursday, July 26, 2012

Time: 10:00 a.m. PT / 11:00 a.m. MT / 12:00 p.m. CT / 1:00 p.m. ET

Participants in this web seminar will:

- Examine real-life examples that demonstrate what might happen to LGBT couples if advance directives are not in place prior to need.
- Receive statistics on LGBT caregiving, how the traditional supports in place for caregivers might be lacking for LGBT caregivers and potential difficulties involved in serving the diverse LGBT population.

- Understand advance directives for health care and the differences between living wills, DPAHs and DNRs and how these interact with HIPAA rules and the federal legal status of same-sex couples, and learn how to encourage LGBT clients to think proactively to ensure these documents are properly prepared.

[Register Now!](#)

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NCOA Webinar on Making Wise Decisions with Home Equity -- New Tools for a New Retirement Reality

Americans are facing increasing financial challenges due to job insecurity during their working years, and cutbacks in pension coverage, retiree health benefits and public programs that help mitigate uncertainties in later life. With limited financial options, many seniors are turning to home equity as a source of extra cash in retirement. But without a financial game plan to manage this asset, older homeowners may be putting their family finances at further risk.

This webinar will review the challenges that older people face in deciding how and when to tap home equity. The discussions will include an overview of new tools and resources that can help people make informed decisions about this valuable asset. The information will be especially valuable for those whose clients include lower- to middle-income seniors. This group has traditionally been underserved by financial advisors due to their modest resources. In addition, they are often victims of predatory lending and financial abuse.

Date: Thursday, July 26, 2012

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. EDT

Through this webinar, you will learn about:

- the growing role of home equity as a retirement resource – what the research is telling us.
- Strategic use of home equity to meet diverse unmet needs – myths, challenges, and benefits.
- How the new NCOA-FINRA Home Equity Advisor website (www.homeequityadvisor.org) can help older homeowners make informed decisions regarding home equity.

[Register](#)

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Webinar on *Elder Abuse in Diverse Communities: Asians and Pacific Islanders*

The National Center on Elder Abuse invites you to participate in the webinar *Elder Abuse in Diverse Communities: Asians and Pacific Islanders*, the first in its new webinar series *Elder Abuse in Diverse Communities*.

Date: Wednesday, August 1, 2012
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. PDT

Speaker:

Dr. Ailee Moon, Associate Professor of Social Welfare at UCLA

Click here to register:

[https://centeronelderabuse.adobeconnect.com/_a994159634/e8qgazzmyhk/vent/registration.html](https://centeronelderabuse.adobeconnect.com/_a994159634/e8qgazzmyhk/event/registration.html)

Note: Your password will be "password" unless you already have an Adobe Connect account.

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Tools & Information

AIDD and DOL Join Forces to Expand and Promote Integrated Employment

The Administration for Community Living's Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) and the US Labor Department's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) signed a memorandum of agreement last week to Expand and Promote Integrated Employment. Together, the two agencies will work to expand and promote integrated employment as the first employment option for individuals with significant, including intellectual and other developmental, disabilities. The partnership between AIDD and ODEP will further their coordination of resources and efforts so that the concept of "Employment First" — described at <http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/EmploymentFirst.htm> — is more broadly embraced.

To read more about this partnership, go to <http://transition.acf.hhs.gov/programs/add/news/us-labor-dept-office-of-disability-employment-policy-admin-on-idd-join>

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Community Innovations for Aging in Place (CIAIP) Technical Assistance Resource Center

The Administration for Community Living Administration on Aging (AoA) funds a number of resource centers designed to provide information to consumers and technical assistance to professionals on a variety of topics.

In 2009, AoA funded a three-year technical assistance grant for the Community Innovations for Aging in Place Initiative Program (CIAIP). Development of an on-line resource center was one piece of that grant program. The CIAIP Technical Assistance Resource Center is organized in such a way that it provides information to and supports two distinct audiences: the general public and those individuals specifically affiliated with the present grantee program.

The main portion of the Center website makes a collection of aging in place related materials available to the general-public. The collection includes information on the fourteen projects that received AoA funding in 2009, resources that would be useful to individuals or organizations interested in community programs that support aging in place, as well as related news items.

Information about the CIAIP Technical Assistance Resource Center can be found on their website – <http://ciaip.org/>

If you would like to know more about the Resource Centers that AoA funds, you can find information at:

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Resource_Centers/Index.aspx

AoA will be featuring the other resource centers in future newsletters.

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Million Hearts™ Caregiver Video Challenge

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in partnership with Million Hearts™ presents the Million Hearts™ Caregiver Video Challenge. A caregiver is a family member, friend or someone who provides care to a parent, child, friend, or other loved one. Caregivers play an important role in maintaining and improving the heart health of loved ones.

The goal of the Challenge is to create inspiring videos that provide other caregivers helpful tips on heart healthy practices, particularly on the prevention and control of high blood pressure. The Challenge also wants to

recognize individuals who work hard to provide care for their family members or friends and give them a chance to share their stories.

The CDC invites people who play a role in helping to prevent or control high blood pressure or maintain the heart health of a loved one to share their stories of caregiving by creating original, compelling videos that are less than 2 minutes long. The videos should include a description of how the caregiver contributes to another person's heart health and provide helpful tips related to high blood pressure prevention or control. Examples of tips are:

How to help the family member take blood pressure medications as directed.
How to accurately measure and routinely monitor blood pressure to improve control.

How to encourage lifestyle changes that benefit blood pressure control, such as increase physical activity or reduce sodium in the diet.

The submission period ends on August 31 at 5:00 p.m. EST.

For more information on how to create your video, visit http://millionhearts.hhs.gov/about_hd.html

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IHS Announces Tribal HIV/STD Training Kit and Guide

To help stop the spread of HIV and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), the Department of Health and Human Services Indian Health Service (IHS) supported the development of a Tribal HIV/STD Training Kit and Policy Guide. The training kit gives tribes and tribal organizations information on how to work with tribal council members, school boards, health directors, and other partnering programs on ways to prevent the transmission of HIV and STDs.

The training kit contains facts about sexual health, tools for assessing community readiness to implement a sexual health program, information to guide policy development, case studies of effective models for change, and additional resources to strengthen community sexual health activities and policies. To learn more about this new resource and to download a copy of the training kit, go to the IHS website at <http://www.ihs.gov/hiv aids/>

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New NGA Chair to Put Focus on People with Disabilities

Newly elected National Governors Association (NGA) chair, Delaware Gov. Jack Markell announced last week his chair's year-long initiative: [A Better Bottom Line: Employing People with Disabilities](#). The initiative aims to increase

employment among individuals with disabilities. Specifically, it will focus on the employment challenges that affect individuals with intellectual and other significant disabilities and the role that both state government and business can play in facilitating and advancing opportunities for these individuals to be gainfully employed in the competitive labor market.

The chair plans to convene governors, businesses, disability leaders and other thought leaders throughout the year to share ideas and move forward with support for this population. In addition to providing governors and other state policymakers with better policy options to assess the environment in their state and strategies designed to support this population, the initiative will:

- Create a blueprint for businesses and states that identifies best practices and outlines steps that can be put in place to increase employment of people with disabilities; and
- Heighten awareness and launch a campaign to help governors put in place the practices that fit best in their states' efforts to increase employment for people with disabilities.

To read more about this initiative, go to

<http://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/CI1213BETTERBOTTOMLINE.PDF>

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Scam Alerts

Utility Bill Bailout

Bundle together a punishing heat wave, large utility bills, a bad economy and a good story, and it is easy to understand why people would believe in such a thing as the Obama Utility Bailout Program. Think again.

To receive the money, scammers claim they need the consumers' social security and bank routing numbers. In return, customers are given a phony bank routing number that will supposedly pay their utility bills. In reality, there is no money, and customers believe they have paid their bills when in fact they have not.

Several energy companies in states across the country, including California, Indiana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Utah, and several New England states have warned their customers of the scam. Scammers find victims through all the usual digital channels -- emails, bogus tweets and Facebook messages. Agents for the criminals are going block by block, knocking on doors and handing out leaflets, encouraging people to pay their bills with the bogus account information.

For more information on this scam, go to the Better Business Bureau website at <http://www.bbb.org/us/article/president-obama-is-not-offering-to-pay-your-utility-bills-34928>

Scammers out to Profit on US Supreme Court's Ruling on ACA

No sooner had the US Supreme Court ruled on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) than scam artists began working the phones. Claiming to be from the government, they are saying that under the ACA, they need to verify some information. For example, they might have the routing number of the person's bank, and then use that information to get the person to reveal the entire account number. Other times, they have asked for credit card numbers, Social Security numbers, Medicare ID, or other personal information.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the nation's consumer protection agency, cautions you not to give out personal or financial information in response to unsolicited phone calls, emails, or knocks on your door. Scam artists want your information to commit identity theft, charge your existing credit cards, debit your checking account, open new credit card, checking, or savings accounts, write fraudulent checks, or take out loans in your name.

If you get a call from someone who claims to be from the government and who asks for your personal information, hang up. It is a scam. The government and legitimate organizations with which you do business have the information they need and will not ask you for it. Then, file a complaint with FTC at www.ftc.gov or call toll-free, 1-877-FTC-HELP.

For more information about the federal health care law, visit www.HealthCare.gov

The FTC works to prevent fraudulent, deceptive and unfair business practices in the marketplace and to provide information to help consumers spot, stop and avoid them. To file a complaint or get free information on consumer issues, visit www.ftc.gov or call toll-free, 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357); TTY: 1-866-653-4261.

To watch a new video, *How to File a Complaint*, go to www.ftc.gov/video

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WIN Nutrition Resources

Are you looking for nutrition resources for your community, including tips on how to create a healthy eating plan and control portion sizes? The [Weight-Control Information Network \(WIN\)](#) recently released updated publications that provide reader-friendly tips based on the US Departments of Agriculture and

Health and Human Services' *Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010* and the *2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans*, including: [Fit and Fabulous as You Mature](#); [Just Enough for You: About Food Portions](#); [Foods, Fitness & Health Super Tracker](#); and [many others](#).

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Let's Move! Olympic Fun Day

First Lady Michelle Obama is leading the US Delegation to the 2012 Olympic Games and she is calling on families around the country to support Team USA, not just by cheering on our athletes, but by getting active in their own communities. On Saturday, July 28th, the first day of the competition in London, families around the country are encouraged to participate in "Olympics-inspired" Meetups. Watch the First Lady's PSA [First Lady's PSA to Kick Off the Olympic Meetup](#)

To learn how to organize a *Let's Move* Meetup or to find *Let's Move* Meetup activities in your community, go to the [Let's Move! Meetup](#) at meetup.com/lets-move

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Wheelchair User Bus Ramp Safety Survey

The University of Louisville is conducting a nationwide project to improve bus access and safety for people with disabilities. Wheelchair and scooter users, their family members and aids are invited to share ramp-related problems they have experienced on public transit buses. Responses will be used to develop new ramp design guidelines and improve the accessibility, usability and safety of bus ramps.

The survey is here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WheelchairRampSurvey>. All responses are anonymous.

For more information, contact Karen Frost, PhD, University of Louisville, at k.frost@louisville.edu or [502-852-0279](tel:502-852-0279)

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New Go Direct® Educational Materials Available

With the US Treasury's March 1, 2013 deadline to end beneficiary payments by paper check, you may be receiving a higher volume of questions from the people you serve about the requirement and how electronic payments work. The Go

Direct[®] campaign has developed a new public service announcement along with five additional educational videos and print materials to help you assist people with questions.

The videos feature actual customer service agents from the US Treasury Electronic Payment Solution Center and answer the following questions:

Why is the US Treasury requiring electronic federal benefit payments?
How will I know my money has been deposited?
How does direct deposit work?
Are electronic payments safe?
How does the Direct Express[®] card work?

You can view the [PSA](#) and [educational videos](#) on www.GoDirect.org or by visiting the *Go Direct* [YouTube channel](#). Print materials can be downloaded from the [Educational Videos and Fliers](#) toolkit on www.GoDirect.org.

To order a looped DVD of the videos, contact a *Go Direct* campaign representative by emailing GoDirect@webershandwick.com or by calling 952-346-6055.

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2012 National Home and Community-Based Services Conference

The National Home and Community-Based Services Conference is scheduled for September 11-13, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia. Kathy Greenlee, Administrator, Administration for Community Living and Assistant Secretary on Aging will be speaking at the Opening plenary session on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. For more information: http://www.nasuald.org/events/hcbs2012/national_hcbs_conference_2012.html

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ASA Accepting Nominations for the 2013 ASA Awards Program

Every year the American Society on Aging (ASA) recognizes a number of individuals and organizations for their contributions to ASA, to the field of aging and to older adults. It is now accepting nomination applications.

For the award descriptions and criteria, go to <http://www.asaging.org/awards>

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Recent Reports

National HIV/AIDS Strategy: Implementation Progress Report 2011

<http://aids.gov/pdf/2011-nhas-progress-report.pdf>

Source: U S Department of Health and Human Services

Date: July 22, 2012 (released)

Unfinished Business: Making Employment of People with Disabilities a National Priority

<http://harkin.senate.gov/documents/pdf/500469b49b364.pdf>

Source: United States Senate Committee on Health Education, labor & Pensions

Date: July 2012

Medicare Beneficiaries Less Likely to Experience Cost- and Access-Related Problems than Adults with Private Coverage

<http://content.healthaffairs.org/content/early/2012/07/16/hlthaff.2011.1357.full.html>

Source *Health Affairs*

Date: July 2012

Securing our Future: Advancing Economic Security for Diverse Elders

<http://www.diverseelders.org/resource/securing-our-future-advancing-economic-security-for-diverse-elders-july-2012/>

Source: Diverse Elders Coalition

Date: July 2012

Nightmare on Main Street: Older Americans and the Mortgage Market Crisis

http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/research/public_policy_institute/cons_prot/2012/nightmare-on-main-street-AARP-ppi-cons-prot.pdf

Source: AARP Public Policy Institute

Date: July 2012

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Observances

July Observances

Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990 by President George H.W. Bush. ADA is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability. Disability is defined by the ADA as "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity."

Resource: <http://www.ada.gov/>

National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month

Sponsor: National Alliance on Mental Illness

http://www.nami.org/Template.cfm?Section=Multicultural_Support&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=120508

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