



The Americans with Disabilities Act Turns 33

On July 26th, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will turn 33 years old. The ADA first passed in 1990 and was signed by then President George H. Bush. The law protects the rights of Americans from discrimination based on their disability. [The ADA National Network](#) has put together [a toolkit](#) to help spread awareness about the impact of this monumental law. There will be a celebration for the 33rd year of the Americans with Disabilities Act on July 26th at the Oklahoma State Capitol. As details of the event are finalized, [information will be available on the Center for Learning and Leadership's website.](#)

Disability Pride Month and the Disability Rights Movement

July is Disability Pride Month, a time when people with disabilities are recognized for their work within the disability movement that led to passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. PBS has compiled a selection of documentaries looking [at the history of the disability rights movement as well as the activists within the movement.](#)

Workforce Crisis Stifles Effort to End Disability Waiting List

It has been one year since the State Legislature passed the [historic funding to end the Waiting List in Oklahoma.](#) However, the lack of direct support professionals (DSP) has many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities still waiting. [Representative Ellyn Hefner](#) discusses some of the causes of the shortage and [CLL's own Wanda Felty](#) offers some possible solutions to help bring skilled workers to this much needed profession in this [City Sentinel article.](#)

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs Releases AMCHP Future 2027

[The Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs \(AMCHP\)](#) recently released the implementation goals for their strategic plan, [AMCHP Future 2027.](#) AMCHP's mission is to advance the health of women, children, youth, families, and communities by strengthening governmental public health initiatives and deepening community partnerships to increase health equity for everyone, including people with disabilities and their families.

Announcements and Events

July 21st | 6pm-11pm | Groovin' for Autism 2023

Mark your calendars for the 14th Annual Groovin' for Autism at Chicken N Pickle in OKC! Groovin' for Autism is a fun night that raises money for local autism organizations. Enjoy a night of music, delicious food, and incredible company while positively impacting the autism community. [Learn more about Groovin' for Autism.](#)

The [Autism Foundation of Oklahoma \(AFO\)](#) will host several events that invite individuals with autism, families, and professionals to come together to socialize and learn. For a list of events happening across the state, [visit AFOs Facebook Events page.](#)

July 18th | 6pm | Silent(ish) Zoom (Virtual)

Join the [Oklahoma School for the Deaf](#) and the [Oklahoma Family Network](#) on Tuesday, July 18, at 6:00 PM CST for the July Silent(ish) Zoom and learn from a Panel of Deaf Adults. [Use this link](#) to learn more about this event and other events hosted by OFN.

July 24th | 6-8pm | Bartlesville Kiddie Park hosts Diverse Needs and Abilities Night

[Bartlesville Kiddie Park](#) invites individuals of all ages with diverse needs and abilities, along with their siblings, to come experience the park in a private event. During this special event, there will be no train whistle or loud music playing. The lines to the rides will be shorter, making the wait times less than on typical nights. For more information, [visit the Bartlesville Kiddie Park Facebook page.](#)

We want to hear from you!

Do you have news or an event to share? Please send all information including a link (if applicable) to learn2lead-ucedd@ouhsc.edu. All submissions should be in no later than the fourth Friday of the month before publication (ex: 4th Friday in June for July's newsletter).

Sign-up to receive our free monthly newsletter *focus facts on community living* <http://tiny.cc/focusfacts>

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focus facts is published for the University Affiliated Developmental Disabilities Network members. Its purpose is to highlight specific information and data items relevant to developing and sustaining positive community environments. Individual information items are provided for use in this form, or for further circulation. When re-printing information please reference *focus facts* and the month of issue noted below the banner at the top of this page. The name of a contact person for additional information on items referenced in the newsletter is provided for your convenience. If you have data, information or a story to report relevant to community living, please send it to *focus facts* Editor at the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD OU Health Sciences Center, PO Box 2690, Oklahoma City, OK 73126. Please include the information source, by title, a one paragraph description or story, a contact name who can provide additional information on the subject, and a daytime or evening telephone number for the contact.

If you have questions regarding the format for submissions, please call the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD Headquarters Office at (405) 271-4500. The University Affiliated Developmental Disabilities Network is open to membership by any organization or individual who shares the interests of Network members. The Network is dedicated to identifying opportunities for collaboration and information exchange among its participating members, which leads to improving our statewide, regional or local capacity to provide a better living environment in Oklahoma for people with developmental and other disabilities and their families. The Network is partially supported through a grant from the U.S. Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Department of Health and Human Services, and by the Offices of the Designated Representatives of the Center for Learning and Leadership/UCEDD Collaborating Partners.

If you have a disability (Deaf/hard-of-hearing, Blind/low-vision, mobility, cognitive, etc.), and require accommodations, please reach out to Learn2Lead@ouhsc.edu. It is helpful if you share what type of accommodations will be needed to ensure that you are able to use the resource materials.