



Older Americans Month

The Administration for Community Living has declared May as Older Americans Month. The featured theme for 2021 is "Communities of Strength." Find information about ways to engage and empower your own communities on the [Older Americans Month activities ideas page](#).

Being a Mom of an Adult Child with Disabilities Requires Lifelong Planning

When Jacqueline Devereaux started planning her daughter Carla's graduation, she realized she not only needed to plan the cake and decorations, but the rest of Carla's life. Her daughter, who is on the autism spectrum and doesn't use language to communicate, would need lifelong help.

"In school, supports kind of happen automatically for students with disabilities," said Jacqueline, "but entering adulthood, those supports fall away. When kids transition out of school, it's a feeling of 'what do we do now.' Many parents of adults between ages 20 and 30 find themselves trying to navigate systems for their loved one with disabilities."

Read the rest of the Devereaux family's story on the [CLL news and announcements page](#).

Learn, Play and Grow with OKC Parks

The Oklahoma City Parks and Recreation Department has released its Spring-Summer 2021 Senior Programs guide. From creative arts to performing arts, from brain games to yoga, Oklahomans over age 50 can find activities to learn and enjoy. Find your next hobby in the [Spring-Summer 2021 Senior Program Guide on the OKC Parks website](#).

Future Planning Online Tool Helps Make Decisions

The ARC Center for Future Planning offers an online planning tool to help people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Find information about paying for needs and wants, getting a job, deciding where to live, as well as making other life decisions. The site also offers several videos of people discussing steps to future planning. [The ARC Center for Future Planning website](#) will help get you started.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

Be Aware of COVID-19 Vaccination Scams

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services warns the public to be wary of COVID-19 vaccination scams. Please be advised not to give out personal information to unknown contacts, whether over the phone, via email, or social media.

- You should not be asked to pay out-of-pocket to receive the vaccine.
- A COVID-19 survey should not ask about personal, medical, or financial information.
- No one should ever ask to buy your vaccination card.
- Photos of COVID-19 vaccination cards should not be shared on social media.

[The HHS Office of Inspector General webpage](#) has more ways to identify COVID-19 scams. If you have questions about where to obtain a vaccine, call 2-1-1 or use the [VaccineFinder](#)

Emergency Broadband Benefit Offers Help with Internet Services

The Emergency Broadband Benefit, a program of the Federal Communications Commission to help eligible households afford internet services. The benefit provides a discount up to \$50 per month towards internet services. Eligible households can receive a one-time discount up to \$100 to buy a laptop, desktop, or tablet. [The FCC Broadband Benefit page](#) explains eligibility, how to sign up, and participating service providers.

The University of Oklahoma advances a diverse, equitable, and inclusive university community by embracing each person's unique contributions, background, and perspectives. OU Norman, OU Tulsa, and the Health Sciences Center recognize that fostering an inclusive environment for all, with particular attention to the needs of the historically marginalized populations, is vital to the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of our institutional mission and enhances the OU experience for all students, faculty, and staff.

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 (or less) 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 other 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.